

**Report to the Meeting of the
Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust**

Board of Directors

29th September 2021

BOD 65/2021
(Agenda item: 11)

**Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) Board Assurance Framework (BAF)
update**

For: Assurance

Executive Summary

The version (v4) of the Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) Board Assurance Framework (BAF) has been updated ensuring all information relating to IPC is included. NHSE/I have requested this updated version be seen by the Board for assurance.

There is a comprehensive assurance process regarding all IPC measures through the governance structure within the Trust including the IPC and Decontamination committee and the Quality and Clinical Governance subcommittee.

In addition the weekly Health Acquired Infections (HAI) meeting chaired by the Chief Nurse has oversight of all Covid related IPC issues and concerns.

The IPC BAF details all actions, evidence and compliance regarding all domains within the framework including what monitoring systems are in place.

Currently there are no significant gaps in assurance however a small number of issues are being reviewed. These are:

- **1.1 Triage questions** – currently re issuing letters to patients prior to face to face appointments to ensure consistency of approach across the Trust . In addition ensuring all staff use the triage questions and record in patients notes one every occasion prior to a face to face appointment

- **5.7 Inpatients wearing face masks** -no consistent monitoring process in place however mitigations listed in the BAF include shift coordinator reminding all patients at the start of a shift. This can be a challenge in mental health settings owing to the nature of the patient group
- **5.12 and 8.5 Evidence of staff compliance with routine testing** - staff are required to complete twice weekly LFT's and report this on the Trust portal. Currently there is no way of checking compliance.
- **7.4 Cohorting in Mental Health Inpatient settings** - this remains a challenge given our old estates at the Warneford Hospital however patients are admitted to a single bed and a bathroom is designated for their use whilst isolating

This IPC BAF will be regularly updated by the Chief Nurse and IPC team following any additional guidance or changes to IPC measures.

Governance Route/Escalation Process

The IPC bAF has previously been to Quality Committee and Trust Board of Directors on several occasions.

This current version (4) has not yet been to any other Committee.

Statutory or Regulatory responsibilities

The Board is receiving this report as it has a statutory responsibility for ensuring and maintaining excellent Infection, Prevention and Control in line with PHE, NHSE/I guidance.

Recommendation

The Board is required to confirm its assurance regarding the current IPC BAF.

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1. *A risk assessment has been undertaken around the legal issues that this report presents and [there are no issues that need to be referred to the Trust Solicitors]*
2. **Strategic Objectives/Priorities** – *this report relates to or provides assurance and evidence against the following Strategic Objective(s)/Priority(ies) of the Trust:*

1) Quality - Deliver the best possible care and health outcomes

2) People - Be a great place to work