Holly Tree Surgery

Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) Annual Statement 2025–2026

Aim

Holly Tree Surgery aims to:

- Provide and maintain a clean, safe, and tidy clinical environment.
- Prevent and control the risk of infection associated with all practice activities.
- Promote a safe environment for patients, staff, visitors, contractors, and members of the public.
- Comply with the Health and Social Care Act 2008 (Code of Practice on the Prevention and Control of Infections and Related Guidance, revised 2015).

Purpose

This Annual Infection Prevention and Control Statement has been produced in accordance with the requirements of the Health and Social Care Act 2008 Code of Practice on the Prevention and Control of Infections and Related Guidance. It is published annually in July and summarises:

- Infection transmission incidents and actions taken.
- Infection prevention and control audits undertaken and resulting actions.
- Risk assessments completed for the prevention and control of infection.
- Staff training in infection prevention and control.
- Reviews and updates of infection prevention and control policies, procedures, and guidelines.

Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) Leads

Holly Tree Surgery has two Infection Prevention and Control Leads:

- **Claudia Sampetru** – Practice Manager
- **Dhulfa Erniuliene** – Practice Nurse

The IPC Leads are supported by **Dr Steve Scott-Perry, GP Partner**.

The Lead Practice Nurse attends regular IPC training courses and keeps up to date with current infection prevention guidance through local forums, educational events, and online learning.

Infection Transmission Incidents (Significant Events)

Significant events are thoroughly investigated to identify learning opportunities and improvements to practice. All significant events are reviewed during the weekly Partners' meetings, with learning shared with all relevant staff.

During the reporting period, **there were no significant events relating to infection prevention and control**, reflecting good practice and compliance with local and national guidance.

Infection Prevention and Control Audit

The annual Infection Prevention and Control Audit was completed in **July 2026** by the IPC Leads, Claudia Sampetru and Dhulfa Erniuliene.

Following the audit, the practice implemented the following improvements:

- Cleaning schedules were introduced for all clinical and non-clinical rooms to ensure computer equipment, fans, and other frequently touched surfaces are cleaned and inspected regularly.
- The Lead Nurse will undertake regular competency assessments to ensure infection prevention standards continue to be maintained.

The practice continues to monitor national guidance and alerts issued by Public Health authorities regarding circulating viral infections and provides appropriate education and preventative advice to both staff and patients.

No healthcare-associated infections were reported in patients receiving treatment at Holly Tree Surgery during this reporting period.

Planned Audit for 2026–2027

During the next reporting year the practice will:

- Deliver a Lunch and Learn session covering hand hygiene and infection prevention and control for all staff.
- Complete the annual Infection Prevention and Control Audit.

Risk Assessments

Risk assessments are undertaken regularly to ensure best practice is maintained.

Legionella (Water Safety)

The practice has reviewed its Legionella Risk Assessment to ensure that the water supply presents no avoidable risk to patients, visitors, or staff.

Staff Immunisation

The practice ensures all eligible staff are appropriately immunised in accordance with national recommendations.

This includes:

- Hepatitis B vaccination.
- MMR vaccination where appropriate.
- Seasonal Influenza vaccination.
- COVID-19 vaccination where applicable.

The practice also participates in national immunisation programmes and provides vaccinations both within the surgery and through home visits where appropriate.

Cleaning

Cleaning services are provided by **Pedro Miguel Cleaning Services** with contract management undertaken by **Debbie Fielder** in conjunction with Claudia Sampetru, Practice Manager.

Laminated cleaning schedules are displayed in every treatment and consultation room and are completed as required.

Some handwashing sinks do not currently meet the latest CQC recommendations, as they are not elbow-operated. This will be considered as part of any future premises refurbishment or relocation programme.

Staff Training

At the time of publication:

- **90%** of clinical staff have completed their annual Infection Prevention and Control training.
- **100%** of non-clinical staff have completed Infection Prevention and Control training within the last three years.

The practice uses **Practice Index** for mandatory online IPC training.

All staff receive an annual practical hand hygiene assessment and demonstration.

Clinical staff receive additional training relevant to their roles, including immunisation and health promotion. Evidence of completed training is maintained within individual personnel files.

Monthly hot and cold-water temperature monitoring is undertaken by **Debbie Fielder** in accordance with Health and Safety Executive guidance for the control of Legionella.

Policies, Procedures and Guidelines

The practice has adopted the Primary Care Infection Prevention and Control Policy.

All Infection Prevention and Control policies are current and reviewed annually, or sooner if national guidance or legislation changes.

Policies are available to all staff and are discussed during practice meetings to ensure continued awareness and compliance.

Responsibility

All members of staff are responsible for being familiar with this Annual Statement and for fulfilling their individual responsibilities regarding infection prevention and control.

Review Date

July 2027

Responsibility for Review

This Annual Statement has been prepared and approved by:

Claudia Sampetru
Practice Manager

Dhulfa Erniuliene
Practice Nurse and Infection Prevention and Control Lead Nurse.

For and on behalf of Holly Tree Surgery