

## Two pages and a new IPC practitioner!

WELCOME to issue 13 of our newsletter. You will notice that we have a 2-page edition. That's because we are trialling a new 'focus on...' feature where we explore a Somerset care home.

This month it is Castle House, who recently had a visit from our Lucy Champion. Lucy was very impressed with the IPC policies and audits that they had put in place.

We would also like to introduce you to our new team member. Alice Sangani has joined the team as a new

Infection Control Practitioner.

Alice is a Physician Associate and comes from a Primary Care background where she was working in the Enhanced Health in Care Homes team as well as having previous experience in urgent and secondary care.

Alice has a background in



biomedical science and teaching and is taking a lead on the antimicrobial resistance workstreams in the IPC team as well as getting involved in education events. She will be covering the West Somerset region providing support visits to primary care providers and care homes alongside Lucy Champion while she is completing her induction period.

### In brief

#### Virtual IPC clinic

DO YOU have a question relating to IPC? It might be about waste disposal, a training request or a chat about a support visit. Our next clinic will be held on Wednesday 9 October from 2pm. Click [here to access](#).

#### Training news

IF YOU would benefit from Virtual Continence Training, please contact Lesley who can give you further details. Her email is [Lesley.Turner@essity.com](mailto:Lesley.Turner@essity.com)

The general email for the continence service is [contineservice@somersetFT.nhs.uk](mailto:contineservice@somersetFT.nhs.uk)

#### Sharps disposal

Sharps containers must be disposed of when the fill line has been reached or when the container has been in use for three months even if not full, in accordance with NIHC guidance. This will usually be undertaken by the community nursing team or the service user, returning it to where it was issued from, e.g. GP, Health Centre.

[DC-14-Safe-management-of-sharps-April-2021-Version-2.00.pdf \(infectionpreventioncontrol.co.uk\)](#)

Please print your poster for information on the link above.

## World Sepsis Day September 13th

ON SEPTEMBER 13<sup>th</sup> we recognise World Sepsis Day.

This day is to spread awareness of Sepsis worldwide with the aim of education and prevention.

Recognition of sepsis or asking 'could it be sepsis' is important for care home staff as it leads to faster treatment time.

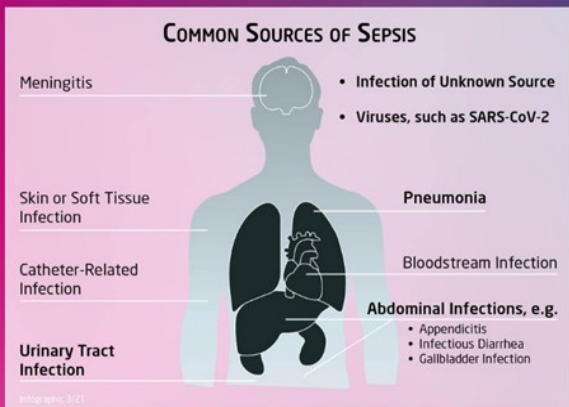
Learn what sepsis is, and how to identify

and diagnose it in this [3-min video](#) produced for World Sepsis Day.

We have produced [bitesize guidance](#) for the recognition and management of sepsis in community settings.

This is aimed at all staff in care homes and nursing homes to enable them to recognise signs of sepsis and prompt escalation for assessment.

### WORLD SEPSIS DAY INFOGRAPHICS



Global Sepsis Alliance [www.worldsepsisday.org](http://www.worldsepsisday.org) [www.global-sepsis-alliance.org](http://www.global-sepsis-alliance.org) September 13<sup>th</sup> World Sepsis Day 2020

## Celebrating launch of IPC champions for care homes

THE first meeting for our newly-appointed Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) Champions was a great success!

This introductory session was an opportunity for our champions to get acquainted with the fundamentals of infection control and to gain a clear understanding

of the responsibilities that come with their new roles. We are confident that they will make a significant impact in promoting best practices within their care homes.

Over the coming months, we will continue to provide them with the learning resources to ensure they are well-

equipped to support their teams in maintaining high standards of infection control.

We will be offering a comprehensive educational programme for our champions starting in the new year.

If your care home hasn't yet nominated a member of staff for the

IPC Champion role, we encourage you to do so. Please complete the [nomination form](#) and return it to us at [somicb.infectionpreventioncontrolteam@nhs.net](mailto:somicb.infectionpreventioncontrolteam@nhs.net). Together, we can continue to strengthen our infection control efforts and ensure the safety of residents and staff.

# Focus on... Castle House Nursing Home



CASTLE House is a family-run home in Keinton Mandeville. It is owned and managed by Jo Marshall and her family; her husband Tom runs the gardening and maintenance team.

Deputy manager, Jo (No. 2!), compiles a monthly newsletter for residents, family and friends of the home which features all the activities that are planned for residents,



*Pictured: Castle House and one of the resident cats. Jo the owner and manager, and the importance of getting the residents involved.*

*Picture credits: Castle House Nursing Home*

fun trivia and quote of the month, and a round-up of what the residents have been up to since the last newsletter.

There is also a staff spotlight where you get to learn about the people who work within the Castle House team.

After a recent visit to the home, our IPC nurses noticed that animals featured throughout. Fish tanks are located in various communal areas, pets are allowed to accompany family and friends during their visits and there are resident cats and even a guinea pig.

Residents benefit

from the interaction with the animals as many would have had pets themselves before coming to the home.

Residents are involved with the garden with fresh air promoting mental wellbeing. Hobbies are nurtured, with the fruit and veg production.