

ROLE BRIEF

Department:	Governance
Job Title:	Infection Prevention and Control Support Nurse Band 7
Responsible To:	Head of Risk Management/ IPCNS
Location:	Corporate- across all sites
Key Duties:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To lead the clinical nursing team for the monitoring, surveillance and investigation of infections and for advising on preventative and control measures relating directly or indirectly to patient care. ▪ To provide advice, education and support in all matters relating to infection control. ▪ To be the autonomous leader for infection control. ▪ To lead in programmes /projects relating to infection control. ▪ Provides expert advice on all aspects of the prevention and control of infection, which is in line with Horder Healthcare policy. ▪ To establish, maintain and recommend when there are new developments within the speciality, an effective and efficient system for the prevention, surveillance, investigation and control of infections in hospital.
Key Accountabilities:	<p>Apply specialist knowledge: of microbiology, virology and epidemiology to promote health, across HH Hospitals, which includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Evaluate the clinical significance of microbiological data and the implications for infection control practice. ▪ Interpret the relevance of laboratory reports to clinical staff as required. ▪ Correlate information from laboratories and clinical areas regarding the incidence and pathogenicity of infection. ▪ On a daily basis assess ward based patients with an alert organism. Advising on the implementation of isolation. ▪ Give advice in times of need such as outbreak management, or complex infection control problems. ▪ Undertake investigations following outbreaks of infection and advising on the preventative measures including further investigations as appropriate and provide a written report. ▪ Advise and support departmental managers and senior nurses in the implementation of agreed infection control policies in their specific areas. ▪ Facilitate methods/practices to achieve and maintain the highest standards of practice relating to the prevention and control of infection. ▪ Review and monitor clinical data in order to review infection rates in clinical areas. ▪ Act as a specialist resource, informing clinical staff of alert organisms and clinical issues relating to their area of practice. ▪ Maintain a high clinical profile, having advisory and clinical input into

patient care, wherever relevant, whilst maintaining the application of Infection Control principles.

- Develop and maintain effective networks within own clinical liaison areas.
- Communicate information regarding sensitive and complex infection control issues to patients, their carers and service users.
- Provides specialist advice and support to clinicians responsible for the delivery of programmes of care.
- Represents the Infection Control Team at various groups to provide expert infection control knowledge.
- Act as a role model utilising specialist knowledge and skills in practice, to other professionals and groups.
- Facilitate clinical decision making.
- Continually act as a professional clinical lead providing a strong professional role model for others to emulate.
- Direct evidence based advice, guidance and information to staff regarding infection in management of patients, staff and the environment.
- At all times exhibiting high standards of professional dress and behaviour.
- Promote the provision of a safe environment for well-being of staff and patients.
- Advise clinical and housekeeping staff to enable them to distinguish levels of risk presented by equipment and environment and select appropriate method of decontamination.
- Undertaking of environmental monitoring where appropriate.
- Monitor standards of cleanliness and hygiene by establishing and maintaining effective communication with nursing, housekeeping and catering staff, to ensure the provision of a safe environment.

Management of the specialist service

- Develop and maintain close working relationships with medical, administrative and support service colleagues.
- Act as a clinical specialist providing representation on committees and working parties as required.
- Develop written and verbal reports to be presented to the Infection Control Committee, Governance Committee and other committees as required.
- Undertake audits relating to infection control activities and in conjunction with heads of department devise action plans ensuring closure of loops.
- Ensuring compliance with statutory requirements and standards and accreditation programmes in relation to Infection Prevention and Control requirements.
- Produce an annual report on the activities of the Infection Control Service
- Act as a clinical supervisor to infection control link nurses.
- Keep professionally up-to-date and attend study days, courses and conferences relating to Infection Control.
- Undertake reviews/evaluations of new products, materials and

equipment, which may enhance the Infection Control service, improving patient outcomes.

- Advise on the practicality of cleaning, disinfection and sterilisation in relation to the purchasing of new equipment.
- Advise senior staff on Infection Control problems in their relevant departments relating to cross-infection, clinical practice and environmental issues.
- Serve as an integral member of specialist groups in an advisory capacity and as co-opted.
- Use highly developed professional judgement skills to actively challenge traditional practice ensuring that current practice is evidence based and direct others to do the same
- Respond promptly at times of crisis/near miss/clinical incident to ensure that staffs are fully supported throughout the immediate and post event period.
- Apply problem solving approaches, guidance and support to clinical staff regarding infection control issues.

Education

- Plan and participate in education programmes that incorporate policies and guidance applicable to the wide-ranging staff groups who require infection control education.
- Identify service educational needs of all grades of staff and support the programme of induction for new staff.
- Ensuring the continued educational roles of the Infection Control Link Nurses is met.
- Utilise appropriate strategies and opportunities to impart specialist knowledge to staff, patients and their families.
- Coordinate the development and maintenance of the planning, delivery and evaluation of the in-house education and training programme for all disciplines of staff.
- Participate in education programmes for all staff groups.
- Provide professional advice to all staff when required within and occasionally outside of area of responsibility.
- Using highly developed and varied management skills actively challenge and direct own and others traditional practice, to improve service delivery, patient care and communication.
- Be proactive within area of responsibility in resolving issues that may give rise to dissatisfaction from patients and their carers.

Leadership and Management & Effective Communication

Promote a high level of professionalism amongst all staff groups acting as a visible role model in all infection control and other nursing activities. You are accessible to all staff groups, patients and their relatives.

- Exercise leadership by personal example, fostering good interpersonal

relationships.

- Contributes to monitoring Performance Indicators both nationally and locally.
- Exhibit advanced verbal and written communication.
- Contribute to the annual service objectives/plan that identifies the priorities for that period.
- Take action to ensure these objectives are met in a timely fashion.

Personal and Professional Development

- Maintain responsibility for own professional and specialist development.
- Pursue an ongoing programme of professional education/development relevant to the specialty of infection control nursing.
- Use reflection to identify and prioritise education/development needs.
- Attend meetings and conferences as appropriate relating to the specialty.
- Be responsible for ensuring current practice is evidence based and continually updated
- Expand one's own knowledge, both of Infection Control and the disciplines on which it impinges, by attending courses where appropriate, reading relevant journals and maintaining a network of contact with other Infection Control workers.
- Establish internal and external professional links within infection control and wider related topics area of expertise
- The post holder is expected to be fully conversant with the NMC Code of Professional Conduct and associated national guidelines and abide by their guidance.
- Undertake relevant mandatory and appropriate training, maintaining relevant clinical skills in order to maintain clinical competence
- Maintain professional contemporaneous records at all times.
- Maintain a high standard of personal behaviour and ensure effective communication with all members of the multidisciplinary team, patients carers and relatives.

Policy Development

In conjunction with the Infection Control Services, contribute to the formulation and review of infection control policies utilising evidence based practice and national guidance.

Research and Development

- Ensure clinical policies and practice developments are based on best available evidence.
- Review and disseminate new information to relevant staff.
- Evaluate clinical practice in relation to its evidence base and clinical effectiveness
- Ensure specialist/expert knowledge and experience is disseminated.

Knowledge and Understanding

- Registered Nurse level 1
- ENB 329 or equivalent (or willingness to acquire)

- ENB 998 or equivalent
- Knowledge of hospital policies and procedures
- Training in risk assessment

Problem Solving Ability

- Recognition of clinical problems and take appropriate action
- Deal with enquiries/issues/complaints regarding infection control
- Act decisively in an emergency/urgent situation
- Investigate infectious outbreaks and take necessary action to contain or eliminate

Sphere of Influence

- Consultants, staff, managers, and patients.
- Advise on departmental design, equipment purchase.
- Liaison with public health bodies.
- To be efficient and professional in representing the organisation.

Risk and Responsibility

- Minimise risk from infection for staff and patients.
- Promote good practices.
- Provide specialist advice.
- To take responsibility for own practice, in accordance with NMC and hospital guidelines/protocols.
- Develop best practice, policy and procedure using up to date knowledge of infection control and monitor their effectiveness.
- Risk assessment and management.
- Maintain confidentiality.
- To maintain accurate records.
- Record and report notifiable incidences.

Skills and Effort

- Excellent verbal and non-verbal communication skills.
- Attention to detail.
- Able to work autonomously both alone and as part of a team.
- Self-motivated.
- Ability to work under pressure.
- Evidence of updating clinical skills/knowledge.
- Customer care skills.

Working Conditions

- General hazards associated with clinical environment.

Key Knowledge, Skills and Experience:	<p>Must Haves</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st Level Registered Nurse with clinical experience. • Recognised qualification in Infection Prevention - Degree or MSc Infection Control. or working towards • Mentorship qualification • Experience in teaching and presenting • Evidence of professional development • Practical experience of under-taking audit and developing action plans • Excellent communication skills verbal and written • IT skills input, retrieve, analyse and report data for research utilising Microsoft Office packages to produce summary data to be included in quarterly and annual reports to the relevant committees. • Competent in the use of Word and basics of Excel and Power Point.. • Car driver essential as there will be a requirement to travel between sites <p>Nice to Haves</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge of research and audit including implementation of findings, review of outcomes and report writing . • Evidence of recent educational and professional development in aseptic technique and IV therapy.
Health and Safety:	<p>The Health Act 2008 Code of Practice for Prevention and Control of Healthcare Associated Infections:</p> <p>You will carry out your duties in a way that maintains and promotes the principles and practice of infection prevention and control. You will comply with national standards, policies, guidelines and procedures. If you need a few tips, speak with our Infection Control Specialist.</p> <p>For clinical colleagues with direct patient contact, this will include (but is not limited to):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • compliance with clinical procedures and protocols, including uniform and dress code. • the use of personal protective equipment. • safe procedures for using aseptic techniques . • safe disposal of sharps. <p>Please take due care at work, reporting any accidents, incidents or near misses to your line manager and record them on the Datix system.</p>
Equal Opportunities	<p>Horder Healthcare's Equal Opportunities Policy tells you all about our commitment to ensuring that no patient, colleague or prospective colleague is discriminated against, whether directly or indirectly on the grounds of : gender, sexual orientation, age, marital status, responsibility for dependents , disability, religion, creed, colour, race, nationality, ethnic or national origin, trade union</p>

	activity, social background, health status, or is disadvantaged by conditions or requirements which cannot be shown as justifiable.
Confidentiality	You will make sure that no confidential information is disclosed about Horder Healthcare or its associated companies (including information about patients and colleagues) to any unauthorised person.
Safeguarding	You will be aware of the key issues in safeguarding children and vulnerable adults from significant and serious harm. Reporting safeguarding concerns to appropriate professionals and recording incidents accurately.
People Managers (if applicable)	You have a responsibility to manage your team, ensuring safe staffing levels at all times. You should ensure all new team members are effectively inducted onto your department; making sure that mandatory training is complete and kept up to date. You should effectively manage your team members monitoring performance and absence, using the HR policies and procedures.
Review	Whilst this role brief outlines the main duties of your role identified at the date of issue, you may be required to carry out additional tasks as requested by senior colleagues. Your role may be subject to amendments in the light of the changing needs of the business, and will be reviewed periodically, which we'll discuss with you first.
Role Brief Agreement	<p>I have read this role brief and understand the contents of my day-to-day duties. I also understand that this role brief may change over time with the business needs of Horder Healthcare. I understand that the role brief will therefore be subject to periodic review.</p> <p>Colleague name:</p> <p>Colleague signature:</p> <p>Date:</p>