



Highfield Healthcare

JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Title	Infection Prevention & Control/Clinical Nurse Specialist
Organisation	Highfield Healthcare which incorporates Highfield Hospital and Hampstead Clinic Services the “Approved Centre” registered by the Mental Health Commission and Nursing Home Services including the Alzheimer Care Centre registered by HIQA.
Reporting Relationship	The successful candidate will report to the Head of Quality & Patient Safety while operating as a key resource to the Clinical Director; Directors of Nursing and Department Leads.
Purpose of the Post	<p>The post holder will provide support and specialist advice to all disciplines of staff, residents, patients, and members of the public regarding the prevention and control of infection. S/he will help to contain and reduce the incidence of infection across the organisation through risk assessment, surveillance, audit, intervention, education and the development of specialised protocols, policies, and guidelines.</p> <p>In response to the Covid-19 Pandemic and as part of Highfield Healthcare’s COVID Prevention & Management Plan, we have created the role of Infection Prevention & Control Nurse to support the development and implementation of our infection prevention and control programme.</p> <p>Full and part time applications welcome</p>
Key Responsibilities	<p>Clinical Focus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Has a key role in assisting in formulating policy, implementing infection prevention and control programmes and improving practice.• To monitor and evaluate the practices and resources used through audit and risk management.• Assist in implementing an efficient infection control surveillance system to facilitate the prompt identification of patients with infection.• Participates in updating infection prevention and control policies, guidelines and protocols as required.• Participate in IPC look-back exercises if required.• Advise on isolation or cohort methods and supervise the implementation of such techniques if specific situations arose.• Maintain effective communication structures, interpersonal relations and networks which ensure that infection prevention and control information is conveyed effectively.• Collaborates with staff to ensure that a standardised approach to infection prevention control is maintained.

- Provide education and advice to staff, residents, patients, and relatives.
- Act as an advocate for the residents, patients, and staff on issues in the prevention and control of infection.
- Assist and investigate outbreaks of infection with reference to their source, mode of spread and report on root cause analysis.

Patient / Client Advocate

- Implements changes within the hospital in response to patient/client need and service demand.
- Advises on the maintenance of a safe environment for patients, relatives and staff according to the Health, Safety and Welfare at Work legislation.

Audit and Research

- Promote and disseminate infection prevention & control audit findings.
- The post holder will audit clinical practice on an ongoing basis.
- Uses the outcomes of audit to improve patient care.
- Provide feedback through verbal and written reporting.
- Evaluates equipment and products, which may impact on infection control practice and patient care.
- Participates in the preparation for Regulatory Inspections and audits by MHC and HIQA, Accreditation and implements remedial actions following such audits.
- Collates and record relevant data and information and present progress reports at the Clinical governance on an ongoing basis as required.
- Assists in preparing an annual report on developments and statistics pertaining to infection control and prevention.
- Advises and participates in the procurement, commissioning, tendering and purchasing of patient care and medical equipment as pertaining to infection prevention

Management:

- Lead the Infection Prevention & Control Committee
- Act as a specialist resource in providing infection control knowledge and expertise to service managers, nursing, and healthcare personnel.
- Advise the senior management and the multidisciplinary team on recent advances and national guidance on infection control and prevention.
- Participate in the selection and audit of waste, laundry, and hygiene contractors.
- Liaise with the Department of Public Health and other organisations on matters concerning infection prevention and control.

Education and Training

- Functions as a role model for health care staff in clinical practice.
- Assist in designing, implementing and evaluating programmes of infection prevention and control education, which meet the needs of all healthcare staff.
- Maintains an awareness of current developments and research findings in infection prevention and control and nursing practice.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Takes responsibility for one's own personal and professional development and engage accordingly and to attend study days and relevant staff and committee meetings, which are deemed appropriate.
Qualifications & Essential Skills	<p>Candidates must be registered in the Register of General Nurses held by An Bord Altranais.</p> <p>A minimum of five years post registration experience in an acute and/or older persons healthcare setting.</p> <p>A recognised Infection Control qualification.</p> <p>Computer skills are essential.</p> <p>Excellent organisational and interpersonal skills.</p>
	<p>Health A candidate for and any person holding the office must be fully competent and capable of undertaking the duties attached to the office and be in a state of health such as would indicate a reasonable prospect of ability to render regular and efficient service.</p> <p>Character Each candidate for and any person holding the office must be of good character.</p>

To Apply please see contact
recruitment@highfieldhealthcare.ie or see website