



The Vale Medical Centre Infection Prevention and Control Annual Statement 2025

Purpose:

This Annual Statement will be generated each year January in accordance with the requirements of the [Health and Social Care Act 2008 Code of Practice](#) on the prevention and control of infections and related guidance. The report will be published on the practice website and will include the following summary:

- Any infection transmission incidents and any action taken (these will have been reported in accordance with our significant event procedure)
- Details of any infection control audits undertaken, and actions undertaken
- Details of any risk assessments undertaken for the prevention and control of infection
- Details of staff training
- Any review and update of policies, procedures, and guidelines

Infection Prevention and Control at The Vale Medical Centre

Responsible for Infection Control:

Partner: Dr Jaideep Israel

Partner: Dr Riaz Jetha

Managing Partner: Sandra Younsi

The Appointed Lead for Infection Prevention and Control:

Carole Brennan Non-Clinical Infection Control Lead/CQC Compliance Officer

a. Infection transmission incidents (significant events)

Significant events involve examples of good practice as well as challenging events.

Positive events are discussed at meetings to allow all staff to be appraised of areas of best practice.

Negative events are managed by the staff member who either identified or were advised of any potential shortcoming. This person will complete a Significant Event Analysis (SEA) form that commences an investigation process to establish what can be learnt and to indicate changes that might lead to future improvements.

All significant events are reviewed and discussed at several meetings each month. Any learning points are cascaded to all relevant staff where an action plan, including audits or policy review, may follow.

In the past year there was one (1) near miss significant event raised that related to an infection control/cold chain risk when the plug from a vaccine fridge had become slightly dislodged from the electrical socket. All appropriate measures were taken to remedy the situation and further action taken for prevention.

b. Infection Prevention Audit and actions

The latest Bi-annual Infection Prevention and Control audit was completed in October 2024.

This involves a comprehensive review of all aspects of infection prevention and control within the surgery.

As a result of this audit, the following changes were made:

We will conduct a monthly premises observational walk which will cover all areas and aspects of the business. This will allow us to identify and address problem areas quickly before they escalate into major problems.

The Vale Medical Centre plan to undertake the following audits in 2025:

Bi-annual Infection Prevention and Control audit
Cold Chain audits (for safe storage, handling of vaccinations and temperature control)
Hand hygiene audit.

c. Risk Assessments

Risk Assessments Risk assessments are carried out so that any risk is minimised to be as low as reasonably practicable. Additionally, a risk assessment that can identify best practice can be established and then followed.

In the last year, the following risk assessments were reviewed and are currently in date for this year:

Infection Control
Hand Hygiene
Health and Safety
Legionella
COSHH

d. Policies and Procedures

In the last year, **all** Infection Prevention and Control related Policies were reviewed and are currently in date for this year as of January 2025.

Policies relating to infection prevention and control are available to all staff. All policies are updated and amended annually. Additionally, all policies are updated on an ongoing basis as per current advice, guidance, legislation changes and significant and or near miss events.

e. Training

In addition to staff being involved in risk assessments and significant events, at The Vale Medical Centre all Staff and Visitors receive IPC induction training on commencing their post. Thereafter, all staff receive refresher training annually or sooner should it be deemed necessary. This includes all elements of IPC.

f. Responsibility

It is the responsibility of all staff members at The Vale Medical Centre to be familiar with this statement, their roles and responsibilities under it.

g. Review

The IPC leads are responsible for reviewing and producing the Annual Statement.

This annual statement will be updated in January 2026.

Sandra Younsi
Managing Partner
For and on behalf of The Vale Medical Centre