

**Care Setting Rapid Improvement Tool : Care Homes**

Functional Area: \_\_\_\_\_ Start Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Overall Auditors: \_\_\_\_\_

Module: Care Homes RIT

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Auditors: \_\_\_\_\_

Standard: The risk of healthcare associated infection is minimised in the care home setting

Question Set: Care Homes RIT - Infection Prevention and Control Management

Observation: 1

	Question	Guidance	Yes	No	N/A	Comment
1	Does the establishment undertake infection prevention and control risk assessment of each resident and is evidence of this documented within their care plan?	Check two resident care plans. Consider susceptible residents and any infection risks that their environment and other residents may pose to them.				
2	Can the person in charge (on any shift) state how they would manage an outbreak? (13, 14)	Ask the person in charge to describe outbreak management procedures.				

Question Set Comments/Recommendations for Care Homes RIT - Infection Prevention and Control Management

Question Set: Care Homes RIT - Environment

Observation: 1

	Question	Guidance	Yes	No	N/A	Comment
1	Are there dedicated hand wash basins available? (15, 53, 80, 82, 90)	Dedicated means for hand washing only. Check for hand wash basin.				
2	Are alcohol based hand rub bottles available at the point of care? (55, 90)	Check it is within reach, this may be a personal dispenser .				
3	Is the environment visibly clean? (15, 20, 52, 53, 80, 84, 86)	Check walls, windows, ceilings, fans and light fittings are free from dust/debris/insects etc.				
4	Are toilet(s) visibly clean? (20, 52, 84, 85, 86)	Check underneath the toilet seat.				
5	Are the commodes visibly clean and ready for use? (20, 52, 84)	Check underneath the seat, the underside, frame and foot rest and check there is a system of assurance that the commode has been cleaned.				
6	Is cleaning equipment and machinery left clean and dry after use? (52, 85, 86)	Visually check.				

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Question Set: Care Homes RIT - Environment

Observation: 1

	Question	Guidance	Yes	No	N/A	Comment
7	Is the macerator or bedpan washer in good working order?	Check macerator is working correctly by closing the lid, applying water (enough to cover seal), start machine and check for air bubbles rising from seal or small splashes. (Please check with manufacturer's instructions first and wear eye protection) If intact, no bubbles or splashing will be seen. Check macerator is empty at the end of the cycle. OR Bed pan washer is visibly clean and meeting the appropriate temperature of 80 degrees C for 1 minute.				
8	Is manual handling equipment visibly clean? (77, 78, 82)	Check for body substances, dust, dirt, debris or adhesive tape.				
9	Are cleaning/disinfectant products available for decontamination of equipment and the environment? (60)	Check there are cleaning and disinfectant products available as per policy and that there are instructions on use e.g. poster.				
10	Is there a designated area for the storage of clean linen which is separate to used linen?	Check for linen in sluice or bathroom.				

Question Set Comments/Recommendations for Care Homes RIT - Environment

Question Set: Care Homes RIT - Sharps Management

Observation: 1

	Question	Guidance	Yes	No	N/A	Comment
1	Are sharps disposed of safely and at the point of use? (20, 81)	Observe practice or ask a member of staff to describe procedure. Also check that clean trays/bins are available and are compatible with the bins in use.				

Question Set Comments/Recommendations for Care Homes RIT - Sharps Management

Question Set: Care Homes RIT - Personal Protective Equipment

Observation: 1

	Question	Guidance	Yes	No	N/A	Comment
1	Are single use aprons worn as single use items and changed between every episode of care? (20, 79)	Observe practice or ask a member of staff to describe procedure.				

Care Setting Rapid Improvement Tool : Care Homes

Question Set: Care Homes RIT - Personal Protective Equipment

Observation: 1

	Question	Guidance	Yes	No	N/A	Comment
2	Are gloves worn when in contact or anticipated contact with body fluids or in potential contact with contaminated items? (20, 79)	Observe practice such as handling of contaminated dressings/cleaning equipment.				

Question Set Comments/Recommendations for Care Homes RIT - Personal Protective Equipment

- 13 National Public Health Service for Wales (2007) Infection Control Guidelines for Care Homes. The prevention and control of Healthcare associated infection in care homes.  
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- 14 Department of Health (2007) Essential Steps to safe, clean care. Reducing healthcare associated infections (HCAI) in primary care trusts, mental health trusts, learning disability organisations, independent healthcare facilities, care homes, hospices, GP practices and ambulance services. London: Department of Health.  
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- 20 Pratt RJ, Pellowe C, Wilson JA, Loveday HP, Harper PJ, Jones SRLJ, McDougall CM, Wilcox MH. (2007) Epic2: National Evidence Based Guidelines for preventing Healthcare-Associated Infection in NHS Hospitals in England. Journal of Hospital Infection. 65 (1) Supplement 1.
- 52 The national specifications for cleanliness in the NHS: A framework for setting and measuring performance outcomes April 2007.  
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- 53 Health Facility Note 30 Infection Control in the built environment. Stationary Office, 2003 (soon to be superseded by HBN 00-09)
- 55 National Patient Safety Agency. Patient Safety Alert 2008. Clean Hands Saves Lives.
- 60 Ayliffe GAJ, Fraise AP, Geddes AM, Mitchell K. (2000) Control of Hospital Infection - practice handbook, 4th Edition. London: Arnold
- 77 Standards - March 2008 Healthcare Associated Infection (HAI): Quality Improvement Scotland, 2008.
- 78 Draft Infection Prevention and Control Standards: A Consultation Document: Health Information and Quality Authority, Republic of Ireland 2009
- 79 Personal Protective Equipment Policy and Procedure (an element of Standard Infection Control Precautions). In: Health protection Scotland, editor, 2009
- 80 Scottish Health Facility Note 30: Infection Control in the Built Environment: Design and Planning. In: Scotland HF, Editor: NHS National Services Scotland, 2007
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- 82 Department of Health (2009) Code of Practice for the NHS on the prevention and control of healthcare associated infections and related guidance: Department of Health.
- 84 Control of the Environment Policy and Procedure. In: Infection Control Team HPS, editor: NHS National Services Scotland, 2009  
[www.documents.hps.scot.nhs.uk/hai/infection-control/sicp/environment/mic-p-environment-2009-02.pdf](http://www.documents.hps.scot.nhs.uk/hai/infection-control/sicp/environment/mic-p-environment-2009-02.pdf)
- 85 The NHS Cleaning Manual: NPSA, 2009
- 86 The NHS Scotland National Cleaning Services Specification. In: Force HAIT, editor: NHS National Services Scotland  
[www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2004/05/19319/36643](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2004/05/19319/36643)
- 90 World Health Organisation (2009) Guidelines on hand hygiene in health care. Geneva, Switzerland: World Health Organisation