

Infection Prevention and Control team were invited to review the new build St. Mary's Drogheda following completion of works. HSE Estates Selina Kavanagh and Tom Connor, George Clare HSE Maintenance manager, Jolly Varghese ADON, SMH and IPC CNM 2 Noeleen Hallahan and ADON Lisa Fetherstone supported the visit. A number of selected residents' bedrooms, dirty utility rooms, housekeeping rooms, clean utility room, dining room, lounge and staff hubs were reviewed in the 3 house (Red Robin, Butterfly and forget me not cottages). This report represents findings on the day and previous recommendations during meeting on 3rd May 2022 and review of single room on 17th January 2023. Room data sheets had not been received by Infection Prevention and Control team prior to the commencement of the build as agreed at meeting held May 2022, further recommendations were provided following access and review of the single room in the new build facilitated on 17th January 2023.

Clinical Hand wash Sink and alcohol based hand rub

- Hand wash sink basin within dining room for staff use does not conform to the HBN 00-10 standards part C sanitary assemblies. Recommendation: IPC recommend sink as per standards and install impervious splashback.
- Discussions around potential location for placement of hand hygiene product and paper towel dispensers, in residents' rooms due to the hinged IPS panel and the proximity of the sink with the alcove challenges the mounting of paper towel dispenser at the sink, in the event the IP panel needs to be accessed. Recommendation: SMH management to engage with paper towel supplier on the medical hygiene framework to access suitable dispenser and provide weight to HSE estates to enable assessment of bearing weight to support placement of paper towel dispenser. Liquid soap dispenser to be mounted onto IP panel and positioned so that any spills from the dispenser during operation can be captured onto the basin. IPC recommends that issues identified with the design are raised through Estates group for learning. Please see appendix 1 for document to support further guidance on placement of hand hygiene products type and dispensers at clinical hand washbasins.
- Alcohol based hand rub to be positioned away from sink and positioned at the point of care following risk assessment.

Room infrastructure:

- Skirting designed into room as per SMH management and corner walled at entrance near clinical hand wash sink. Recommendation: SMH cleaning schedule to capture the cleaning of skirting ledges. Review consideration of wall corner protector to minimise potential damage.
- Ceiling mounted lights not flushed resulting in a high level ledge in bedrooms and dining rooms Recommendation: SMH cleaning schedule to capture the cleaning of high-level item. Infection Prevention and Control recommends that fixtures identified for clinical space are easily accessible and conducive to cleaning.
- Ceiling hoists installed in room. Recommendation: SMH cleaning schedule to capture the cleaning of high level items.
- Bedroom Curtains observed in room. Recommendation: Management have been advised to obtain laundry instructions for the window curtains in the residents' bed rooms. It is advised that curtains are cleaned as per manufacture's instruction prior to occupation of building as it was evident that builder's clean had not been completed and risk of contamination.
- Potential health and safety implications due to corner shelf of wardrobe and proximity to bed. Recommendation: Further review with nursing management colleagues to consider removal of shelving and make good surfaces to support cleaning.
- Seal floor/doorframe joints to prevent accumulation of debris.

- Wood exposed to countertop at nurse's station. *Recommendation:* Seal with impervious surface to support cleaning.

Ensuite

- Shower curtain rail installed, *Recommendation:* SMH cleaning schedule to capture the changing and cleaning of shower curtains and monitoring of same.
- Dispenser for liquid soap and paper towel dispenser to be installed
- Call bell ceiling mounted, impervious pull cord observed installed in ensuite and bathrooms.
- Wall finished with white rock covered floor/wall observed.
- Showerhead observed *Recommendation:* SMH management process ensure that protocol agreed to comply with legionella risk reduction measures for descaling of shower heads.
- Discussion took place around the sourcing of a water impervious shelf to support resident's wash products while in shower to prevent placement on shower cubicle floor.
Recommendation: further discussion with project nurse Miriam Mc Kenna nurse planner estates to source shelf, which meet IPC requirements.

Dirty Utility room-

- Clinical hand wash basin not installed into the dirty utilities. *Recommendation:* in line with guidance it is recommend that each room be installed with a clinical hand wash sink in compliance with HBN 00-10. It has been agreed by IPC/Estates and Project lead/ADON (EH) that a slop hopper is not indicated in the dirty utility rooms as the resident will have their own en-suite rooms and the requirement for them will be minimal at meeting 03.05.2022. IPC have requested room data sheet is shared for this room with the above recommendation when finalised
- Bedpan washer to be commissioned and validated on install and service level agreement for periodic validation in line with ISO standard will need to be available.

Dining area:

- Sink basin in room for staff use does not conform to HNB 00-10 standard, IPC
Recommendation: sink as per standards to be installed and install impervious splashback.
- In line with guidance all crockery cutlery and trays should be processed in an industrial dishwasher in the kitchen in the household. *Recommendation:* Further discussion with EHO as domestic dishwasher installed.

Clean utility room:

- Gap noted to countertop *Recommendation:* Seal gap to prevent harbouring of dust, microorganisms.

Housekeeping/Cleaners' rooms:

- Exposed pipework in room observed *Recommendation:* Pipework to be concealed, cupboard that meets COSHH requirement to be installed and wall mounted hook to support placement of equipment handles from the floor. Provide impervious splash back to posterior of janitorial unit.

Linen Storage

- While the plan is to store clean linen in the resident's bedroom cupboards. The room was not seen by IPC during the visit. *Recommendation:* IPC recommend to keep linen in wrapping in dedicated area for storage of linen. The clean linen main store should consist of materials conducive to cleaning and disinfection as required.

Staff Hub:

- Discussion took place around review of current change room /shower room to provide a changing cubicle and shelf in one shower room and hook for door.

Ventilation of the building

- Confirmation to be sought that appropriate ventilation for the intended use of rooms is in line with relevant standards as set out in HSE Infection Prevention & Control guiding principles for buildings, acute hospitals and community healthcare settings (2023).

Appendix 1 Placement of Hand Hygiene Products

Placement of Hand Hygiene Products

Background: This document has been developed as a guide for managers to support the placement of hand hygiene products in the healthcare facility

At clinical hand wash sink place:

- ✓ Liquid soap dispenser
- ✓ Paper hand towel dispenser
- ✓ Foot operated bin
- ✓ Hand wash technique poster (RESIST or WHO, see HPSC.ie [here](#))



Placement of Alcohol Based Hand Rub (ABHR) Dispenser:

Place ABHR dispenser away from clinical hand wash sink and away from light switches and electrical outlets because of increased risk of vapours igniting (ref: WHO).

Dispenser should be easily accessible to staff at point of care where resident/client care is taking place, e.g. residents room, day room, etc., (risk assess as appropriate) and, where resident/client environment or equipment contact is taking place e.g., treatment room, dirty utility, laundry, nurses' station, etc.

Display "How to hand rub" poster or label at each dispenser.

Placement of Hand Moisturiser Dispenser:

Place hand cream dispensers away from clinical hand wash sink in:

- ✓ Nurses Station
- ✓ Break Room
- ✓ Changing Room

END