

Annual statement on compliance with IPC practice (including cleanliness) for General Practice Template

Introduction

This Annual statement has been drawn up on 01/01/2025 in accordance with the requirement of the *Health and Social Care Act 2008: code of practice on the prevention and control of infections and related guidance* for Venn PCN GP Practice sites

. It summarises:

1. Infection transmission incidents and actions taken
2. IPC audits undertaken and subsequent actions implemented
3. Risk assessments undertaken and any actions taken for prevention and control of infection
4. Staff training
5. Review and update of IPC policies, procedures and guidelines
6. Antimicrobial prescribing and stewardship

This statement has been drawn up by:

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1. Infection transmission incidents

There were no IPC incidents reported for or by VENN Primary Care during 2024 / 2025.

2. IPC Audits and actions

VENN GP practices complete an annual IPC audit. The following audit results were achieved for each practice in 2024/2025:

- The Quays: 98.8%
- Riverside Medical Centre: 91.5%
- Bransholme Health Centre: 82.8%
- Southcoates Health Centre: 87.9%
- Field View: 90.5%
- Sutton Manor: 85.2%
- Elliott Chappel: 91.7%
- The Orchard Centre: 93.6%

Areas identified as being in need of improvement are being addressed and actioned at individual practice sites as required by the individual audit reports.

3. Risk Assessments

VENN GP practices operate in line with advice from NHS England and the local IPC teams. All clinicians have been FFP3 FIT tested and trained to use appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE). This is to minimise the risk of cross-infection in the event that a patient is / patients are deemed to be at high risk of a transmissible disease.

GP practice policies and procedures are accessible to all employees. Mandatory training is monitored by CHCP, CHPL, the Bridge Group and Sutton Manor. All staff are required to complete IPC training every 2-years and hand hygiene training annually to minimise the risk of disease transmission.

4. Staff training

As a PCN, we advocate that IP&C and hand hygiene training is completed by all employees, including clinical and non-clinical staff. During 2024 / 2025:

- 90% of CHCP employees were up-to-date with IPC training and 94% were up-to-date with hand hygiene training.
- 78.69% of CHPL employees were up-to-date with IPC training and 86.17% were up-to-date with hand hygiene training.
- 90.5% of Sutton Manor employees were up-to-date for both handwashing and IPC training.
- 89.4% of Bridge Group employees were up-to-date with IPC training and 86.5% were up-to-date with hand hygiene training.

Achieving 100% IPC training compliance is not always possible if an employee is away from work for an extended period, such as for maternity leave.

5. IPC Policies, procedures and guidance

All CHCP, CHPL, Bridge Group and Sutton Manor IPC policies are up to date. CHPL have adapted and follow CHCPCIC policies. CHPL practices receive training through CHCPCIC and undertake annual IPC audits with the support of CHCPCIC. All staff working at Bridge Group and Sutton Manor are required to complete IPC training and both also undertake annual IPC audits.

6. Antimicrobial prescribing and stewardship

VENN practices follow NICE antimicrobial stewardship guidance on dose and duration of antibiotic use. ARDENs templates are updated according to the best available evidence to guide appropriate antibiotic prescribing decision making.

The UK Health Security Agency and Lowering Antimicrobial Prescribing (LAMP) send out information to Practice Managers and colleagues. This details the RCGP TARGET Toolkit and the GP practice achievement according to individual indicators. Clinicians also receive the results of regular audits of their prescribing practice.

If there are any concerns identified about antimicrobial stewardship, this is discussed at the quarterly VENN Medicines Management prescribing meeting. This ensures a management plan can be put in place to better support antimicrobial stewardship without delay.

Issue	Actions	Date for completion	Person responsible	Progress
Antimicrobial Stewardship	Clinicians within Venn PCN will continue to ensure antibiotics are used appropriately, aiming to prevent antibiotic resistance, improve patient outcomes, and reduce unnecessary prescribing. They will participate and review antibiotic prescribing at regular intervals and review any cases of Clostridium Difficile to see if there are any lessons regarding antimicrobial prescribing.	Ongoing	Dr David Fitzsimmons, Dr Amy Oehring, Elaine Harrison	Ongoing
IPC training compliance	All staff members within the PCN will be reminded of the importance of infection prevention and control and will undertake the mandated training.	Ongoing	Tracy Gamble, Dr Amy Oehring, Elaine Harrison	Ongoing

Forward plan/Quality improvement plan review date: 01/05/2026

IPC statement and Forward plan/Quality improvement plan for presentation to the Venn PCN Board of Directors