

Infection Control Statement

At Church Lane Surgery, your health and safety are of utmost importance to us. We are dedicated to providing a safe and hygienic environment for all our patients, staff, and visitors. Infection control is a cornerstone of our practice, and we have implemented stringent measures to prevent the spread of infections and maintain a clean and safe environment for patients and staff alike.

Our Commitment to Infection Control

Well Trained Staff - Our medical team consists of highly skilled and trained healthcare professionals who are well-versed in infection control protocols (including antimicrobial prescribing and stewardship for Prescribing Clinicians). All our Staff undergo regular mandatory training to stay up-to-date with the latest practices and guidelines.

Adherence to Guidelines - We strictly adhere to the guidelines and recommendations provided. It is a requirement of the Health & Social Care Act 2008 Code of Practice on the prevention and control of infections and related guidance that the Infection Prevention and Control Lead produces an annual statement with regard to compliance with good practice on infection prevention and control.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) - Our staff when required wear appropriate PPE, including masks, gloves, and gowns, when providing care to patients. This helps minimize the risk of cross-contamination and ensures the safety of both patients and staff.

Hand Hygiene - Hand hygiene is essential in preventing the transmission of infections. We maintain a strong emphasis on handwashing and hand sanitizing for all our staff members.

Cleaning and Disinfection - Our premises and patient care areas are cleaned daily (Mon-Fri) by our employed/contracted cleaning team. Our medical equipment undergo regular and thorough cleaning and disinfection by our Clinical Staff to maintain a clean and sanitary environment.

Proper Waste Management - We follow strict waste management procedures to dispose of medical waste safely and responsibly.

Patient Screening - We conduct comprehensive patient screening to identify any potential infectious conditions. This enables us to take necessary precautions and provide appropriate care/isolation if necessary.

Waiting Room Safety - We take measures to ensure a safe and hygienic waiting area. Regular disinfection of frequently touched surfaces are part of our infection control strategy. Providing wipeable seating and flooring areas that meet NHS standards.

Sterilisation of Instruments - All medical instruments used during procedures are meticulously sterilized following industry standards and guidelines.

Education and Awareness - We actively educate our staff through mandatory training schedules and update patients about infection control measures. We believe that informed

individuals are better equipped to actively participate in their own health and safety. We have a dedicated infection control board in Waiting Room 1 (CLS and Helperby) which provides further information including escalation measures.

Patient Cooperation

We kindly request our patients to cooperate with our infection control measures. If you are experiencing any symptoms of illness, such as fever, cough, or respiratory issues, please inform our staff before your visit. Additionally, we encourage patients to follow the provided instructions and utilise the alcohol hand gel sanitiser we have available throughout the practice.

At Church Lane Surgery we are committed to maintaining a safe and hygienic environment to provide the highest standard of healthcare. We encourage staff and patients to raise any issues or report any incidents relating to cleanliness and infection control. We can discuss these and identify improvements we can make to avoid any future problems. If you have any questions or concerns regarding our infection control practices, please feel free to reach out to us.

Significant events

In the past year there have been no significant events raised that related to infection control.

Risk Assessments

Risk assessments are carried out so that best practice can be established and then followed.

Audits

The below monthly infection control audits are undertaken:

- Safe Management of the Care of the Environment Audit Tool for General Practice.
- Safe Management of Care Equipment Audit Tool for General Practice.
- Hand Hygiene spot check audit.

The below annual infection control audits are undertaken:

- Infection Prevention and Control Audit Tool of Compliance (Environment, IPC Policies and Practices) for General Practice.
- Aseptic Technique Competency.
- Hand Hygiene Competency for all Staff.
- PPE audit.

Responsibilities within the Practice

Infection prevention and control Nurse Lead is Nurse Zoe Blaken
Infection prevention and control Management Lead is Laura Wilson
Practice Manager is Coralie Lightfoot
This protocol applies to all staff employed by the practice

Reviewed 26.03.2024