

Daily update (18 April 2024, 12.45pm)

Topics in this Core Brief:

Uniform policy and hand hygiene measures

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Uniform policy and hand hygiene measures

Staff are reminded of the importance of adhering to the uniform policy and hand hygiene and other standard infection control measures when working in clinical areas.

Handwashing is the single most important activity for preventing the spread of infections. The National Infection Prevention and Control Manual and the NHSGGC Hand Hygiene Guidance both state that prior to performing hand hygiene staff should:

- Be bare below the elbows expose forearms remove outerwear, roll up sleeves
- Remove all hand/wrist jewellery, including wristwatches and wearable fitness devices, a single, plain metal finger ring is permitted.
- Bracelets or bangles such as the Kara which are worn for religious reasons should be able to be pushed higher up the arm and secured in place
- Ensure fingernails are clean, short and that artificial nails or nail products are not worn e.g. polish, gel, shellac, etc
- Cover all cuts or abrasions with a waterproof dressing
- ID badges must be clipped on and not worn on lanyards when working in clinical areas.

Staff are also reminded they should not travel to work in their uniform but should arrange to change on arrival at work. Uniforms should be transported home in a

disposable plastic bag, which should be disposed of into the household waste stream.

Uniforms should be laundered:

- separately from other household linen
- in a load not more than half the machine capacity
- at the maximum temperature the fabric can tolerate, then ironed or tumbleddried.

We are aware that if you are a community worker this is not feasible, but you should ensure that you follow strict hygiene control and washing instructions.

All staff must adhere to the uniform policy and hand hygiene measures.

More information on Hand Hygiene is available at: Hand Hygiene - NHSGGC.



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 the <u>website</u>