

# Core brief

## Daily update

(12 August 2024, 10.30am)

### Topics in this Core Brief:

- Data Security Spotlight – Business Email Compromise
- 2024 Communications channel audit – Help inform how we communicate with you
- Infection Prevention Control newsletter
- Management of occupational exposure to blood or body fluids
- Scottish Health Awards 2024

### Data Security Spotlight – Business Email Compromise

**A Business Email Compromise is an action a cyber-criminal undertakes to obtain access to a business email account and imitate the owner's identity. This can lead to emails coming into NHSGGC from organisations which have been compromised and in turn leading to compromise of accounts within the organisation. Please see [here](#) for further detail on how to spot this.**

### 2024 Communications channel audit – Help inform how we communicate with you

As part of our commitment to communicating effectively with staff, we have launched a communications [audit survey](#) to help provide insight and feedback into how we communicate and what we can do to improve the way we engage with staff across different channels.

The survey should take no longer than five minutes and all staff are encouraged to feedback via the link below.

<https://link.webpolsurveys.com/S/B99A68E3EA632623>

## **Infection Prevention Control newsletter**

Welcome to the summer issue of the Infection Prevention Control (IPC) newsletter.

In this issue we meet another member of the team, provide information on the revised Peripheral Venous Catheter (PVC) Careplan and there is chance for staff to win a gift voucher by completing the summer wordsearch and crossword.

[Click here](#) to read the newsletter.

## **Management of occupational exposure to blood or body fluids**

### **Occupational exposure to blood or body fluids: How can you be exposed to blood or body fluids?**

Exposure to blood or high risk body fluids can occur as a result of one of the following types of incident:

- Percutaneous injury e.g. from needles, medical instruments, teeth or bone fragments or bites which break the skin
- Exposure of broken skin (abrasions, cuts, eczema etc.)
- Splashes of blood or body fluids into mucous membranes including the mouth or eyes

Contamination on intact skin is **not** a risk of exposure.

### **What are High Risk Body Fluids?**

In addition to blood, high risk body fluids are pleural fluid, blood stained low risk fluid, saliva associated with dentistry, semen, vaginal secretions, breast milk, CSF synovial fluid, pericardial fluid, unfixed tissues or organs.

These types of exposure present a risk of blood borne virus (BBV) transmission e.g. HIV, hepatitis B and C. However, the likelihood of transmission is influenced by a number of factors:

- the virus e.g. Hepatitis B is 50-100 times more infectious than HIV
- the amount of exposure and the amount of virus present in the fluid an individual is exposed to e.g. someone who is regularly taking HIV medication, is unlikely to pose a risk of transmission due to reduced viral load
- the immune status of the exposed person e.g. If you have received vaccination for hepatitis B.

## What should you do following exposure?

- Immediate first aid
- Squeeze the affected area to encourage bleeding and wash with warm water and soap
- Do not suck the affected area and do not scrub or use bleach
- Splashes to eye - Rinse out with saline, then remove contact lenses if worn and then rinse eye again. Clean contact lenses with contact lenses cleaner
- Splash into mouth - rinse mouth out with saline and spit out, do not swallow the saline
- Report the injury to your Line Manager/ Supervisor.

## Nurse in Charge of Source patient

The nurse in charge of source patient (the patient whose body fluid the injured person has been exposed to) is responsible for the initial assessment and management of the source patient (if known) however this assessment can be delegated to a doctor or other clinician as appropriate.

## Contact Occupational Health

Contact the Occupational Health needlestick line on 0141 201 0595 between 8.00am – 5.30pm Monday to Friday, to report the injury, to obtain further advice and to arrange any necessary follow up.

Out with these hours you must attend your local Emergency Department (ED) for the initial assessment - you must also provide ED with the details and outcome of the source patient risk assessment. Where you attend ED you must also report your injury to Occupational Health on the next working day to arrange for follow up.

Further information and advice can be found on the Occupational Health section of HR Connect [Needlestick and Similar Injuries - NHSGGC](#)

## Scottish Health Awards 2024

There is still time for staff to nominate in this year's Scottish Health Awards.



These awards recognise the contribution of frontline health and social care workers but also celebrate those who work so hard behind the scenes in support roles to ensure we have the kind of health and care services that are vital in achieving the highest quality of care.

Nominate today and help celebrate the extraordinary achievements in Scotland's health sector.

You can nominate by visiting: <https://www.scotlandshhealthawards.co.uk/>

Entries close on Sunday 18 August 2024.

Remember, for all your latest news stories, visit the Staffnet Hub:  
[GGC-Staffnet Hub - Home \(sharepoint.com\)](#)

## Be Phishing and Vishing Aware!

Phishing and Vishing are forms of social engineering, a technique used to gain access to private information, often via email. It can cause a huge amount of damage, disruption and distress. To help prevent social engineering attacks at NHSGGC and at home, remember N.E.T.



**N**o Trust  
Verify, via alternative means, the identity of those sending unexpected messages, even if the contacts are known to you.

**E**ducate Yourself  
Complete the Security and Threat module on LearnPro. Check online sources to see if emails, SMS messages or other forms of social engineering attacks are known or commonplace. Remember, educating yourself can protect you in both your work and personal life.

**T**hink First  
Successful attacks generally require a sense of urgency. Stop! Take a moment to reflect and investigate, this can show these attacks for what they are.



Managing technology and data safely and securely is everyone's responsibility throughout NHSGGC.  
For further information, visit: [FAQ---IT-Security-v0.2.pdf](#)

\*\*\*Staff are reminded to make sure their [personal contact details are up to date on eESS](#).\*\*\*

It is important to share Core Brief with colleagues who do not have access to a computer.  
A full archive of printable PDFs are available on [website](#)