|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Infection Prevention and Control Policy and Procedure** | **Subject: Infection Preventionist** |
| **Prepared By**: | **Approved By**: |
| **Effective:** 11/30/2019  **Reviewed:** | **Revised:** 9/5/2022 |

**POLICY**

The Infection Preventionist (IP) is responsible for coordinating the implementation and updating of established infection prevention and control policies and practices.

**PROCEDURE**

1. The facility will designate one or more individual(s) as the Infection Preventionist(s) who are responsible for the facility’s Infection Prevention and Control Program (IPCP).
2. The Infection Preventionist/Designee will have professional training in nursing, medical technology, microbiology, epidemiology, or other related field, and have completed specialized training in infection prevention and control.
3. The IP/Designee will work at least part-time at the facility.
4. The IP/Designee shall coordinate the development and monitoring of the facility’s established infection prevention and control policies and practices.
5. The IP/Designee shall report information related to compliance with the facility’s established infection prevention and control policies and practices to the Administrator and the Quality Assurance and Performance Improvement (QAPI) Committee.
6. The IP will be an active participant in the Quality Assessment and Assurance (QAA) Committee and is responsible for reporting on the IPCP and on HAIs identified under the program on a regular basis. Reporting may include, but is not limited to, facility process and outcome surveillance, outbreaks (ongoing and any since last meeting) and control measures, occupational health communicable disease illnesses (e.g. TB, influenza), and the antibiotic stewardship program (ASP) related to antibiotic use and resistance data.
7. The IP will report to local and state Department of Health any outbreak of communicable diseases.
8. The IP/Designee shall keep abreast of changes in infection prevention and control guidelines and regulations to ensure the facility’s protocols remain current and aid in preventing and controlling the spread of infections.
9. Upon approval from the Administrator, the IP/Designee may designate other employees to assist him/her in the performance of these duties.
10. The IP/Designee will collect, analyze and provide infection and antibiotic usage data and trends to nursing staff and health care practitioners; consult on infection risk assessment and prevention control strategies; provide education and training; and implement evidence-based infection prevention and control practices (IPCP).

**Reference(s)**:

Infection Control Policy and Procedure Manual, July 2016.

CMS (Rev. 173, 11-22-17) State Operations Manual Appendix PP – Guidance to Surveyors for LTCFs. F882 Infection Preventionist, pp. 774-779