

Please e-mail us at infection.control@royalberkshire.nhs.uk or write to us at:

Infection Control Team
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0118 322 6914.

[Other leaflets available](#)

Available to download from the Trust website
www.royalberkshire.nhs.uk/patient-information-leaflets/?AccessLetter=I

Or ask a member of staff to print copies for you.

- *Acinetobacter* (multi resistant)
- *Candida auris*
- *Clostridium difficile* (C.diff)
- *Carbapenemase Producing*
- *Enterobacteriaceae* (CPE)
- Extended Spectrum Beta-Lactamase (ESBL)
- Flu
- Isolation
- Laundering of patients' clothes
- MRSA
- MRSA screening
- MRSA and pregnancy
- MRSA and young children/babies

- *Necrotising fasciitis*
- Norovirus
- *Salmonella*
- Tuberculosis (TB)

This document can be made available in other languages and formats upon request.

Infection Prevention & Control Team, June 2010
Reviewed: May 2018
Review due: May 2020



Royal Berkshire
NHS Foundation Trust

Information for patients and visitors

Infection Prevention and Control

The Royal Berkshire NHS Foundation Trust takes infection prevention and control very seriously.

A dedicated infection prevention and control team provides expert advice to the Trust on the daily management of infection and informs patients, visitors and staff on strategies to minimise the risk of healthcare associated infection.

The Trust has adopted a range of measures to challenge healthcare associated infection. These include:

Education

All new Trust staff receive infection control training during their induction program. Mandatory training occurs throughout the year to keep all staff updated and focused upon principles of infection control. Each member of staff must attend yearly mandatory infection control updates. Each ward / department has an infection control champion who works closely with the infection control team to promote infection control initiatives within their area.

Promoting high standards of hand hygiene

Simple, basic personal hand hygiene helps to prevent infection. Whether you are a patient, relative or member of staff hand hygiene is a proven method for preventing micro-organisms spreading from one patient to another. The Trust is committed to promoting excellent hand hygiene standards. We also audit hand hygiene standards in all clinical areas on a regular basis.

Strict antibiotic prescribing

Some groups of antibiotics increase the risk of acquiring an infection; this is why the Trust has a policy of strict controls in relation to antibiotic prescribing. The Trust also works collaboratively with the local Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) to promote standardised prescribing practices both in the hospital and in GP practices. There are some occasions when it will not be appropriate for patients to take antibiotics i.e. for colds and sore throats. If you have been taking antibiotics prior to your admission please inform the staff caring for you.

Accessing data on infection rates

The Royal Berkshire NHS Foundation Trust participates in the Department of Health's (DH) mandatory surveillance scheme. This means that the number of patients developing infection due to MRSA / MSSA (meticillin sensitive *Staphylococcus aureus* & *E. coli* in the blood (bacteraemia) and the number of patients acquiring *Clostridium difficile* infection, are reported to the DH which publishes these figures. The latest figures are available on the DH website www.dh.gov.uk