

Board of Directors (in Private)

Item

Subject: Infection Prevention and Control Board Assurance Framework (BAF)
Date of Meeting: September 2024
Prepared by: Nicola Best – Lead Infection Prevention Nurse
 Mr Manoj Kuduvali – Medical Director/DIPC
Presented by: Mr Manoj Kuduvali – Medical Director/DIPC
Purpose of Report: For Noting

BAF Reference	Impact on BAF
BAF 1	Potential impact on nosocomial infection

Level of assurance					
✓	Acceptable assurance Controls are suitably designed, with evidence of them being consistently applied and effective in practice	<input type="checkbox"/>	Partial assurance Controls are still maturing – evidence shows that further action is required to improve their effectiveness	<input type="checkbox"/>	Low assurance Evidence indicates poor effectiveness of controls

1. Executive Summary:

This report and attached document details the evidence and level of compliance with the standards identified in the Board assurance framework (BAF) for infection prevention and control. The overall level of compliance is good.

Standards in the BAF are included in the annual plan for 2024/25 to ensure that evidence will be available to demonstrate compliance on an ongoing basis.

2. Background:

The National Infection Prevention and Control board assurance framework has been developed by NHS England for use by organisations to enable them to respond using

an evidence-based approach to maintain the safety of patients, services users, staff and others.

The purpose of the framework is to provide an assurance structure for boards against which the system can effectively self-assess compliance with the measures set out in the National Infection Prevention and Control Manual (NIPCM), the Health and Social Care Act 2008: code of practice on the prevention and control of infections, and other related disease-specific infection prevention and control guidance issued by UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA).

There have been various revisions of the BAF. The latest version (4.0) was issued in September 2023 and was reviewed at that time by the Infection Prevention team (IPT).

It has been reviewed by the IPT again in September 2024 and updated accordingly.

3. Report

There is good compliance overall with the standards detailed in the BAF and the supporting evidence to demonstrate compliance is available.

There are some areas where only partial compliance can be demonstrated.

Antimicrobial Stewardship

Although information is available for a number of standards related to antimicrobial stewardship some detailed prescribing data is not currently circulated however the pharmacy department is exploring how to obtain this data.

Information to patients, visitors and carers

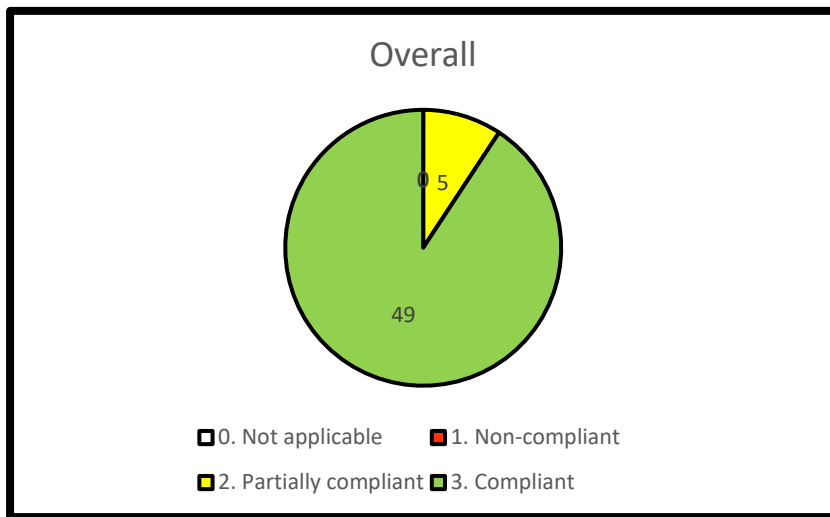
There is information on infection prevention in admission and discharge packs and also on the website. In addition, there are a number of patient information leaflets specific to certain infections. However some information needs to be updated to include additional material, including public health messaging specific to seasonal infections e.g. influenza. The IPT will update the patient information with the relevant information.

Laboratory support

There are protocols in place for the transportation of specimens to the laboratory however the standard requires that this is regularly tested. Liverpool Clinical laboratories have advised that they would not be able to provide this information because of the large numbers of providers using their services across the North West region

Occupational Health provision.

Pre-employment checks and health checks are performed by the Occupational health provider. However it has been identified that compliance with staff immunisations cannot be fully evidenced and that there are gaps in the digital records. This has been raised with the HR department and will be included in the discussions during the tender process for Occupational Health services.



4. Conclusion:

The IPC BAF is being managed proactively and the relevant standards are included in the annual programme for 2024/25 to ensure there is evidence available to demonstrate compliance. There is good compliance with the majority of the standards and where any areas of non-compliance have been recognised actions to address these have been identified. Some actions remain beyond the control of the IPT but these issues have been highlighted to the appropriate departments.

5. Recommendation:

The Board of Directors is asked to note the contents of the report and the accompanying IPC BAF.