# **Infection Control Annual Statement**

Sonning Common Health Centre

15/10/2024

**Purpose**

This annual statement will be generated each year in October in accordance with the requirements of the [Health and Social Care Act 2008 Code of Practice](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-health-and-social-care-act-2008-code-of-practice-on-the-prevention-and-control-of-infections-and-related-guidance) on the prevention and control of infections and related guidance. The report will be published on the organisation’s website and will include the following summary:

* 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 carried out and actions undertaken
* Details of any risk assessments undertaken for the 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 Leads for infection prevention and control at Sonning Common Health Centre are Dr Peter Mennear and Nurse Nikki Berry.

The IPC Leads are supported by Operations Manager Andrea McFarlane.

**a. Infection transmission incidents (significant events)**

Significant events involve examples of good practice as well as challenging events.

Positive events are discussed at meetings to allow all staff to be appraised in areas of best practice.

Negative events are managed by the staff member who either identified or was advised of any potential shortcoming. This person will complete a Learning Event Analysis (LEA) form which commences an investigation process to establish what can be learnt and to indicate changes that might lead to future improvements.

All significant/learning events are reviewed and discussed at clinical meetings each month. Any learning points are cascaded to all relevant staff where an action plan, including audits or policy review, may follow.

In the past year, there have not been any significant or learning events raised which related to infection control. There have also not been any complaints made regarding cleanliness or infection control.

**b. Infection prevention audit and actions**

Sonning Common Health Centre has not had a CQC inspection in the last year.

Sonning Common has not had an external Infection Control inspection in the last year.

An internal Infection Control audit was carried out on 15th October 2024. Some areas of improvement needed were identified which were the repair of fabric of an examination couch, cleaning of dust from a small number of curtain rails, 1 sharps bin was out of date and needed to be replaced, and some damaged walls were identified for repair.

**c. Risk assessments**

Risk assessments are carried out so that any risk is minimised and made to be as low as is reasonably practicable. Additionally, a risk assessment that can identify best practice can be established and then followed.

In the last year, the following risk assessments were carried out/reviewed:

* Cleaning standards
* COSSH
* Staff vaccinations
* General Infection Control risks

A suggested list, but one that is not exhaustive, could contain the following:

In the next year, the following risk assessment will also be reviewed:

Hand washing techniques

**d. Training**

In addition to staff being involved in risk assessments and significant events, at Sonning Common Health Centre, all staff and contractors receive Infection Control induction training on commencing their post. Thereafter, all staff receive refresher training annually.

Various elements of Infection Control training in the previous year have been delivered at the following times:

27/02/2024

**e. Policies and procedures**

The infection prevention and control-related policies and procedures that have been written, updated or reviewed in the last year include, but are not limited to:

Asceptic Technique, Venapuncture, Specimen Handling, Safe Management of Sharps and Hand Hygiene.

Policies relating to infection prevention and control are available to all staff and are reviewed and updated annually. Additionally, all policies are amended on an ongoing basis as per current advice, guidance and legislation changes.

**f. Responsibility**

It is the responsibility of all staff members at Sonning Common Health Centre to be familiar with this statement and their roles and responsibilities under it.

**g. Review**

The IPC Lead Dr. Peter Mennear, Nurse Nikki Berry and Operations Manager Andrea Mcfarlane, are responsible for reviewing and producing the annual statement.

This annual statement will be updated on or before 15/10/2025.

**Signed by**

*Andrea McFarlane*

Andrea Mcfarlane

For and on behalf of Sonning Common Health Centre