Core Infection Prevention and Control Knowledge and Skills
A Framework Document

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On behalf of HSE DNE HCAI/AMR Subcommittee
Why have a Framework Document?

Hand hygiene E learning Programme completed 2013

Commissioned to develop Standard Precautions e-learning programme November 2014

Ensure resources were targeted effectively

IPC Framework Document Required!
Why the Document?

• First National Document that provides a framework for supporting the development of education and training in IPC
Background

Literature Review


Considerations

- Diversity of staff roles
- Risks to patients
- Risks to staff
- Statutory obligations
Aim

Define and standardise the core IPC knowledge and skills required by staff employed by or contracted to the HSE who have direct patient contact or who have a risk of exposure to blood or body fluids.
Scope

Applies to all staff working in healthcare

- Direct patient contact/ exposure risks
- Service managers
- Education providers
- SLA – HSE funded services
Staff Categorisation

Direct patient contact with care and perform invasive procedures

Direct patient contact with care but no invasive procedures performed

Direct patient contact in a support role or no patient contact with a BBF exposure risk
IPC Core Knowledge and Skills

Basic Microbiology

Standard and Transmission based precautions

Clinical Assessment Skills

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject area</th>
<th>Content</th>
<th>Overview</th>
<th>Learning outcomes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IPC Core Knowledge and Skills</td>
<td>Content</td>
<td>Staff Categories¹</td>
<td>Direct patient care and invasive procedures</td>
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<tr>
<td>Basic Microbiology</td>
<td>Chain of infection</td>
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<td>Healthcare-associated infections</td>
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<td>Antimicrobial resistance</td>
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<td>Infectious disease regulations</td>
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<td>Reservation/obtaining laboratory specimens</td>
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<td>Handling and transporting laboratory specimens</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Principles of clean to dirty workflow</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<td>Standard and transmission-based precautions</td>
<td>Introduction to standard and transmission-based precautions</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<td>Hand hygiene including use of different agents, technique</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<td>Respiratory hygiene and cough etiquette</td>
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<td>Management of blood or body fluid exposure</td>
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<td>Vaccination to prevent infections</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<td>Infectious conditions that may require absence from work or work restrictions</td>
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## Appendix 2:

### Contents overview and learning outcomes for each subject area

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject area</th>
<th>Content</th>
<th>Overview of content</th>
<th>Learning outcomes</th>
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</table>
| **Basic Microbiology** | Chain of Infection          | In order for an infection to develop six related events must happen. This process is known as the chain of infection. All IPC activities are designed to break this chain. | An understanding of:  
  - The concept of the chain on infection and how the transmission of infection can be broken by breaking any one element of the chain.  
    - The different types of microorganisms.  
    - The reservoir of microorganisms.  
    - The portal of exit.  
    - The routes of transmission.  
    - The portal of entry.  
    - A susceptible host including the use of vaccination to reduce risk.  
  - Risk assessment and the chain of infection.  
  - The difference between endogenous and exogenous infection. |
| Healthcare-associated Infection | Preventing (where possible) HCAI is a key patient safety goal. | Anti-microbial resistance is a growing threat to population health and patient safety. | An understanding of:  
  - The definition of HCAI.  
  - The difference between colonisation and infection.  
  - The different types of HCAI.  
  - The impact of HCAI on patients and health services.  
  - Factors that increase the risk of a HCAI.  
  - The role of vaccination in preventing HCAI.  
  - The role of staff in preventing (where possible) and minimising HCAI.  
  - National standards relating to HCAI. |
| **Basic Microbiology** | Antimicrobial Resistance    |                      | An understanding of:  
  - The benefits of effective antimicrobials for population health and healthcare.  
  - The consequences of antimicrobial resistance for population health and patient safety. |
Review Process

Regional HCAI AMR Committee DNE

General Consultation

RCPI CAG

Final Version

No similar existing document in Ireland

Implementation

Staff Categorisation

Scope of document
Where Now?

Local
- promotion
- Review of IPC programmes

National
- QID
- Regional E Learning Programme
Breaking the Chain of Infection

Welcome to Breaking the Chain of Infection, a HSE eLearning programme to help you apply standard precautions in your workplace.

“We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence then, is not an act, but a habit.”

Durant, 1924
Conclusion

First National Document addressing IPC development needs

Defines IPC Core Knowledge and Skills according to staff categories

Support Development of future IPC education and training programmes

Supported DNE development of IPC e learning programme
Document Locations

• www.hse.ie
• http://hsenet.hse.ie
• National Quality Improvement Division
• www.rcpi.ie