Infection control Annual statement 2023/2024

Purpose:

This annual statement will be generated each year in April. It will summarize:

. 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 control risk assessments undertaken

.Details of staff training

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

Background:

The practice has one lead for infection, prevention and control, Our Lead Nurse Practitioner Elizabeth Ripley, supported by Melanie Ingham , Bev Gowling .

Nurse Practitioner Elizabeth Ripley keeps updated on infection control and shares necessary information with the team at Nurse Meetings and clinical governance meetings.

Significant events /infection transmission incidents:

Primary care has continued to have its challenges and as a Team we have done our best to catch up with the workflow which is still increasing daily.

Following government directives and advice the surgery continues to follow guidance on PPE use and all infection control measures are in place.

Significant events (which may involve examples of good practice as well as challenging events) are investigated in detail at Clinical meetings on a bi monthly basis and where time allows for this to run routinely.

Clinical meetings and learning is cascaded to all relevant staff.

Audits:

In April 2024 an infection Prevention and Control in General practice audit was completed by Elizabeth Ripley Lead Nurse practitioner. Policies and procedures have now been finalized and are operational. Herstmonceux Surgery has merged with IC24 and we will continue to work together to ensure our policies and procedures are merged together going forward.

Training

All clinical and relevant team members will attend /update training for infection control Prevention and Control for General Practice. Each clinical and non-Clinical Practitioner is expected to undertake Infection control training online and keep themselves updated. Going forward we will entering evidence of our training via the IC24 learn 24 portal, this will hold all records of evidence of our training.

Annual handwashing update is now also on line via the Learn 24 portal, all staff are reminded to complete this at clinical meetings.

Nurse meetings are currently not in place as we do not have a large Nursing team, therefore as the Lead Nurse who is based at the surgery on a near full time basis I ensure to attend Clinical meetings and cascade any relevant information down to the Nursing team. We now have GPA in the Surgery a new role that we are all learning and evolving as we go along. The GPA s have had bi monthly meetings and are going on to monthly meetings these are held with Nigel Brown our Paramedic Practitioner and Elizabeth Ripley as Lead Nurse Practitioner. All infection control advice has been passed on to our new GPAs.

Bi monthly clinical meetings are held and infection control is part of the agenda for discussion.

Policies, procedures and guidelines:

Policies relating to infection Prevention and Control are reviewed and updated annually if appropriate. However, all are amended on an on-going basis as current advice changes or as per new guidance from IC24.

All policies and procedures are accessible to all staff members and each staff member is made aware on induction where to find these.

Infection Control Audit overall good

Waste management Audit room to improve and this was mainly down to having new staff and needing them to update on training.

No major Infection control concerns raised.