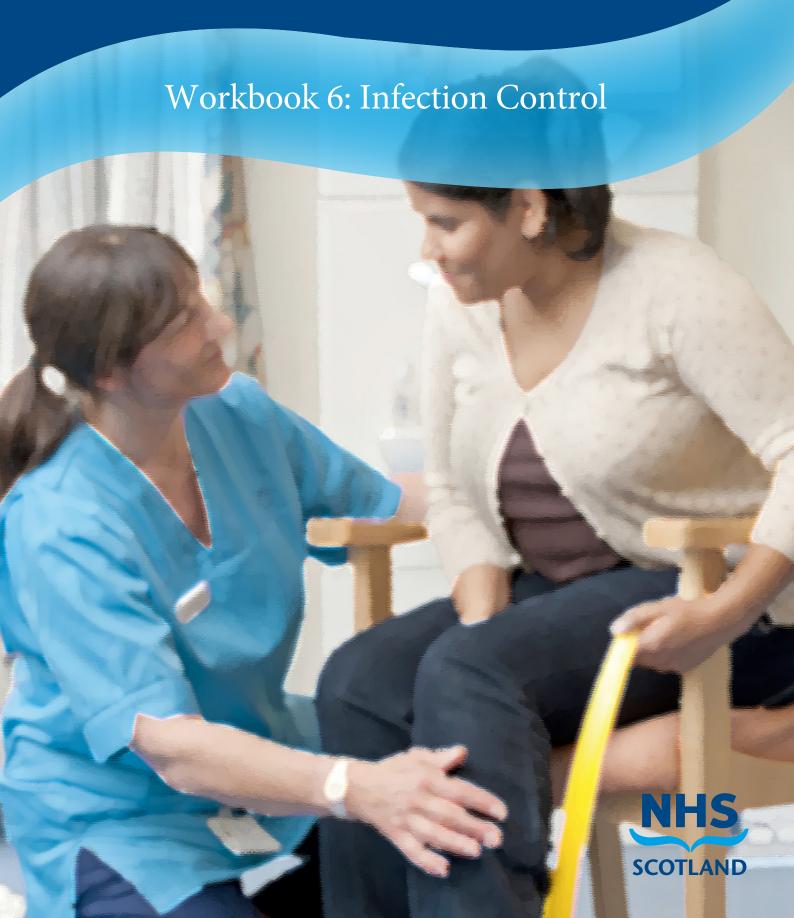


NHS Training for AHP Support Workers



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6.1 Aim

The aim of this workbook is to introduce the Healthcare Support Worker (HCSW) to infection control and to the knowledge of how to implement good infection control practices.

6.2 Learning Outcomes

By the end of this workbook you will be able to:

- Describe why infection control is important when working with patients in the healthcare setting or in the community.
- Describe your responsibilities in relation to healthcare associated infection (HAI) and infection prevention and control.
- Demonstrate that you follow organisational guidelines in relation to prevention of HAI and infection control.
- Demonstrate that you can follow policy and departmental guidelines in relation to cleaning of equipment and disposal of waste.

Infections are something that we all get from time to time. When this infection is associated with medical treatment, either in hospital or at home, it is known as healthcare associated infection (HAI).

At any time, approximately 8% of patients in hospital, in Scotland, have an HAI. An unquantified number of patients in the community have an infection related to their recent healthcare treatment.

As an AHP Support Worker, you have responsibility for ensuring that you are aware of and follow your board's guidelines for prevention of hospital acquired infections.

Preventing Healthcare Associated Infections

Although present harmlessly on the skin of everyone, some bacteria present in hospital and on the skin of individuals can cause significant infections if they enter wounds. Some of these bacteria, such as Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureusis (MRSA), are easily transmissible (passing between and colonising both patients and hospital staff easily) and can be spread from one patient to another on the hands of healthcare staff. These bacteria have the capacity to cause serious disease in vulnerable patients.

Patients whose skin is heavily colonised with MRSA e.g. patients who have eczema, pressure sores or leg ulcers may shed large numbers of bacteria into their immediate environment and MRSA can survive in dust for many days.

Hand hygiene is the simplest and most efficient measure for preventing healthcare associated infections. In spite of this, it is clear that the importance of hand hygiene is not sufficiently recognised by healthcare workers and adherence to recommended practices is unacceptably low.



Describe why	infection (CONTROL	is important	wileii	working	with	patients	III	uie
healthcare sett	ing or the	commu	ınity.						
What are the ri	sks to pati	ients of	HAI's?						

relating to basic guidelines, hand hygiene, cleaning and disinfection.
Describe your responsibilities in relation to HAI and infection control.
What basic precautions should you take with every patient?

Read your board's policies on infection control. This will include policies

What should you do when dealing with a patient who is known to be infected
with a HAI?
Describe how you dealt with a patient who was known to have a HAI.

How were you made aware that the patient had an infection?
How did your management differ from management of a patient without the
infection?
inconor:

Demonstrate to your supervisor that you follow hand washing guidelines when dealing with every patient.

Demonstrate that you follow hospital policy on infection control when dealing with a patient who has a known HAI.

6.4 Cleaning of Equipment

It may be your role to clean therapy equipment after use.



Find out the organisational policy relating to:

- Cleaning of equipment how should equipment such as walking aids, furniture, flowtron sleeves etc be dealt with?
- Disposal of laundry and waste management. How is waste disposed
 of? What system exists for bagging of waste? Describe it below.

Describe your responsibilities in relation to cleaning of therapy equipment
and in relation to disposal of waste. Provide examples from your work.

6.5 Infection Control Workbook Completion

Your mentor / supervisor will sign your portfolio to indicate that you have completed this workbook successfully.

Objective	Supervisors Signature	Date
Describe why infection control is		
important when working with patients		
Describe responsibilities in relation to		
HAI and infection prevention and		
control		
Demonstrate ability to follow		
organisational guidelines in relation to		
prevention of HAI and infection		
prevention and control		
Demonstrate ability to follow policy and		
guidelines in relation to cleaning of		
equipment and disposal of waste		
Support worker (name)		
Support workers signature		
Supervisor (name)		
Supervisors signature		
Date		

6.6 Infection Control Reflection

Suggested KSF Dimensions: C1, C3 and EF1

This form should be placed in the appropriate section of your portfolio.

What did you learn from this	module?
How has this influenced your	work?
Date module completed	







