



Hertfordshire and
West Essex Integrated
Care System



Hertfordshire and
West Essex
Integrated Care Board

Presentation on:

Infection Prevention and Control in General Practice Up-Date

Tuesday 25th April 2023

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www.hwetraininghub.org.uk

Working together
for a healthier future





- Changes to the COVID-19 testing guidance
- The guidance around the use of facemasks
- Antimicrobial stewardship
- Information around IPC and CQC inspections
- The ICAT audit programme
- Aseptic non touch technique
- World Hand Hygiene Day 5th May 2023
- Glove awareness week
- Cleaning checklists
- Tick borne encephalitis detection in England

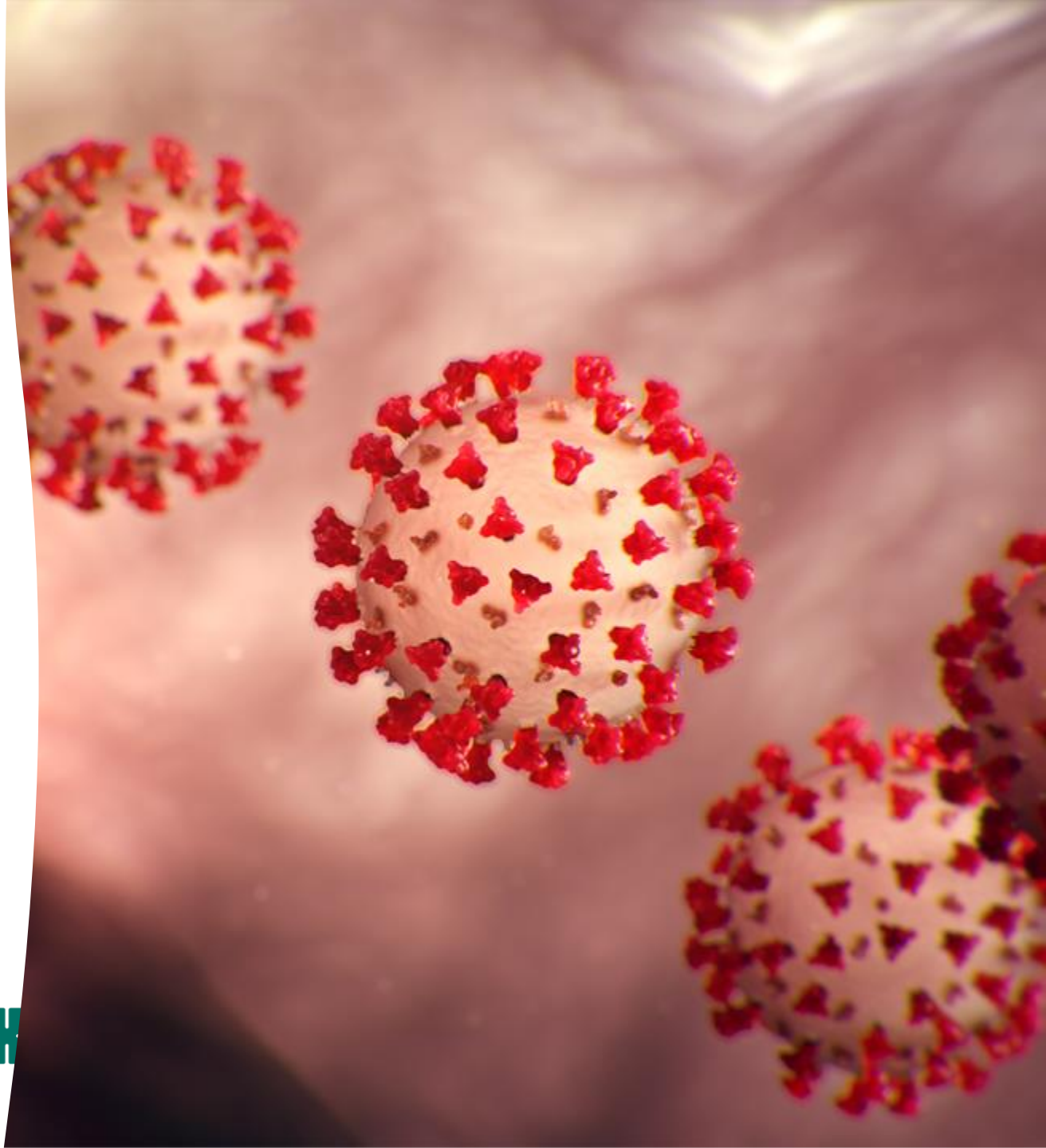


Changes to COVID-19 testing guidance

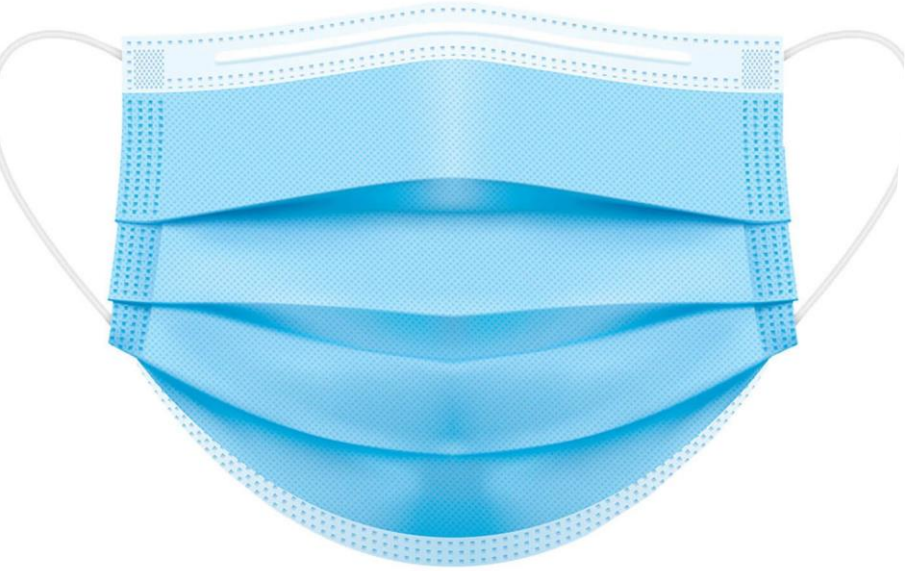
- Asymptomatic testing remains to be paused
- Most healthcare staff who have symptoms of a respiratory infection are no longer asked to test for COVID-19 but are asked to stay at home until they are better
- Healthcare staff who test positive for COVID-19 are no longer required to have 2 negative lateral flow device (LFD) tests for COVID-19 before they return to work
- Healthcare staff whose job primarily involves providing direct care to inpatients who are severely immunosuppressed should take an LFD test if they develop symptoms of a respiratory infection, in line with locally decided protocols
- Contacts of confirmed cases are to discuss ways to minimize the risk of onwards transmission with their manager



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The use of facemasks for staff working in primary care



Clinical staff who are seeing patients face to face should undertake a FULL risk assessment

- Has a COVID-19 cluster, or outbreak been identified in the practice setting?
- Does the patient have respiratory symptoms?
- Is the patient suspected or known to have COVID-19?
- Is there good ventilation in the area where the patient is being seen?
- Are COVID-19 community transmission rates reported to be particularly high at this present time nationally/ locally?
- Have new COVID-19 variants of concern been identified in the area in which the practice is based?
- Does the patient or clinician fall into the higher risk of severe illness from COVID-19 category



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Antimicrobial stewardship



- The prescribing medicines optimization Team (PMOT) have been looking at the data
- Will focus on the top 20 highest prescribing practices
- Visits will be undertaken to practices where antibiotic use has been seen to be high
- Low prescribing practices will also be looked at



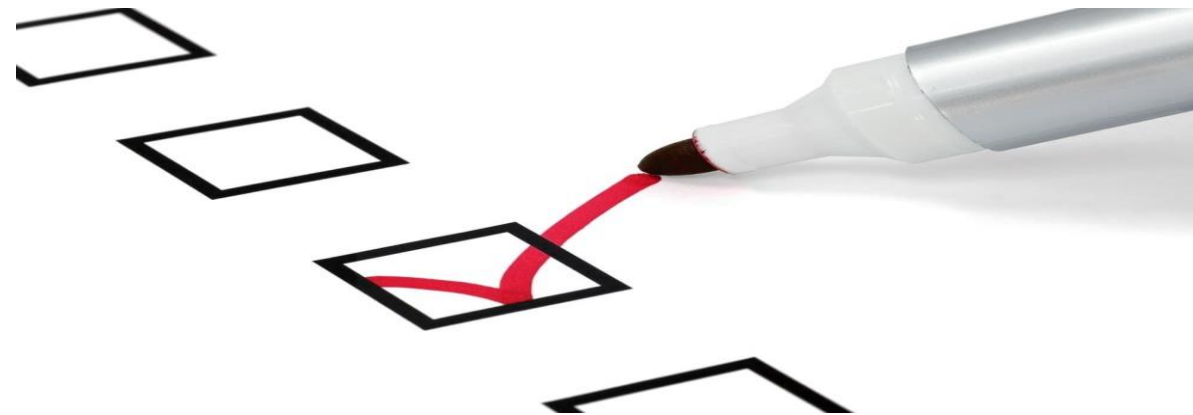
Information around CQC inspections

- Routine inspection programmes will be restarted from April
- Practices not meeting IPC standards has been an emerging theme
- Ensure that staff are aware of & following
 - The IPC manual
 - The National Standards of Healthcare Cleanliness
 - Local IPC policies and procedures
 - And that action plans have been addressed following ICAT audits being undertaken



The ICAT AUDIT PROGRAMME

- HWE ICB IPC Team have offered to support practices with an IPC ICAT Audit Program
- Going forward
 - Practices will carry out their own ICAT audits
 - The IPCT will be giving ICAT training sessions to support
 - Dates will be available soon



Aseptic Non Touch Technique (ANTT)

The following are some examples of when an aseptic technique should be used, but is not an exhaustive list:

- When inserting an invasive device
- When dressing wounds less than 48 hours old
- When dressing wounds healing by primary intention, e.g. surgical wounds
- When dressing deep wounds that lead to a cavity or sinus
- When dressing burn wounds
- Minor surgery procedures
- Suturing wounds
- Insertion of intrauterine devices (IUD)
- If the patient is immunosuppressed, diabetic or at high risk of infection

- The IPCT will be running some place based ANTT sessions for primary care staff
- Dates will be available soon



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**Accelerate
action
together**

**SAVE LIVES
Clean Your
Hands**

May 5th 2023 World hand hygiene day

- Encourage staff to decontaminate hands appropriately
- Look at WHO (WHHD) campaign
- Use the campaign resources
- Join the WHO global (WHHD) Webinar and special lecture
- Prof Didier Pettet will be speaking!!



May 3rd -7th 2023

Glove awareness week

Gloves must be:

- Worn when exposure to blood and/or other body fluids, non-intact skin or mucous membranes is anticipated or likely
- Changed immediately after each patient and/or after completing a procedure/task even on the same patient
- Changed if a perforation or puncture is suspected
- Appropriate for use, fit for purpose and well-fitting
- Never decontaminated with ABHR or soap between use
- Low risk of causing sensitisation to the wearer
- Appropriate for the tasks being undertaken



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Cleaning checklists

Cleaning checklist										
Day	Mon	MON	TUE	TUE	WED	WED	THU	THU	FRI	FRI
	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM
Item										
Work surface										
GP/Nurse chair										
Patient chair										
Treatment couch										
Door handles										
Sink taps										
Soap dispenser push button										
Dani centre										



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Tick- borne encephalitis detection in England

- Patients should seek GP advice if they are unwell after a tick bite and should seek urgent medical advice if they
 - Have symptoms of meningitis:
 - Severe headache
 - Stiff neck
 - Pain looking at bright lights
 - Develops neurological symptoms:
 - A fit (seizure), if not known to be epileptic
 - Sudden confusion or change in behaviour
 - Weakness or loss of movement in arms and legs
 - Facial drooping, change in vision or slurred speech



References

- [Managing healthcare staff with symptoms of a respiratory infection or a positive COVID-19 test result - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/guidance/managing-healthcare-staff-with-symptoms-of-a-respiratory-infection-or-a-positive-covid-19-test-result)
- [COVID-19: information and advice for health and care professionals - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/guidance/covid-19-information-and-advice-for-health-and-care-professionals)
- [National-infection-prevention-and-control-manual-v2-4-250123.pdf \(england.nhs.uk\)](https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/national-infection-prevention-and-control-manual-v2-4-250123.pdf)
- [NHS England » National Standards of Healthcare Cleanliness 2021](https://www.nhs.uk/standards/cleanliness)
- [Aseptic technique \(infectionpreventioncontrol.co.uk\)](https://infectionpreventioncontrol.co.uk/aseptic-technique)
- [Tick-borne encephalitis detection in England - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/tick-borne-encephalitis-detection-in-england)
- [PRN00031-diagnosing-sepsis-and-serious-infections.pdf \(england.nhs.uk\)](https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/prn00031-diagnosing-sepsis-and-serious-infections.pdf)
- [SARS-CoV-2 variants of concern and variants under investigation in England: technical briefing 52 \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/100000/sars-cov-2-variants-of-concern-and-variants-under-investigation-in-england-technical-briefing-52.pdf)

Hand Hygiene day & Glove awareness week

- [World Hand Hygiene Day 2023 \(who.int\)](https://www.who.int/campaigns/world-hand-hygiene-day)
- [Webinar Registration – Zoom](#)
- [Schedule \(webbertraining.com\)](https://www.webbertraining.com/schedule)
- [Clean Hands Save Lives | Support and prevention to improve hand hygiene in health care](https://www.cleanhands.org/clean-hands-save-lives)
- [Canto](#)
- [Glove awareness | Campaigns | Royal College of Nursing \(rcn.org.uk\)](https://www.rcn.org/uk/clinical-practice/glove-awareness)



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