



HOMES AND SENIORS SERVICES

POLICY & PROCEDURE NUMBER: 1.1

DEPARTMENT: *Infection Control*

SUBJECT: *Infection Control Philosophy & Goals*

APPROVAL DATE: April 2004

REVISION DATE: April 2007, March 2016 & 2017

REVIEW DATE: November 2018

Page 1 of 2

PURPOSE:

To provide a safe environment for residents, staff, volunteers and visitors through prevention, control, and surveillance of community and nosocomial infections.

A combination of routine practices and an enhanced disease/organism specific system will be used to create effective precautions and control.

INFECTION CONTROL PROGRAM

GOALS:

- To provide direction, surveillance and education to reduce transmission of communicable disease.
- To promote staff awareness of the purpose and objectives of infection control, through the use of available resources and educational programs.
- Establish policies and procedures and review current practices dealing with Infection Control for preventive and prophylactic measures, both on a daily routine basis and during an outbreak.
- Conduct routine audits.
- Review Infection Control statistics and recommend appropriate action.
- To oversee the development of staff education programs for Infection Control.
- To establish policies and procedures for an outbreak situation.
- To maintain a clean and healthy environment in our Homes.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- All staff are responsible for, and will be knowledgeable about, their role in infection control and safe working practices.
- Management supports the right of the worker to be protected and informed.

EDUCATION/ORIENTATION:

- All staff will receive a program review during orientation addressing:
 - Transmission
 - Routine/Enhanced Precautions
 - Environmental Cleaning and Disinfecting
 - Waste Disposal
 - Immunization



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Page 2 of 2

○ Personal Protective Equipment

- Educational programs will be scheduled annually and as required.
- Education will be offered to all staff, as well as volunteers, residents/family members, visitors, independent care partners and professionals as appropriate.
- Education will include a variety of venues such as in-services, posters, online, etc.
- Public Health and other appropriate agencies will be asked to participate in the development and provision of this education as needed.

RESOURCES:

Elgin County Homes will provide all staff members with the necessary information, training and personal protective equipment to perform their jobs safely in accordance with the guidelines in the Health Protection and Promotion Act, Ministry of Health guidelines, Occupational Health and Safety Act and the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board.

COMMUNICATION:

- Communication of all infection related issues will follow policy.
- Additional resources will be accessed as required (e.g. Medical Director/Public Health).
- Policy and Procedures are available throughout the Homes and are updated regularly.
- Educational programs will be posted and promoted to all staff members.

RISK MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES:

- Outbreak surveillance sheets
- Annual education reviews
- Line Listing Reports- Resident/Staff
- Monthly infection control statistics and records
- Infection/Antibiotic Use Reports

PROGRAM EVALUATION AND REVIEW:

- Home Infection Control statistics and implementation and evaluation are reported to the Infection Control Committee, CQI Team and the Professional Advisory Committee.