

MSc Infection Prevention & Control (IPC)

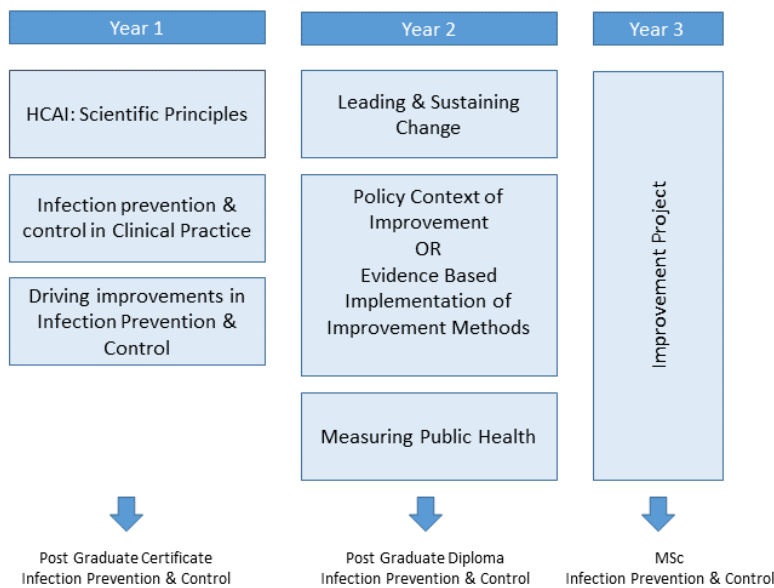
This course is aimed at practitioners seeking to become infection prevention and control practitioners (IPCP). It covers the range of expert knowledge and skills that are required to underpin the specialist practice of an IPCP, combined with the knowledge and skills required to initiate and facilitate service improvements to assure patient safety. The course aims to ensure that students acquire the appropriate competencies to meet the requirements of their specialist role and support them in evaluating their knowledge and skills against the IPS competencies.

Students must have a first degree or equivalent and be working in an IPC role. We also anticipate some individual module will be of interest to IPCPs who need to update their knowledge and skills in order to meet the requirements of accreditation.

The course is structured to enable students to exit after the first year with a PGCert having acquired the necessary expert knowledge and skills to operate effectively as a junior IPCP. Students then have the option to extend their studies through PGDip and MSc, developing their knowledge and skills in leadership, improvement science and project management in preparation for more senior IPCP leadership roles.

In Year 1, each module comprises six face to face study days (in three, two-day blocks). In addition, portfolio-based learning provides a structured approach to reflecting on learning and applying it to clinical practice. In Year 2, modules include a specialist module on epidemiological methods and modules focused on Improvement Science. Year 3 comprises a single module in which the student will be supported to design and deliver a project focused on an aspect of improvement in IPC.

Structure of MSc Infection Prevention & Control



Year 1: Specialist modules in infection prevention and control

Module 1: Healthcare associated infections: scientific principles (20 credits):

Delivery: 6 face-to-face study days

This module covers the core principles of infection prevention and control including microbiology and immunology, antimicrobial agents and resistance, transmission of infection, assessing risks of HCAI and the role of the environment

Module 2: Infection prevention and control in clinical practice (20 credits)

Delivery: 6 face-to-face study days

This module covers the epidemiology of healthcare associated infection, the role of evidence in IPC and evidence underpinning prevention strategies for different infection, principles of disinfection, antimicrobial stewardship, surveillance and audit as tools for driving infection prevention, and policy development.

Module 3: Driving improvement in infection prevention and control (20 credits)

Delivery: 6 face-to-face study days

This module explores the governance of infection prevention and control, the detection and management of outbreaks of infection, incidence investigation and root cause analysis, understanding behaviour and apply human factors and ergonomics to IPC.

Year 2: Advancing skills in epidemiology and improvement

Module 1: Measuring Public Health and Well-Being (20 credits)

Delivery: 6 face-to-face study days

This course provides a core grounding in the principles and practice of epidemiology, including types of epidemiological studies, their design and strengths and weaknesses; measures of disease and association; Sources of error in research. It is focused on searching for primary research evidence and critical review and appraisal of primary sources of epidemiological evidence.

Module 2: Leading & sustaining improvement (20 credits)

Delivery: 3 face-to-face study days, 1 workshop event

This is a negotiated work-based learning module which aims to provide students with theoretical and practical knowledge about leading, managing and sustaining change. It aims to build knowledge about the major theories of change management and resistance to change and practically apply the theories and techniques.

Module 3: One of:

1) Policy context of improvement (20 credits)

Delivery: 2 face-to-face study days; 1 workshop event

This is a negotiated work-based learning module which aims to provide students with theoretical and practical knowledge about the political context of improving healthcare services. It aims to build knowledge about the current political context, anticipating and responding to political and economic pressures, awareness of how policy changes can impact an improvement project, and use of creative problem solving.

2) Evidence-based Implementation of Improvement methods

Delivery: 2 face-to-face study days; 1 workshop event

This module aims to provide the student with theoretical and practical knowledge about implementing evidence based improvement in healthcare, build knowledge about the major theories of improvement methods and apply theories and techniques in a health care setting.

Year 3: MSc Infection Prevention & Control

Module: Improvement project (60 credits)

Delivery: 2 face-to-face study days; up to 20hrs supervision

Students will conceptualise, design, implement and complete an improvement project to a standard suitable for submission for publication, applying and critically evaluating improvement science research.

Course Dates: 2018/2019

Year 1

Module 1: Healthcare associated infections: scientific principles

There will be an electronic induction session sent to you at least a week prior to the start of the first module. This can be done at your leisure at home or work.

Study days

- October 2018 - Thursday 4th and Friday 5th - 9.30-4.30pm
- November 2018 – Wednesday 7th (12.30 – 4.30), Thursday 8th (9.30 - 4pm) Friday 9th 9.30 – 3.30pm
- December 2018 – Thursday 6th and Friday 7th 9.30 – 4.30pm

N. B. This is the only module that has 3 days in the middle month. This is to enable you to use our microbiology labs on the Wednesday afternoon to carry out microbiological experiments (with our very experienced microbiologist), have a theoretical study day on the Thursday and on the Friday analyse the results of the experiments.

Module 2: Infection prevention and control in clinical practice

Study days

- February 2019 - Thursday 7th and Friday 8th – 9.30-4.30pm;
- March 2019 - Thursday 7th and Friday 8th – 9.30 – 4.30pm
- April 2019 – Thursday 4th and Friday 5th – 9.30 – 4.30pm

Module 3: Driving improvement in infection prevention and control

Study days

- May 2019 – Thursday 2nd and Friday 3rd – 9.30 – 4.30pm
- June 2019 – Thursday 6th and Friday 7th – 9.30 – 4.30pm
- July 2019 – Thursday 4th and Friday 5th – 9.30 – 4.30pm

Course Leaders: Professor Jennie Wilson/Caroline Smales

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