

Infection Control Auditing/ Annual Infection Control Statement in Dentistry

Single
Point
Lesson

What is audit? A way of measuring standards to reflect how safe you are keeping your patients, staff and visitors when visiting your practice. Audit also provides evidence of measuring those standards and actions taken were required. Auditing decontamination is a key element for dentistry. Auditing is a requirement within the Code of Practice for the Prevention of Health Care Associated Infection and forms part of the Health and Social Care Act 2008.

Audit tools: are used to monitor and check that what is being audited is being done correctly. For example, auditing hand washing of staff is to make sure staff are washing their hands properly, using the **Ayliffe** technique. By observing staff in practice, or asking them to wash their hands to demonstrate the technique is correct is measuring compliance is being met. **REMEMBER Everyone should contribute to audit and monitoring.**



Annual Infection Control Statement

In line with the Code of Practice 2010 and as part of the contractual requirement with NHS England all practices **MUST** complete an annual infection control statement which should be made available for anyone to view. All practices should take responsibility to monitor when statement is due to reviewed. Once completed a copy should be sent to Infection Control.

- **HTM 01 05 audits should be carried out every 6 months (HTM 01 05).** Unless areas requiring immediate improvement it would be advised audit reviews are carried out sooner.
- If using the HTM 01 05 audit tool then you will cover all the areas necessary to comply with Legislation and the HTM 01 05 guidance.
- A copy of your self audit results including any action plans should be forwarded to Karen Jones either electronically or hard copy.

Remember

Ensure action plans have been :

- **Created for areas identified**
- **Actions completed accordingly**
- **Completion dates are recorded**

Hand hygiene audits should be carried out on ALL staff in the practice. Staff should be chosen randomly and findings recorded on the audit tool. Auditing should be carried out frequently. A sample audit tool can be obtained from the Infection control team on request.



Please contact Karen Jones or a member of the Infection Control team on 01744 457314/ 01744 457312 if you require any additional advice/support.