**St Margaret’s Medical Practice - E85007 Annual Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) Statement 2024**

**Introduction:** This Annual Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) statement has been prepared in accordance with the Health and Social Care Act 2008: Code of Practice on the prevention and control of infections and related guidance. It summarises the IPC activities, audit results, actions taken, and plans for improvement for the year 2024 at St Margarets Medical Practice.

**1. Infection Transmission Incidents:**

* No significant infection transmission incidents were reported during the year.
* Routine monitoring, cleaning audits, and staff training have helped maintain a safe environment.
* A patient raised a concern regarding venipuncture practices. In response, the practice promptly updated the venipuncture policy to mandate the use of single-use items such as tourniquets and PPE, alongside ensuring proper skin disinfection before taking blood. This demonstrates our commitment to patient feedback and continuous improvement.

**2. IPC Audits and Actions:**

* An annual IPC audit was completed on **26/27 July 2024**, achieving an overall compliance score of **87.5%**.
* Strengths were identified in **Personal Protective Equipment (100%)**, **Safe handling of sharps (100%)**, **Waste management (100%)**, and **Decontamination of medical devices (100%)**.
* Areas for improvement included **Environment (71.4%)**, **Hand hygiene (88.2%)**, and **Clinical rooms (62.5%)**.

**Actions Taken:**

* Hand hygiene posters displayed in all clinical rooms.
* Non-compliant soap dispensers replaced.
* Re-upholstery of 12 chairs and 1 couch scheduled for completion by January 2025.
* Carpet replacement in consulting rooms planned for January 2025, with vinyl flooring installation.

**3. Risk Assessments:**

* Risk assessments were conducted to identify areas for infection control improvement.
* Identified risks included outdated flooring, non-compliant sinks, and ventilation needs. Actions are in place to address these.

**4. Staff Training:**

* All staff received annual online IPC training, including hand hygiene and PPE usage.
* 4 staff members are pending proof of Hepatitis B and MMR vaccination; follow-up is ongoing.
* The practice offers and encourages all staff to receive annual flu and COVID-19 vaccinations to protect staff and patients.

**5. IPC Policies, Procedures, and Guidelines:**

* All IPC policies are up to date and reviewed annually.
* Policies are accessible to all staff on TeamNet.

**6. Antimicrobial Prescribing and Stewardship:**

* Regular discussions held in clinical meeting regarding antimicrobial use/prescribing.
* Senior Pharmacist **Matt Butler** to lead GPs in completing the antibiotic stewardship training/policy review and self-assessment.
* External audits show improvement in antimicrobial prescribing, with plans to further reduce inappropriate use.

**Forward Plan/Quality Improvement Plan:**

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| **Issue** | **Actions** | **Date for Completion** | **Person Responsible** | **Status** |
| Flooring | Replace carpets with vinyl in all consulting rooms | January 2025 | Anca Radulescu+ Lisa Anderson | Planned |
| Furniture | Re-upholstery of chairs and couch | January 2025 | Anca Radulescu+ Lisa Anderson | Planned |
| Sinks | Replace non-compliant sinks with compliant models | August 2025 | Anca Radulescu+ Lisa Anderson | TBD |
| Antimicrobial Stewardship | Complete TARGET questionnaire/Training | October 2024 | Matt Butler | Ongoing |
| Sepsis Lead | Identify and assign Sepsis Lead | October 2024 | Anca Radulescu+ Lisa Anderson | Planned to discuss in clinical meeting |
| Staff vaccination | Meet with each staff individually and discuss vaccination status for MMR/HepB; Support vaccination if needed | Dec 2024 | Anca Radulescu | Planned |

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**Review Date:** July 2025

Anca Radulescu. + Lisa Anderson
Practice Nurse lead Practice Manager

St Margarets Medical Practice
Date: **16th August 2024**