Evidence of Improvement

ESSENTIAL STEPS TO SAFE, CLEAN CARE

Guidance for completion of Essential Steps Audit

The following information is a brief overview of the guidance, outcomes and responses within the Essential Steps Framework.

Decontamination of Equipment

All patient equipment must be decontaminated in between use. Equipment such as: Hoists, commodes, clinic couches can range from:ten to twenty roll indicator tape. Environmental audits are demonstrating that the use of green tape or yellow tape is not kept on your ward. The audit tool should be completed on a weekly basis when not in use.

Prompt following the infection is an essential requirement. The audit tool should be produced in between use. Equipment such as: Hoists, commodes, clinic couches can range from:ten to twenty roll indicator tape. Environmental audits are demonstrating that the use of green tape or yellow tape is not kept on your ward. The audit tool should be completed on a weekly basis when not in use.

Evidence of completion of Essential Steps Audit

IPC, Physical Healthcare and Back Care Champion Initiative 2015

To all Champions,

We are inviting you to take part in this year’s initiative to improve practice and have a chance to win a £20 gift voucher

BACKGROUND

Decontamination is a combination of processes which removes or destroys contamination providing a wide range of applications or other contaminants ranging a susceptible site and ensuring infection or other harmful responses are prevented.

All patient equipment must be decontaminated in between use. Inadequate decontamination is frequently associated with wound infections. Any equipment not designated as single-use must be made safe following use to prevent micro-organisms being transferred from equipment to patients.

INTRODUCTION

This initiative aims to improve practice within all clinical services. Clinical staff are responsible for clearing patient equipment. The use of green indicator tape or yellow tape on patient equipment will assist staff in demonstrating their up-to-date knowledge. All equipment should be decontaminated in between use. Green clean indicator tape is for use on a range of equipment and can be ordered via Cardea - 1 roll (100m). NICE guidance (2016) recommends using green clean indicator tape to ensure that equipment is kept free of harmful pathogens. Infection Prevention and Control Teams are recommended to have a contract between Champion, manager and IPC team ensuring the use of appropriate cleaning agents or other contaminants creating a susceptible site and ensuring infection or other harmful responses are prevented.

DESIGN A POSTER

Below is the current poster available regarding use of green indicator tape. Environmental audits are demonstrating that many areas are not applying tape appropriately. With your support and involvement we need to improve the practice.

Future steps

Following the increased provision of services to York and Selby we plan to increase the Induction Day to biannual to ensure consistency.

Expand the use of technology to raise awareness of IPC to a wider audience.

Review the Trust competency framework in response to the IPS updated competencies and revalidation evidence.

For more information contact the IPC team on: 0191 333 3584