



Public Trust Board – 29 March 2022

Infection Prevention and Control Board Assurance Framework v 1.8, 24 December 2021 – Trust Self-Assessment and Action Plan

Purpose of the report

NHS England and NHS Improvement (NHSE/I) issued an Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) Board Assurance Framework (BAF) to support all healthcare providers to effectively self-assess their compliance with UK Health Security Agency (formally Public Health England, PHE) COVID-19 related IPC guidance and to identify risks as a source of internal assurance to support and maintain quality standards.

The purpose of this report is to provide a summary of the Trust’s self-assessment against the updated IPC BAF version 1.8 and Key Lines of Enquiry (KLOE) issued on 24 December 2021 and actions to further strengthen assurance.

Background

The Infection Prevention and Control Board Assurance Framework (BAF) was issued in May 2020 and further updated throughout 2020-2021. The Trust has completed self-assessments against all BAF versions and subsequent updates have been shared through the Trust Board six-monthly IPC reports and with NHS England & Improvement IPC leads and the Care Quality Commission (CQC).

The updated IPC BAF version 1.8 (December 2021) includes an additional eighty-two Key Lines of Enquiry (KLOE), the framework is linked to the IPC Code of Practice.

UKHSA issued Infection prevention and control for seasonal respiratory infections in health and care settings (including SARS-CoV-2) for winter 2021 to 2022 on 24 November 21. This guidance is intended to prevent transmission of seasonal respiratory viral infections focusing on influenza, Covid-19, and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) in health and care settings while continuing to support the recovery of services.

Letter to all providers received on 30 November 21 from Ruth May and Stephen Powis outlining the main changes to the guidance (applicable to all healthcare settings in England) asking providers to implement the revised measures, subject to local risk assessment as advised in the guidance.

On 30 November 2021, UKHSA issue a technical briefing outlining the new Variant of Concern (VOC) Omicron.

Following benchmarking with UHL, NHFT and through the national IPC shared council network regarding implementation of new guidance it was agreed to pause implementation of the new guidance whilst we awaited further information and guidance regarding the new variant of concern and to continue with the current safe systems of working.

Analysis of the issue

In total there were 102 points for self-assessment. A multi-disciplinary group including, clinicians, IPC team, Health & Safety and Facilities completed a self-assessment (Appendix 1) on 21 February 2022. Of the 82 KLOE there are 12 areas for further action to improve assurance as detailed in the action plan (Appendix 2), in summary;

- Moving from three Covid-19 risk managed pathways to a respiratory seasonal pathway including Covid-19
- Update the employee risk assessment to include other high consequence respiratory illnesses
- IPC dashboard evidencing compliance of all IPC audits at Trust and local level
- Regular and consistent cleaning scores in non-clinical areas
- Evidence of twice daily cleans and deep cleans
- Entrance signage that includes respiratory illness including Covid-19
- Season winter IPC plan
- Patient information

The action plan is to be monitored through the Trust IPC group, updated monthly, and progress shared through IPC reporting to the Trust Quality Forum and regular updates to the CQC.

Proposal

It is proposed that the IPC BAF action plan continues to be monitored through the Trust IPC group, progress against the actions included in the bi-monthly IPC updates to the Quality Forum and six-monthly IPC update to Trust Board.

Decision required

For the Trust board to confirm a level of assurance and agree proposed oversight and governance going forward as detailed above.

(all embedded documents available on request)

Governance table

For Board and Board Committees: Paper sponsored by:	Trust Board 29.3.22	
	Anne Scott, Executive Director of Nursing, AHPs and Quality	
Paper authored by:	Emma Wallis, Interim Deputy Director of Nursing and Quality & Amanda Hemsley, Lead Infection Prevention Control Lead	
Date submitted:	18.03.2022	
State which Board Committee or other forum within the Trust's governance structure, if any, have previously considered the report/this issue and the date of the relevant meeting(s):	Quality Assurance Committee – 22.2.22	
If considered elsewhere, state the level of assurance gained by the Board Committee or other forum i.e. assured/ partially assured / not assured:	Assured	
State whether this is a 'one off' report or, if not, when an update report will be provided for the purposes of corporate Agenda planning	Further updates will be provided in the Trust IPC 6 monthly reports	
STEP up to GREAT strategic alignment*:	High Standards	√
	Transformation	
	Environments	√
	Patient Involvement	
	Well Governed	
	Reaching Out	
	Equality, Leadership, Culture	
	Access to Services	
	Trustwide Quality Improvement	
Organisational Risk Register considerations:	List risk number and title of risk	1: High standards The Trust's clinical systems & processes may not consistently deliver harm free care
Is the decision required consistent with LPT's risk appetite:	Yes	
False and misleading information (FOMI) considerations:	None	
Positive confirmation that the content does not risk the safety of patients or the public	Yes	
Equality considerations:	Access to training Hearing difficulties Learning difficulties	