



# **INFECTION PREVENTION & CONTROL PROGRAM**

- A 4.1. There is a program to reduce the risk of healthcare associated infections (HAIs) that involves patients, staff, trainees, volunteers, families, and visitors. (D,SI)

- Infection Prevention & Control — is the discipline / process by which health care facilities develop and implement specific policies and procedures to prevent the spread of infections among health care staff and patients.
- Healthcare-associated Infections (HAIs) — Healthcare-associated infections (HAIs) are infections that patients can get in a healthcare facility while receiving medical care. These infections are often preventable.
- An Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) program is the most important component of safe, high-quality health service delivery. IPC program implemented in the hospital is critical not only to prevent HAIs but also to prepare for and respond to communicable diseases crises.

- Review:

Hospital's infection prevention & control program incorporating following core elements included but not limited to:

### Program Introduction

Goals, Mission & Vision of IPC Program: Goals of the infection prevention & control program need to be incorporated into the mission statement of the facility. A mission statement should tell who you are, what you do, and should communicate a clear view of purpose and set a strategy for accomplishing the goals e.g. "Our mission is to promote a healthy and safe environment by preventing transmission of infectious agents among patients, staff and visitors"

- Organizational structure of the IPC program (IPC staffing & responsibilities).
- Infection Control Committee.
- Scope of service: Activities performed by the Prevention and Control of Infection Department members fall with updated Infection control standards.

- Patients:

Patients are integrated within the infection prevention & control program through education. They are aware of their rights, concerns of their safety and standard precautions to be followed. Some examples of how patients can contribute in reducing HAIs.

- Staff & Trainees:

Staff must ensure strict adherence to hand hygiene, compliance with IPC work practices, appropriate use of personal protective equipment, compliance with all infection control policies and procedure, reporting exposure to communicable illness & needle stick injury etc.

- Visitors & Families:

All visitors' areas must be under infection control supervision.

Visitors should be educated on precautions to be taken while being in the surrounding of a patient, the importance of hand hygiene and the isolation precautions required in case of isolated patients.

- Interview:
  1. Infection prevention & control Team about the IPC program – how it is formulated & implemented in various hospital areas.
  2. Ask about the mechanism of hospital wide implementation of various program components.
  3. Ask about the monitoring, evaluation & feedback process to all stakeholders.
  4. Ask how the patients, staff, trainees, volunteers, families, and visitors are involved in th care process to reduce risk of HAIs.

- A 4.2. The program is applied to all areas of the hospital according to the scope of services. (D,O,SI)

- Review the following document:
  1. IPC Policy and procedure for each individual program / department in an electronic system, manual or any written and printed documents.
  2. Check if hospital has specific / relevant IPC program implemented according to the scope of services type of unit /department

- Observe:

If the HCWs are practicing and providing services in alignment with the IPC standards and measures related to their scope and mandate of their departments. e.g.

- Interview:

1. Check knowledge by asking staff in different hospital area to assess if they are oriented and aware about various infection control programs & their role in HAI reduction.
2. Randomly ask any clinical staff to enumerate various infection control programs / subprograms.
3. Ask staff about role of hand hygiene in reducing burden of hospital acquired infections.

- A .4.3. The IPC program is based on current scientific knowledge, referenced practices guidelines and applicable national laws and regulations. (D,SI)

- Review the following documents:
- IPC Program & check for references:
  1. IPC program should be based on scientific references.
  2. Each hospital / organization supports a comprehensive infection prevention and control program within the recommendations of the World Health Organization (WHO) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), standards of the JICA, and the guidelines of the Ministry of Health (MOH) & IPC standards of local accrediting body.
  3. All relevant references must be kept in Infection control office and used as evidence for updating, answering and facing any scientific debates.
  4. References would include APIC, CDC, WHO, IHI, FDA, OSHA, GCC, MOH etc.

- Interview:

1. IPC team on how they developed their policies in comparison to the references, scientific facts and current regulations.
2. They should give an example of how they used these scientific references.

e.g., how they have developed policies & procedures for Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) program and how & which references they have incorporated.