

Infection prevention and control

Quality statement

We expect providers, commissioners and system leaders live up to this statement:

We assess and manage the risk of infection. We detect and control the risk of it spreading and share any concerns with appropriate agencies promptly.

What this quality statement means

- There is an effective approach to assessing and managing the risk of infection, which is in line with current relevant national guidance.
- People are protected as much as possible from the risk of infection because premises and equipment are kept clean and hygienic.
- There are clear roles and responsibilities around infection prevention and control.
- Information about the risk of infection is shared appropriately with relevant partners, including agencies, people using the service and visitors.

I statements

[I statements](#) reflect what people have said matters to them.

- I feel safe and am supported to understand and manage any risks.

Subtopics this quality statement covers

- Cleanliness and hygiene (environment and equipment)
- Personal hygiene (staff and people who use services)
- Food hygiene
- PPE
- Vaccination
- Infection management
- Outbreak management
- Infectious diseases
- Waste and clinical specimen management

Related regulations

Regulated Activities Regulations 2014

- [Regulation 12: Safe care and treatment](#)
- [Regulation 15: Premises and equipment](#)

Also consider

- [Regulation 17: Good governance](#)

Additional legislation

[The Food Safety and Hygiene \(England\) Regulations 2013](#)

[Food Safety Act 1990](#)

[Public Health \(Control of Disease\) Act 1984](#)

[The Public Health \(Infectious Diseases\) Regulations 1988](#)

[The Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002](#)

[The Health Protection \(Notification\) Regulations 2010](#)

Best practice guidance

We expect providers to be aware of and follow the following best practice guidance.

[Health and Social Care Act 2008: code of practice on the prevention and control of infections and related guidance \(Department of Health and Social Care\)](#)

[Infection prevention and control \(NICE Guidance \[QS 61\]\)](#)

[Essential Practice for Infection Prevention and Control \(Royal College of Nursing\)](#)

[HSE and Infection at Work \(HSE\)](#)

[National infection prevention and control \(NHS England\)](#)

[Healthcare-associated infections: prevention and control in primary and community care \(NICE Guidance \[CG139\]\)](#)

[Healthcare-associated infections: prevention and control \(NICE Guidance \[PH36\]\)](#)

Cleanliness and hygiene (environment and equipment)

[National Standards of Healthcare Cleanliness 2021 \(NHS England\)](#)

[\(HTM 01-04\) Decontamination of linen for health and social care \(NHS England\)](#)

[\(HTM 07-01\) Management and disposal of healthcare waste \(NHS England\)](#)

[Control of substances hazardous to health \(HSE\)](#)

[Legionella and legionnaires' disease \(HSE\)](#)

[Control of legionella in hot and cold water systems in care services / settings using temperature \(HSE\)](#)

[Legionella disease - The control of legionella bacteria in water systems \(HSE\)](#)

Personal hygiene (staff and people who use services)

[Hand hygiene for all initiative: improving access and behaviour in health care facilities \(World Health Organisation\)](#)

PPE

[COVID-19: personal protective equipment use for non-aerosol generating procedures \(UK Health Security Agency\)](#)

[COVID-19: personal protective equipment use for aerosol generating procedures \(UK Health Security Agency\)](#)

[Personal protective equipment \(PPE\) at work \(HSE\)](#)

[Natural rubber latex sensitisation in health and social care \(HSE\)](#)

[Selecting latex gloves \(HSE\)](#)

Vaccination

[The Green book: Immunisation against infectious disease \(UK Health Security Agency\)](#)

[The Yellow Card scheme: guidance for healthcare professionals, patients and the public \(Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency\)](#)

[A guide to the COVID-19 vaccination programme \(UK Health Security Agency\)](#)

[Flu vaccination: who should have it and why \(UK Health Security Agency\)](#)

Outbreak management

[Living safely with respiratory infections, including COVID-19 \(UK Health Security Agency\)](#)

[COVID-19 symptoms and what to do \(NHS\)](#)

[How to avoid catching and spreading COVID-19 \(NHS\)](#)

[People with symptoms of a respiratory infection including COVID-19 \(UK Health Security Agency\)](#)

[COVID-19: information and advice for health and care professionals \(UK Health Security Agency\)](#)

[COVID-19: guidance for people whose immune system means they are at higher risk \(UK Health Security Agency and Department of Health and Social Care\)](#)

[Handling the deceased with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 \(HSE\)](#)

Food Hygiene

[The Food Safety Act 1990 – A guide for food businesses \(Food Standards Agency\)](#)

[Food Standards Agency guidance](#)
