

DEPARTMENT: Infection Control

POLICY: NUMBER IC -300

SUBJECT: Infection Control Plan

PURPOSE:

The infection control program defines an economically sound and realistic framework to influence and improve health care provided to our customers through the identification of risk factors that contribute to the transmission of health care associated infections and develops methods to reduce the risk of transmission.

RESPONSIBILITY:

The Medical Staff and the FMDH Governing Body, through the Chief Executive Officer, authorizes the establishment of an Infection Control Committee to implement an infection control program.

- Medical Staff: Appoints a physician to serve as an advisor to the Infection Control Practitioner.
- Hospital Administration: Notify Infection Control whenever changes in FMDH mission or strategic planning may have infection control implications.
- Infection Control Practitioner (ICP):
 1. Responsible for managing the Infection Control Program for the purpose of maintaining a safe and healthy work environment and decreasing the occurrence of healthcare associated infections for patients and staff members.
 2. Infection Control Practitioner or his/her designee has the authority to institute any surveillance, prevention, or control measure or study when there is reason to believe that any patient or personnel may be in danger from a potential or actual outbreak of, or exposure to, disease.
 3. Ensure staff has access to the Infection Control Policy and Procedure Manual, including OSHA requirements.
 4. Review hospital wide infection control policies and procedures annually.
 5. Establish quality improvement criteria to evaluate the effectiveness of infection control activities.
 6. Conducts hospital wide surveillance using approved criteria, analyzes data to identify health care associated infections and trends, and reviews data.
 - a. Investigates potential or actual infection hazards and deviations above expected hospital infection rates, recommends and coordinates the implementation of appropriate changes, and evaluates the effectiveness of prevention and control measures.
 - b. Uses surveillance data to identify and analyze patterns of infections and disseminate information as appropriate.
 - c. Prepares reports based on surveillance data for distribution quarterly to the Infection Control Committee, Medical Staff, and to the Governing Board.
 7. Makes recommendations for changes in patient care practices based on surveillance data, current laws and regulations, and CDC guidelines.
 8. Provides consultation to all hospital departments and services on issues related to infection control and in planning care for patients with communicable diseases.

9. Influences the integration of infection control principles in patient care practices through participation in patient care rounds and providing education to patients, patient families, and hospital personnel.
 10. Coordinates with department directors in the development and presentation of educational programs for infection control as needed.
 11. Establishes and maintains effective communication with hospital services and community agencies on topics related to prevention and control of infections.
 12. Keeps current in the field of Infection Control, interprets, and disseminates current information from literature as appropriate.
 13. Is a member of the Environment of Care (EOC) Committee.
- Infection Control Committee:
 1. Mission:

It is the mission of the Frances Mahon Deaconess Hospital Infection Control Committee to facilitate the delivery of quality healthcare utilizing an interdisciplinary quality management approach to control, reduce, and prevent the risk of both community and health care associated infections, thereby protecting our patients, our visitors, and our staff.
 2. Purpose:

The Infection Control Committee will serve as a multi-disciplinary research and advisory team. This committee will review data, suggest solutions, and evaluate alternatives as applicable as projects are presented. The committee will approach all projects, issues, and evaluations in a manner consistent with the goals and mission of Frances Mahon Deaconess Hospital, under the guidance of the facility's core values.
 3. Membership
 - a. The committee is overseen by the physician advisor who is appointed by the medical staff.
 - b. The Infection Control Committee will be chaired by the Infection Control Practitioner.
 - c. Members will include, but are not limited to:
 - i. Employee Health Nurse
 - ii. Med/Surg Floor Area Coordinator
 - iii. Laboratory Manager (or her/his designee)
 - iv. Director of Surgical Services (or designee)
 - v. Sterile Processing Staff member
 - vi. Director of Pharmacy Services
 - vii. Director of Facility Services
 - viii. Glasgow Clinic Nursing Supervisor
 - ix. Membership is partially ad-hoc and depending on the project, attendance may vary. Non-committee members are also welcome to attend the meetings to bring up specific concerns, with prior notification of the committee chair
 - Department Directors
 1. Submit departmental policies that have infection control related issues to the ICP when new policies are developed or whenever policies are revised.
 2. Ensure orientation and annual infection control in-service requirements are met.

3. Report any infection control problems or deficiencies noted through monitoring or observation.
 4. Ensure staff is familiar with and follow the infection control policies.
 5. Report to the ICP promptly any cluster or outbreak of infection or disease among patients or personnel.
 6. Report to the ICP any patient or personnel exposures to communicable diseases or reportable diseases.
 7. Notify ICP about changes in equipment, procedures, and construction that have infection control implications.
- Individual Employees
 1. Comply with all infection control policies on the FMDH Home Drive (accessible through MCN—document software).
 2. Report any suspected health care associated infections to the ICP.
 3. Attend required educational presentations relating to infection control issues as scheduled.
 4. Completes infection control competencies that are appropriate for employee's position.

POLICY:

1. Identify and analyze the occurrence of health care associated infections and make recommendations to reduce their occurrence derived from evidence-based practices.
 - a. Develop, implement, and review policies and procedures that deal with infection control issues.
 - b. Establish and maintain an ongoing program to promote awareness of hand washing in the prevention of infections.
 - c. Maintain an ongoing surveillance system to review data to detect healthcare-associated infections and report findings quarterly to medical staff and the infection control committee.
2. Provide education and other services that are designed to change attitudes and behaviors of employees to facilitate the creation of an environment in which optimal standards of care can be achieved.
 - a. Provide basic orientation regarding infection control to all new employees.
 - b. Collaborate with department directors in the preparation of educational programs relating to infection control.
 - c. Provide education to staff as needed when instituting new policies or revisions in old policies.
3. Maintain an awareness and working knowledge of recommendations and guidelines that influence infection control.
4. Provide documentation of compliance with appropriate regulatory and accrediting agencies.
5. Provide information about health care practices to those seeking information about preventing disease transmission.

REVIEW AND REVISION STATEMENT:

There will be an annual evaluation of this Infection Control Plan in terms of its objectives, scope, and performance, and effectiveness. This review will happen annually, initiated by the Infection Control Practitioner, reviewed by the Infection Control Committee and the Physician Advisor, and forwarded to the France Mahon Deaconess Hospital Administrator and Board of Trustees. (original document 06/1992).