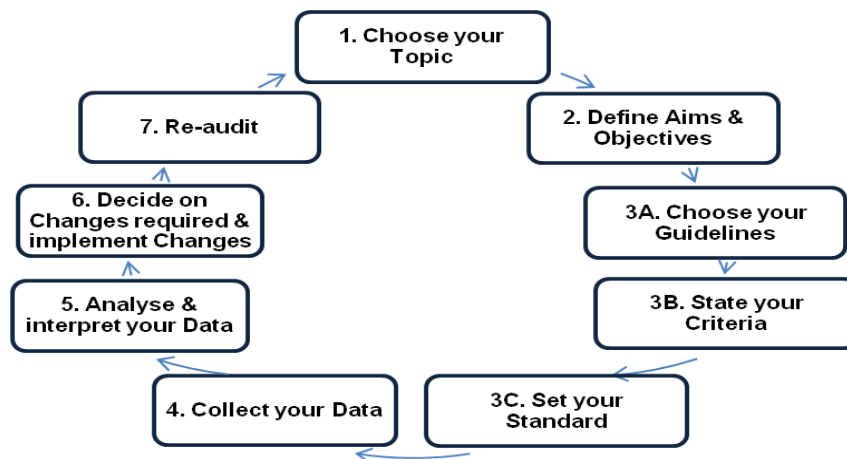




Infection Prevention in General Practice Sample Audit



ICGP PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCE AUDIT SUB-COMMITTEE

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Purpose of ICGP sample audits on specific topics

The purpose of the ICGP sample audit for each topic area is to provide practitioners with audit topic proposals and related tools in order to aid them in carrying out an audit in this topic area. For each topic, a specific guideline is chosen which identifies best practice for the relevant topic. Following this, examples of the elements of care or activity that could be measured are provided – these are referred to as “criteria”. Finally, examples of the type of data that is required in order to audit the sample criteria are provided. A separate document, the ICGP Audit Toolkit, provides detailed generic instructions on how to carry out and report your audit.

Sample Audit Topic: *Infection Prevention in General Practice*

Evidence:

[The most important things you can do to prevent your patients, staff and yourself from acquiring an infection \(HCAI\) at work](#)

[PPE for GPs - Podcast](#) – Dr Nuala O’Connor (24.03.2020) - Correct PPE for general practitioners podcast available here on the [ICGP COVID19 Clinical Hub](#).

Professional Competence Domains: Professionalism, Management, Patient Safety and Quality of Care.

Disclaimer

In all instances where ‘your practice’ is mentioned, this refers to the work you do, not necessarily that you need to be based in one particular practice.

Criteria/Data Collection Tool

Choose the criteria from below on which to conduct your audit and then set your standard (sometimes known as your target). This is your desired level of performance and is usually stated as a percentage. Beware of setting standards of 100%; standards should be realistic for your practice (perfection may not be possible).

Criteria	Yes	No
1. Always have CLEAN HANDS. Alcohol rub preferred; use soap & hot water for visibly dirty hands or if contaminated with diarrhea		
Reception		
2. Alcohol gel available		
3. Hand Hygiene Training completed by all staff		
4. Spill Management Training completed by all staff		
5. Spills "kit" available- grab & go bucket with PPE, paper towels, wet floor signs, neutral wipes, sodium hypochloride, yellow risk waste bag		
6. All front office staff have been offered all of the following Immunisations - Hep B, Flu, MMR, Pertussis, Varicella		
7. Dedicated Drop Off Box for specimen samples (should not be touched by front desk staff if at all possible)		
Waiting Room		
8. Hard toys only which are cleaned regularly or NO toys		
9. Hard furniture only which are cleaned regularly		
Toilet		
10. Cleaning chemicals stored away (out of sight)		
11. Disposable paper towels OR hot air dryer (NO cloth towels)		
12. Toilet cleaning brush stored away and out of sight		
13. Liquid hand soap only (NO hard soap)		
14. Toilet roll on holder (NOT placed on top of toilet or waste disposal receptacle)		
15. Daily toilet cleaning schedule - check every hour preferably		
Doctor's Office		

16. Approved sharps bucket out of reach of children & visitors		
17. Utilise sharps bucket temporary closure lid when not in use		
18. Sharps bucket NEVER overfilled		
19. Bloods not taken on desk		
20. Single use disposable instruments used – if no, complete autoclave items below		
Autoclave (if using re-usable instruments) – enter N/A for items 21 and 22 if not used		
21. Staff properly trained to use autoclave		
22. Autoclave serviced regularly – service history record maintained		
Specific for COVID-19		
23. Social distancing at your surgery with all patients		
24. Group patients with respiratory symptoms examined with mask, apron, gloves, and eye protection		
25. Patients with respiratory symptoms separated from main waiting room		
26. Extra caution taken when removing PPE after each patient		
Totals		

The next steps are to:

- Establish how many of the criteria were reached and compare this to your target.
- Implement the changes necessary to ensure you are following the guidelines.
- Re-audit your (individual) practice by establishing after the above action, how many of the criteria are now reached.

A detailed explanation of all of these steps can be found in the ICGP Audit Toolkit, which is available on the ICGP Website at: <http://www.icgp.ie/audit>