

Information for Parents, Relatives and Carers on;

The Prevention and Control of Infection in The Royal Hospital for Children

Minimising the risk of infection for your child, visitors and staff is a top priority for NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde (NHSGGC). This leaflet tells you where infections might come from, what we are doing about it, and how you can help us.

All staff are committed to the prevention and control of Hospital/Healthcare Acquired Infection (HAI). They work closely with the local Infection Prevention and Control Teams to make sure all available resources are used to reduce any risk of infection.

Why is infection control Important?

Infection Control helps keep your child safe. Children are more likely to get an infection when they are unwell, when they have poor immune systems or when they have a device in place such as a line (cannula, central line) or urinary catheter.

Where might an infection come from?

- ▶ Hands
- ▶ The Environment
- ▶ Equipment
- ▶ Lines e.g. central line, cannula
- ▶ Personal belongings.

Line Related infections - what are they?

Your child may need a line (cannula or central line) inserted through their skin to give medications. The skin is one of our main barriers to infection. When we break the skin with a line there is a risk of infection. The skin around the line site may become infected. Infection can travel down the line and into your child's bloodstream. If it becomes infected it may need to be removed and replaced. Your child may require antibiotics to treat any line infections.

What you need to do to help us keep your child safe from infection

Hand Hygiene

Hands carry lots of germs which can cause infection. Use Alcohol Hand Gel or wash your hands every time you;

- ▶ Enter the ward and your child's room.
- ▶ Leave the ward and your child's room.
- ▶ Before entering the shared areas.

Wash your Hands and your Child's Hands (with soap and water);

- ▶ Before and after meals.
- ▶ After using the toilet & after nappy changing.

Environment

It is important that the hospital environment is kept clean to prevent any germs within the environment infecting your child.

- ▶ Help keep your child's room tidy and clutter free to allow for cleaning
- ▶ Take personal items/toys home that are no longer required.
- ▶ Store personal items appropriately – use cupboards and drawers provided. Do not place items on hand hygiene sinks.
- ▶ Regularly clean your child's own personal toys. Ask staff for appropriate cleaning materials.
- ▶ If you are concerned that your child's room is not clean, report it to Nurse in Charge.

Personal Care of your Child

It is important that you still provide care for your child whilst in hospital.

- ▶ Please do not carry used linen out of your child's room. Place all dirty linen in the linen bin within your child's toilet/shower area.
- ▶ Please do not carry urinals, sick bowls or bed pans to the sluice. Inform a member of staff and they will dispose of them.
- ▶ Ensure dirty nappies are placed in your child's bathroom in a nappy bag to allow nursing staff to weigh them. They will then be disposed of.
- ▶ Dispose of baby wipes in orange waste bins within the room.

Moving around the Ward

You may have to stay with us for some time whilst your child is in hospital. Whilst resident on the ward we ask that you adhere to the following;

- ▶ Do not enter **ANY** other patient rooms.
- ▶ Do not enter the treatment rooms, sluice or clean store areas.
- ▶ Please keep the parent kitchen clean and tidy and adhere to any instructions provided.
- ▶ If you see any areas that require cleaning please report to a member of staff.

Line Care

As described above, preventing a line infection is very important. Please adhere to the following;

- ▶ Stop lines trailing along the floor.
- ▶ Ensure line is not tucked into nappy or underwear.
- ▶ Do not allow your child to play with their line or touch the line site/dressing.
- ▶ If you see your child's line site becoming red or are worried about your child's line please, report to a member of staff.

Isolation

During your child’s stay in hospital, they may require isolation. Please ask staff for the isolation parent/patient information leaflet.

Visiting

It is important for you and your child to allow family and friends to visit. In order to reduce the risk of infection being brought into the hospital we ask that you and your visitors adhere to the following;

- ▶ Keep visitors to a minimum, Only two visitors per patient, excluding parents / carers.
- ▶ Children are discouraged from visiting unless they are a sibling of the patient.
- ▶ For patients with particular symptoms it may not be possible for siblings to visit. Please check with the Nurse in Charge before visiting.
- ▶ Parents and carers who are symptomatic of diarrhoea and vomiting should not be resident on the ward or visit until at least 48 hours free from symptoms.
- ▶ Please inform your family and friends not to visit if they are feeling unwell or have any symptoms of an infection.
- ▶ When visiting, take care not to sit on the patients’ bed.

If you have any concerns, never be afraid to raise them with staff.

Thank you for your help.

Where can I get more information about Infection Control?

You can get further advice by contacting the local Infection Prevention and Control Team.

www.nhsggc.org.uk/infectioncontrol

NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde

Telephone: 0141 201 0000

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Parent Sign.....

Date.....