

Infection control in care homes: A pilot accreditation programme

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Meeting the needs of Stakeholders & Preparing for the future.



Under the **Health Act 2006-Code of Practice for the Prevention & Control of Health Care Associated Infections (HCAIs)**- NHS Bodies must satisfy themselves that services they commission have systems in place to protect service users/workers from HCAIs

Currently, NHS services must register under the new **Health & Social Care Act 2008**. From 2010/2011 health & social care providers will need to comply with equivalent statutory requirements.

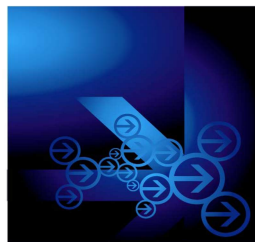
The programme prepares care homes for this new registration

Taking Forward a Bright Idea

“Work with statutory regulatory authorities for community nursing and residential homes to achieve accreditation systems for infection control arrangements.”

(HPA 2007)

Forward Thinking, Future Working
Framework specification for HPA Local and regional service provision
2007-2010
Consultation Document



Why Beds & Herts Health Protection Unit?



We cover Bedfordshire & Hertfordshire and have 491 residential and nursing homes.

The programme builds upon local expertise and experience and the professional relationships already in place namely:

- Fully established Infection Control Champion study day programme across Beds & Herts
- Close working relationships with the Care Quality Commission (CQC)
- Regular attendance to care home manager meetings
- Infection Control Nurse experience and qualifications

The Pilot

The programme aims to improve the prevention and control of infection in Care Homes

A brochure was sent to all care homes inviting them to sign up for the programme

Care Home Infection Prevention and Control Accreditation Programme
Raising Standards in Infection Prevention and Control



Objectives



- To enable care homes to meet Health Act duties in relation to HCAI
- To inform and support the inspection process of CQC
- To satisfy commissioners that providers are meeting HCAI requirements
- To inform the development of a National Quality Assurance Programme

Three main areas



- Implementing good practice based on national guidance including root cause analysis
- Provision of training based on skills and competences
- Evaluation of care home's control of infection measures and expertise

Existing Resources



- Essential Steps
- Root Cause Analysis tool
- Beds & Herts HPU Infection Control Champion Programme
- National Infection Control Training Programme (e-learning)
- HPA Introduction to Infection Control DVD
- Skills for Care knowledge sets
- NPSA "clean~~your~~hands" campaign
- ICNA Audit Tools

Raising the Profile



- HPA Infection prevention and control in care homes conference
- East Anglian Infection Control Nurses Group
- East of England SHA HCAI Newsletter



Partnership Working



- PCTs have demonstrated commitment to the programme and offered part funding to care homes during the pilot
- Commissioning PCTs and LAs would like accreditation to be a minimum requirement before commissioning services



Programme Content



- Two day induction training programme for Care Home Manager
- One day Infection Control Champion training for HCAI Champion
- Site visit by project team to carry out formal infection control audit and produce action plan with HCAI Champion

Accreditation Process



Each Care Home will be required to:

- Nominate an HCAI Champion
- Attend programme training
- Implement Essential Steps, e-learning (HPA Care Home DVD or face to face) and clean~~your~~hands campaign
- Demonstrate compliance with action plan
- Submit a portfolio of evidence for review

Successful Accreditation?



- The portfolio of evidence submitted will be assessed for compliance with the action plan.
- A final site visit to complete a 2nd audit to ensure compliance with the action plan.
- Accreditation will be valid for 12 months from issue (extension of this will be an option)



Evaluation of Programme



Successful implementation will be measured by:

- The number of care homes opting to participate
- The percentage of those homes that successfully achieve accreditation
- Improvement will be measured against baseline data (from both audits) on compliance with minimum standards for hygiene and infection control
- Feedback from participating care homes and stakeholders

So Far....



- 36 homes have signed up for the programme (25 Herts, 9 Beds, 1 Luton, 1 Milton Keynes)
- We are currently able to accept another 14 homes on the programme
- The necessary fees have produced mixed responses from the owners/managers
- The programme has generated enquiries from outside agencies and from far afield

BUT THEN.....

.....Swine flu arrived!



- As one of the leading agencies in the management of the containment phase of the Swine flu outbreak, the HPA has temporarily postponed its non urgent work.
- We plan to reassess the situation in approximately 3 weeks time.
- The programme is still considered to be of high importance.

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