

POLICY

Infection Prevention and Control

Applicable to: Hospital and Health Service

Issued by: Infection Prevention and Control Team

Contact person: Lizzie Daniell

POLICY STATEMENT: Infection Prevention and Control is an integral part of Health Services provided by Wairarapa District Health Board to improve safety for consumers, staff and visitors.

1.0 PURPOSE

Compliance with NZS 8134.3:2008 is mandatory and outlines priorities and procedures to minimise risk of infection in all settings.

2.0 SCOPE

This policy applies in all situations (including a pandemic event) to all staff, contractors, visitors and volunteers in all WDHB facilities.

3.0 ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

- 3.1 All Clinical staff shall at all times apply Standard Precautions in the care of all patients to ensure the risk of transmission of micro-organisms from both recognised and unrecognised sources of infection is reduced as well as:
- 3.2 All staff shall apply Transmission Based Precautions for patients documented or suspected to be infected or colonised with highly transmissible or epidemiologically important pathogens for which additional prevention beyond Standard Precautions are required.
- 3.3 Medical practitioners must report Notifiable Diseases in accordance with legislative responsibilities.
- 3.4 Antimicrobial prescribing shall be in accordance with WDHB Antimicrobial Prescribing Policy.

4.0 DEFINITIONS

WDHB – Wairarapa District Health Board
IP&C - Infection Prevention and Control

5.0 PROCESS OF POLICY APPLICATION

Staff shall comply with requirements of NZS 8134.3:2008 and WDHB Infection Prevention and Control Policies, protocols and procedures.

The Infection Prevention and Control Team on behalf of the IP&C Committee will

- provide expert advice to WDHB on IP&C matters.
- identify best practice for IP&C
- monitor compliance with IP&C standards
- liaise with other staff and organisations as appropriate.

6.0 REFERENCES

Health and Disability Services (Infection Prevention and Control) Standard NZS 8134.3:2008, Ministry of Health

Guidelines for Isolation Precautions: Preventing Transmission of Infectious Agents in Healthcare Settings 2007, CDC.

7.0 RELATED WAIRARAPA HEALTH DOCUMENTS

Control and Management of MRSA Procedure

Hand Hygiene Policy

MRSA and Multi-resistant Organism Alert Procedure

Outbreak Investigation and Management Procedure

Re-use and Reprocessing of Medical Devices Labelled as Single-Use Procedure

Waste Management Policy

8.0 FURTHER INFORMATION / ASSISTANCE

IP&C Team

IP&C Committee

IP&C / Intranet

Medical Officer of Health – Regional Public Health

9.0 KEYWORDS

Infection

Prevention

Control

Compliance