

IPC January 2023 update in Primary Care

**Marjorie Gunzvenzve
Infection Prevention and Control Specialist**

January 2023



Updated guidance Health & Social Act 2008

- Health and Social Care Act 2008: code of practice on the prevention and control of infections and related guidance was updated on 13 December 2022;
<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2014/2936/contents/made>
- The act sets out the overall framework for the regulation of health and adult social care activities by the Care Quality Commission (CQC).

Updated guidance Health & Social Act 2008

- The description of all activities related to infection prevention and control (including cleanliness) was adopted in response to the consultation on the revision of the code of practice in 2015 to make it clear to non-specialists that cleanliness is an integral part of IPC.

Updated guidance Health & Social Act 2008

- Part 2 of the code sets out the 10 criteria against which the CQC will judge a registered provider on how it complies with the IPC (including cleanliness) requirements, which are set out in the regulations.
- Parts 3 and 4 of this document will help registered providers interpret the criteria and develop their own risk assessments.

Updated guidance

Health & Social Act 2008

The main purposes of the code are to:

- Make the registration requirements relating to IPC (including cleanliness) clear to all registered providers so that they understand what they need to do to comply
- Provide guidance for CQC staff to make judgements about compliance with the requirements for IPC
- Provide information for people who use the services of a registered provider
- Provide information for commissioners of services on what they should expect of their providers
- Provide information for the general public

Compliance criterion

What the registered provider will need to demonstrate

Criterion 1 - Systems to manage and monitor the prevention and control of infection

Criterion 2 - The provision and maintenance of a clean and appropriate environment in managed premises that facilitates the prevention and control of infections.

- **Criterion 3** - Appropriate antimicrobial use and stewardship to optimise outcomes and to reduce the risk of adverse events and antimicrobial resistance.
- **Criterion 4** - The provision of suitable accurate information on infections to service users, their visitors and any person concerned with providing further social care support or nursing/medical care in a timely fashion.

Criterion 5 – That there is a policy for ensuring that people who have or are at risk of developing an infection are identified promptly and receive the appropriate treatment and care to reduce the risk of transmission of infection to other people.

Criterion 6 - Systems are in place to ensure that all care workers (including contractors and volunteers) are aware of and discharge their responsibilities in the process of preventing and controlling infection.

Criterion 7 – The provision or ability to secure adequate isolation facilities.

Criterion 8 - The ability to secure adequate access to laboratory support as appropriate.

Criterion 9 - That they have and adhere to policies designed for the individual's care, and provider organisations that will help to prevent and control infections.

Criterion 10 – That they have a system or process in place to manage staff health and wellbeing, and organisational obligation to manage infection, prevention and control.

Guidance for compliance

- To achieve compliance with the registration requirements relating to IPC (including cleanliness), registered providers would normally be expected to demonstrate that they have in place the policies and procedures to meet each relevant criterion listed in part 2, and have taken account of all guidance for compliance.

Useful links

- Primary Care IPC lead details <https://nhssomerset.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/Primary-Care-IPC-Lead-JD-Jan-2023-V2.docx>
- IPC Team email:
Somicb.infectionpreventioncontrolteam@nhs.net