Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) Attachment

Department of Infection Control
University Malaya Medical centre

Introduction:

Hospital acquired infection (HAI) is the commonest adverse event in health care setting today. Upto 60% of HAIs are preventable. Prevention of infections is the common primary aim of healthcare workers, regardless of which service they work in. Healthcare workers need an understanding of how infections occur, how different micro-organisms spread, and the role they play in preventing the transmission of pathogenic microorganisms. In addition, all healthcare workers need to be aware of the national regulatory or statutory requirements in order to meet the expected standards, demonstrating to service users that they are continually working towards ensuring that high standards of care are delivered.

Education and training is essential to ensure that staff have the knowledge and skills to protect patients, visitors, their colleagues and themselves

The hospital management should ensure that the workforce are competent to carry out the activities of their role. They also have to ensure that healthcare workers remain competent by providing refresher training at appropriate intervals.

Infection Control Department UMMC:

The Infection Control Department performs surveillance, auditing, and teaching on infection control practices in the hospital. The department is responsible for the development, implementation and monitoring of infection control programs in the hospital. The Infection Control Team conducts surveillance, detects nosocomial infections, investigates and controls of outbreaks and also participates in quality improvement projects in order to reduce HAI and improve patient safety during hospitalization. Teaching conducted by the infection control team include induction programmes, structured training courses and in-service education programmes.

Aim of the program:

The infection control attachment program is designed to raise the awareness of a healthcare worker and will generally cover the following areas:

- Understanding regulations, policies and practices that are relevant to IPC
- The importance of understanding the chain of infection, Healthcare Associated Infections (HCAI), Multidrug resistant organisms(MDRO
- Understanding standard and transmission based infection control precautions
- The importance of correct hand hygiene technique
- Understanding the use of Personal Protective Equipment
- Knowledge of Multridrug resistant organisms (MRSA, CRE, VRE, ESBL), Clostridium difficile and Norovirus, and understanding their impact in healthcare

Knowledge of the necessary precautions in preventing and controlling Health Care Associated Infections (HCAI) ie CRBSI, CAUTI, VAP, HAP, SSI
Infection prevention in hemodialysis and endoscopy units.
Maintaining a clean environment
Understanding the decontamination process
Understanding the sterilisation process
Roles and responsibilities in infection control
The importance of assessing infection control hazards and writing risk assessments
Principles of infection control, prevention and management
Effective waste and laundry management
Sharps management
Containment of an outbreak

At the end of the course, participants should be able to:

- Set up and run an Infection Control program at their own facilities
- Understand and apply various surveillance techniques and control of health-associated infections and antimicrobial resistant organisms
- Apply quality improvement principles and tools in bringing their programs to a higher level of quality and safety

Duration of attachment: recommended a minimum 6 weeks and max 6 months

Who should attend?: Recommended for:

a) All health care providers in acute care, long term care ambulatory care facilities who have direct patient contact or a risk of exposure to blood or body fluids.
b) Hospital Administrators
c) Medical students, nursing students and allied care staff
d) Providers of education and training for staff and students
e) Service managers.
f) Anyone interested in infection control and prevention in health care setting.

During this period of attachment the candidate will participate in:

- Infectious control hospital rounds- clinical, non clinical and critical care units.
- Observing and advising on patient care practices involving:
    a. Prevention of Urinary Tract Infection (UTI)
    b. Prevention of Surgical Site Infection
    c. Prevention of nosocomial pneumonia
    d. Prevention of Catheter Associated Blood Stream Infection (CABSI)

- Surveillance and audits of hospital acquire infections
    - Calculate rates for multidrug-resistant organisms and hospital-associated infections (SSI, VAP, BSI) per 100 admissions or per 1000 patient days

- Surveillance of audits of hand hygiene and other infection control process measures (CVC care bundle, Standard, Transmission based precautions)
- Multidisciplinary infection control meetings
- MMB hospital infection bench- lab based attachment
- Management of patients with multidrug resistant organisms and communicable diseases (TB, measles, etc)
    - Screening and management of MDRO, e.g. MRSA, CRE, ESBL
    - Calculate rates for multidrug-resistant organisms and hospital-associated infections (SSI, VAP, BSI) per 100 admissions or per 1000 patient days
    - Typing (e.g. PFGE) - analysis only
- Outbreak management
- Infection control in specialized units: HD, endoscopy, OT
- Environment cleaning and surveillance
    - Environment audits
    - Sterility test
    - Air sampling (settle plates)
    - Contact plates for linen
- Infection Control CME
- Healthcare Worker Immunization Program and management of occupational exposure [Sharp Injury and Tuberculosis in HCW (OSHE)]
- Infection prevention advice during Construction And Renovation
- Hospital laundry and waste management
- Antimicrobial stewardship
- A project related to infection control/ AMS (ie audit, research, development of a protocol etc)

The candidate will need to complete and submit the “Infection Prevention & Control Log Book” at the end of the attachment for assessment by his/her supervisor

Prepared by:
Infection Control Department
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