

Annual Infection Prevention Control (IPC) Statement April 2025 – April 2026

PURPOSE

This annual statement is produced in line with the requirements of the Health and Social Care Act 2022: code of practice on the prevention and control of infections. It summarises the measures TyneHealth have taken to protect patients, staff, and visitors from infection risks.

Infection Control Lead	Kristy Clay (KC)	Clinical Lead Nurse
Antimicrobial Stewardship (AMS) Lead	Dr Michael Bridge (MB)	Clinical Lead GP

KEY ACTIVITIES IN 2025/26

- CQC inspection in May 2025 rated the service as ‘good’ under the key question of safe, effective, and well-led.
- IPC remains a standing item on TyneHealth’s monthly clinical governance meeting agenda. It has also been introduced as a standing topic within the quarterly service update meeting and used as an opportunity to educate all staff on IPC updates and shared learning.
- A QR code has been rolled out at both Enhanced Access sites to improve compliance with a daily IPC checklist.
- A flu vaccination programme was offered to all staff during winter 2025.
- The functional risk (FR) calculation at both Battle Hill and Wallsend Customer First Centre has been reviewed, with no changes made.
 - Battle Hill maintains a blended score of FR4 with quarterly auditing taking place
 - Wallsend Customer First Centre maintain an FR3 score with bi-monthly auditing taking place, a higher risk approach due to the nature of the service providing a wound clinic under aseptic conditions.

AUDITS AND MONITORING

- There have been 4 environmental audits conducted quarterly at the Battle Hill site.
- There have been 6 bi-monthly audits carried out at the Wallsend Customer First Centre.
- An annual antimicrobial prescribing audit was carried out across the Enhanced Access Service in October 2025, full write up is available here:



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- A rolling handwashing audit has continued across 2025/26.
- There have been 0 formal complaints received linked to cleanliness or IPC.
- There have been 2 grumbles received through patient feedback, both of which were traced back to the same clinician on the same shift. Both related to non-glove wearing and lack of hand hygiene.
- There have been 2 significant events relating to IPC, both relating to sharps management.
- There have been 0 outbreaks of infections.

STAFF TRAINING

In January 2026 KC attended a full day update course for IPC managers.

KC has also led an ongoing programme of work to support the IPC leads in the GP practices across North Tyneside and Northumberland. This includes chairing a quarterly IPC peer support network and has developed an annual study day in collaboration with Northumbria Healthcare Trust.

Infection prevention control is assigned as a mandatory training module to all employees. IPC training is assigned as per the [Skills for Health - Core Skills Training Framework](#)

Level 1: All staff including contractors, unpaid and voluntary staff (**3 yearly**)

Level 2: All healthcare staff groups involved in direct patient care or services (**annually**)

Training compliance rates as of April 2026:

Infection Prevention and Control Level 1 (Non Clinical)	Yes	91%
Infection Prevention and Control Level 2 (Clinical)	Yes	90%