

# Infection Control

## Compliance Statement



*Date:* 08/01/2013  
*Practice* Specsavers

### Section 1: Clinical environment and premises

**As the owner (or representative) of the above practice we confirm that;**

- a written H&S policy is available that includes details of appropriate general cleaning, equipment decontamination, hand washing, waste segregation and disposal procedures
- clinical staff are able to access College guidelines on infection control as well as advice on risk management
- all parts of the premises, carpets, walls, fixtures, and fittings are kept visibly clean, free from dust, dirt or debris and in a good state of repair
- floors coverings are kept clean and potentially infectious spillages treated and removed as appropriate
- appropriate cleaning agents with instructions for use, are available to staff, to deal safely with any surfaces being exposed to bodily fluids
- storing of inappropriate items and clutter that may create risk of harbouring germs in the clinical areas is avoided
- sterile products such as diagnostic drugs are stored above floor level
- hazardous cleaning products are stored safely
- we understand that the PCT may from time to time wish to inform front line staff of any appropriate immunisation programmes that may be appropriate
- a running hot water supply for hand washing is easily accessible for those using the consulting room and for other staff in the practice

### Section 2: Clinical practice

**Performers and members of clinical staff must ensure that;**

- the need to ensure sterile disposables consumables are in date before use
- the requirement not to re-use single use items
- advice suggesting that all multi-use medical instruments making contact with the patient, should be appropriately decontaminated after each use
- how to decontaminate multi-use items appropriately following the College guidelines
- the advice to use disposable tonometer probes or to disinfect re-usable ones appropriately
- the need for equipment to be cleaned / decontaminated as appropriate, prior to sending it for repair
- where to access CoSHH sheets and the need to keep for reference for both clinical, cleaning and disinfecting products

## **Section 3: Hand hygiene**

**It is the responsibility of everyone to ensure that;**

- all staff practise safe hand hygiene techniques at all times
- all staff are familiar with hand hygiene techniques
- clinical staff practice safe hygiene procedures before (and after) direct patient contact
- a hand wash basin is in or accessible from each clinical area
- alcohol gel is available
- liquid soap is available
- any cuts to skin must be covered with waterproof dressing
- the measures in place follow the College of Optometrists guidance on hand washing procedures
- re-usable cloth towels are no longer considered good practice / hygienic in clinical areas
- basins are kept clean and access is clear from obstruction or inappropriate items
- soap bars are no longer considered good practice / hygienic in clinical areas
- wall mounted paper towels or hot air dryers are available at hand hygiene sinks
- clinical staff members are aware that in situations of increased concern they should ensure their nails are short, clean and free from nail extensions and varnish

## **Section 4: Environmental cleaning and waste management**

**It is the responsibility of everyone to ensure that;**

- in order to maintain a clean and tidy practice, all staff must promote and maintain standards of cleanliness in all areas
- the measures in place follow the College of Optometrists guidance on waste management and disposal
- we are all obliged to pre-treat waste prior to disposal
- pharmaceutical waste must be and is segregated
- our practice transfer of waste agreement informs the waste contractor of the nature of the waste, including pharmaceutical waste as this will require incineration
- all staff know how to handle hazardous cleaning products and what products can be used for various tasks
- CoSHH data sheets (product information sheets) are available for all environmental cleaning/disinfecting products used
- sharps are segregated and disposed of separately