



HOMES AND SENIORS SERVICES

POLICY & PROCEDURE NUMBER: 1.3

DEPARTMENT: *Infection Control Lead*

SUBJECT: *Infection Prevention and Control*

APPROVAL DATE: April 2004

REVISION DATE: March 2016 & 2017; Nov. 2022

REVIEW DATE: November 2018; December 2019; Dec. 2020

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POLICY:

Elgin County Homes will designate an individual as an Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) Lead/Program Manager.

PURPOSE:

1. The Infection Prevention and Control Lead/Program Manager is a staff member who has education and experience in infection prevention and control practices including: infectious diseases; cleaning and disinfection; data collection and trend analysis; reporting protocols; outbreak management; asepsis; microbiology; adult education; epidemiology; program management; and current certification in infection control from the Certification Board of Infection Control and Epidemiology within three (3) years after the FLTCA, 2021 comes into force.
2. The staff member designated as the IPAC Lead/Program Manager shall be a member of the Infection Prevention and Control Committee and shall be responsible for the surveillance and outbreak management activities of the infection control program.
3. The IPAC Lead/Program Manager and IPAC Committee shall develop and participate in a regular in-service education program for staff members including, but not limited to, current and new IPAC trends, new equipment, new regulations, new procedures relating to infection control.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Working with the interdisciplinary IPAC team to implement the IPAC program
- Managing and overseeing the IPAC program
- Overseeing the delivery of IPAC education to all staff, caregivers, volunteers, visitors and residents
- Auditing of IPAC practices in the Home at a minimum, quarterly real-time audits of specific activities performed by staff in the home, including but not limited to, hand hygiene and selection and donning and doffing of PPE
- Conducting regular infectious disease surveillance



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- Convening the Outbreak Management team at the outset of an outbreak and regularly throughout an outbreak
 - Convening the interdisciplinary IPAC team at least quarterly, and at a more frequent interval during an infectious disease outbreak in the Home
 - Reviewing the information gathered from daily and monthly screening results and determining whether any action is required
 - Implementing required improvements to the IPAC program as indicated through required audits
 - Ensuring that a hand hygiene program is in place in accordance with legislative standards/protocols, which, at a minimum, includes access to hand hygiene agents at the point-of-care
 - Ensuring immunization and screening of residents is completed as per legislation
 - Ensuring that any pet living/visiting the home has up-to-date immunizations
 - Investigation and surveillance of suspected outbreaks of infection
 - Planning, implementation and evaluation of infection prevention and control measures
 - Education of individuals about infection risk, prevention and control including, the point-of care risk assessment (PCRA), the hand hygiene program and personal protective equipment
 - Recommending development and revision of infection control policies and procedures utilizing an ethical framework and application of precautionary principle
 - Consult with the Medical Director and other healthcare professionals in the Home for IPAC policies that impact medical care
 - Engage with the Homes Joint Health and Safety Committee (JHSC) as applicable
 - Engage with the Resident and Family Council to seek advice on IPAC measures and their impacts on residents/families/caregivers
 - Management of infection prevention and control activities
 - Provision of consultation of infection risk assessment, prevention, and control strategies
 - Network with internal and external infection control resources and experts (IPAC Hub, Public Health, PHO, etc.)
 - Prepare data analysis and reports to Infection Prevention and Control Committee
 - Report infectious diseases according to regulations and requirements



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- Receive and respond to health alerts

References:

- Fixing Long-Term Care Act, 2021
- Ontario Regulation 246/22