



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Management of Hygiene Services

Procedure No. 113

	Print Name	Title	Date
Prepared by	Summer Meaney	-	1st Sept 08
Reviewed by	Mid West Region Hygiene Steering Committee	-	1st Sept 08
Corporate Authorisation	J.Mc Namara	T.S.O.	1st Sept 08

**Mid Western Regional Hospitals Group
(INC: MWRH Dooradoyle, Nenagh, Ennis, St Munchin's Regional Maternity,
Regional Orthopaedic Hospital Croom and St John's Hospital)**

Title of Policy: Management of Hygiene Services

Responsible person for implementation: CEO / General Manager / Hospital Manager / Hospital Administrator

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1.0 Policy Statement:

The Acute Hospitals are committed to lead, assure and to improve the Hospital hygiene in order to provide a safe and clean environment.

2.0 Policy Purpose:

To maintain best hygiene practice in accordance with National recommended standards.

3.0 Scope of Policy:

This policy applies to all HSE staff, contracted services, service users and the public.

4.0 Definitions:

“The practice that serves to keep people and environments clean and to prevent infection. It involves the study of preserving ones health, preventing the spread of disease, and recognising, evaluating and controlling health hazards. In the healthcare setting it incorporates the following key areas; environment and facilities, hand hygiene, catering, management of laundry, waste and sharps and equipment.” (HIQA 2006)

5.0 Procedures:

The core elements of the Hygiene Services include the following:

(a)

- **Environment and facilities**
- **Hand Hygiene**
- **Catering**
- **Management of Laundry**
- **Waste and Sharps**
- **Equipment**

(b) The following documentation that support these core elements include:

- **HSE Cleaning Manual**
- **SARI National Guidelines**
- **Hospital Infection Control Manual**
- **National Food Safety Manual (HACCP)**
- **Local Hygiene Policies Procedures and Guidelines as appropriate**

(c) Training and Education

- On-going staff training and education will continue to be provided
 - **Mandatory Hand Hygiene**
 - **Infection Control**
 - **Waste Management**
 - **Sharps Management**
 - **Manual Handling**
 - **Food Safety and Hygiene**

(d) Public Awareness

The MWRH Acute Network will continue to provide visible information and products to the public as appropriate for use in the hospital environment.

The MWRH Acute Network will support National Hygiene Initiatives in relation to public awareness of hygiene.

(e) Audit

The MWRH Acute Network will continue to audit hygiene practices in relation to :-

- **Environment and facilities**
- **Hand Hygiene**
- **Catering**
- **Management of Laundry**
- **Waste and Sharps**
- **Equipment**

All internal and external audits will be monitored and appropriate actions will be instigated to manage areas of concern and will also note areas of best practice.

6.0 Audit Tool

The MWRH Acute Network will continue to use appropriate Hygiene Audit Tools that may be developed from time to time, e.g. ICNA and HIQA.

The MWRH Acute Network will participate in all external hygiene audit programmes as developed.

7.0 Bibliography and References

- National HSE Cleaning Manual (2006)
- National Hygiene Standards (HIQA 2006)
- National SARI Guidelines (2005)
- HSE Healthcare Risk Management (2005)
- Food Safety of Ireland (HACCP 2000)