

INFECTION CONTROL POLICY

PEST CONTROL

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Jan 2011	1.0	Deborah Kretzer – Lead Nurse Infection Control	First version.
March 2012	1.1	Deborah Kretzer – Lead Nurse Infection Control	No change to content required. Amendment to Trust named throughout. Review changed to two yearly.
August 2014	1.2	Deborah Kretzer - Lead Nurse Infection Prevention and Control	Management of Pest Control now under Head of Estates and Technical Services so responsibilities amended
January 2018	1.3	Stephen Morris – PropCare Head of Estates	Amended to reflect implementation of PropCare

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1.0 Introduction

The Health and Social Care Act 2008 requires all healthcare providers to have premises and facilities that are in accordance with best practice. Healthcare providers must have effective systems in place to protect patients and staff from acquiring healthcare associated infections and have a duty to provide care in a clean and safe environment, free from pests. For the purposes of this policy, pests can include: rats, mice and other rodents or mammals, flying or crawling insects and birds. Pests are a nuisance as they cause damage to buildings but they can also pose a serious health risk to patients and staff as they may harbor and transmit harmful microorganisms.

Wirral University Teaching Hospital (WUTH) provides the pest control services for The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre- Wirral (CCC-W) and The Walton Center provide the pest control service for the Clatterbridge Cancer Centre - Aintree (CCC-A) together with a number of estates, domestic, maintenance support and under monitored Service Level Agreements (SLA).

The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre Haemato-oncology service is located within the Royal Liverpool NHS Trust. The service will adopt the following:

- Royal Liverpool Hospital Cleaning Policy Ref 37

2.0 Purpose

This policy sets out measures to ensure that CCC and the surrounding environment is maintained to a standard that prevents pest infestation, and clarifies responsibilities for reporting, implementing and monitoring pest control measures.

3.0 Scope

This policy applies to all staff working within CCC whether directly, under temporary contract, or working in contracted services.

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4.0 Responsibilities

4.1 All Staff

It is the responsibility of all staff members to be vigilant and to report the discovery of pest infestations to Hotel Services.

Below are signs of infestation to be aware of:

- Direct sightings of vermin/pests;
- Droppings near food source;
- Evidence of nesting;
- Evidence of gnawing.

4.2 Hotel Services Manager

WUTH Hotel Services Manager on the Clatterbridge Site is responsible for maintaining records of reported pest infestations, and for the provision of documented evidence that all are suitably managed within a timely manner by a specialist in pest control.

4.3 PropCare Head of Estates

Is responsible for managing the Pest Control SLA with WUTH and for arranging monthly Patient Environment Action Team (PEAT) inspections. Is responsible for the standards and maintenance of the buildings and the surrounding environment of CCC and for monitoring the Estates and Maintenance SLA.

4.4 Infection Control Nurses

Are responsible for providing advice on any pest infestations (if needed) to CCC staff and/or Hotel Services.

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4.5 Ward/Departmental Managers

Are responsible for:

Providing care in a clean and safe environment. Ensuring that all materials that may attract the infestation of pests are stored appropriately, ideally in pest proof containers.

Undertaking ward/department inspections to detect signs of infestation
Reporting any maintenance issues that might lead to an increased risk of infestation.

5.0 Definitions

Infestation	To inhabit or overrun in numbers or quantities large enough to be harmful, threatening, or obnoxious
Vermin	Vermin is a term applied to various animal species regarded by some as pests or nuisances
Droppings	The excrement of certain animals, such as rodents, sheep, birds, and insects.
Rodenticide	A category of pest control chemicals intended to kill rodents. <i>Single feed baits</i> are chemicals sufficiently dangerous that the first dose is sufficient to kill.
Insecticide	An insecticide is a pesticide used against insects.
Pesticide	A pesticide is any substance or mixture of substances intended for preventing, destroying, repelling or mitigating any pest.

6.0 Main Body of Policy

Complex buildings with cavity walls and roof voids provide ideal conditions for pest infestation especially if poorly maintained. Therefore it is essential to ensure that all maintenance issues are reported and addressed in a timely manner and that pests are eradicated. Prevention is better than control and treatment with

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insecticides and rodenticides alone is seldom sufficient; attention must be paid to good hygiene and structure maintenance. Pests require food, shelter and warmth, denial of these requirements will help to prevent their survival and prevent infestation.

All staff must ensure that they take the necessary interventions to maintain a clean and safe environment and adhere to the following:

- Food must be kept covered or stored in airtight pest proof containers;
- Spillages must be promptly removed;
- Waste must be stored in a manner suitable to prevent access to pests;
- Accumulation of static/stagnant water must be avoided;
- Buildings should be of sound structure and well maintained, drains should be covered, leaking pipe work repaired and damaged surfaces made good;
- Ant defects must be reported;
- Cracks in plaster and woodwork, unsealed areas around pipe work, damaged tiles, badly fitted equipment and kitchen units are all likely to provide excellent harbourage and should therefore be maintained in a suitable condition;
- Where fitted, fly screens should always be closed when windows are open;
- Doors to food preparation areas should be kept closed.

Hotel Services and the nominated Pest Control Company are responsible for dealing with pest infestation within CCC. In addition to urgent call outs, routine weekly inspections (every Wednesday) of the site and the environment will be performed and any actions necessary completed.

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7.0 Training

WUTH Hotel Services are responsible for ensuring that the pest control company provide suitably qualified staff.

8.0 Audit

Hotel Services WUTH will meet monthly to with the Head of Hotel Services (CCC) to discuss the Support Services Service Level Agreement which should detail any required call out of the Pest Control Company and remedial actions required.

9.0 References

Department of Health (2007) (and updates) Saving Lives: reducing infection, delivering clean and safe care a delivery programme to reduce Healthcare Associated Infection including MRSA

Department of Health (2008) Health & Social Care Act, 2008 and code of practice for health and adult social care on the prevention and control of infection and related guidance, and prevention and control of infection in care homes – Replaces: The Health Act 2006– Code of Practice for the Prevention and Control of Health Care Associated Infections.

10.0 Appendices

There are no appendices related to this policy.

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