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**Infection Prevention and Control Statement 2023/2024**

**Purpose**

This annual statement will be generated each year in accordance with the requirements of The Health and Social Care Act 2008 Code of Practice on the prevention and control of infections and related guidance. It summarises: -

Any infection transmission incidents and any action taken (these will have been reported in accordance with our Significant Event procedure).

Details of any infection control audits undertaken, and actions undertaken.

Details of any risk assessments undertaken for prevention and control of infection.

Details of staff training.

Any review and update of policies, procedures, and guidelines.

**Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) Lead**

The lead for Infection Prevention and Control is Susan Davies Practice Nurse and supported by Debbie Ratu Practice Manager. Both having undertaken IPC training for this role in 2024.

**Infection transmission incidents (Significant Events)**

Significant events (which may involve examples of good practice as well as challenging events) are investigated in detail to see what can be learnt and to indicate changes that might lead to future improvements.  All significant events are reviewed at the quarterly significant event meeting and learning is cascaded to all relevant staff.

In the past year there has been one significant event raised that related to infection control and this was due to a needlestick injury.

**Infection Prevention Audit and Actions**

The Annual Infection Prevention and Control audit was completed by Susan Davies in July 2024.

The results of the audit are that Rectory Meadow Surgery meets the minimum standards as expected.

**Risk Assessments**

Risk assessments are carried out so that best practice can be established and then followed.  In the last year, the following risk assessments were carried out / reviewed:

Legionella (Water) Risk Assessment: - RMS has conducted and reviewed its water safety risk assessment to ensure that the water supply does not pose a risk to patients, visitors, or staff.

Immunisation: - As an Organisation we ensure that all of our staff are up to date with their Hepatitis B immunisations and offered any occupational health vaccinations applicable to their role (i.e., MMR, Seasonal Flu).  RMS encourage all employees to have the COVID 19 vaccinations as recommended by the Department of Health for Primary Care.

**PPE / Risk Assessments**

PPE provisions: - with the increased need of PPE with COVID-19 pandemic RMS have secured access to the NHS PPE supplies to ensure that all staff are provided with sufficient resources to meet the changing needs due to the risk of exposure to COVID-19.   All staff have undertaken a health risk assessment and where identified at high risk staff will be protected from face to face contact with patients of medium or high risk of disease.

**Cleaning specifications, frequencies, and cleanliness**

RMS has cleaning specification and frequency policy which their cleaners and staff complete.  An assessment of cleanliness is conducted by the practice and logged on schedules. This includes all aspects in the surgery including cleanliness of equipment and the responsibility of the property owners.

**Training**

All RMS staff members receive annual training in infection prevention and control.  All Staff undertake online training with Bluestream Academy within the first 3 months of employment.

**Policies**

All Infection Prevention and Control related policies are in date for this year.

Policies relating to Infection Prevention and Control are available to all staff, are reviewed, and updated bi-annually, and all are amended on an on-going basis as current advice, guidance, and legislation changes.  Infection Control policies are circulated amongst staff for reading and discussed at meetings on an annual basis.

**Responsibility**

It is the responsibility of each individual to be familiar with this Statement and their roles and responsibilities under this.

**Review date**

July 2025

**Responsibility for Review**

The Infection Prevention and Control Lead is responsible for reviewing and producing the RMS Annual Statement.

Last Updated 12th Jul 24