

Role of HPV at “beacon for safe patient care”

Timely disinfection prevents disruption as HPV fogging helps Salford Royal NHS Foundation Trust hit the headlines

After Salford Royal NHS Foundation Trust’s impressive performance in reducing infection recently hit the headlines, including BBC One’s *Breakfast*, trust chief executive David Dalton told *Inside Hospitals*: “Salford Royal is proud to be recognised as a beacon for safe patient care in the NHS.”

“Our aim is to become the safest organisation in the NHS and we are currently ranked in the top 10% in the country on a range of key measures including infection rates.”

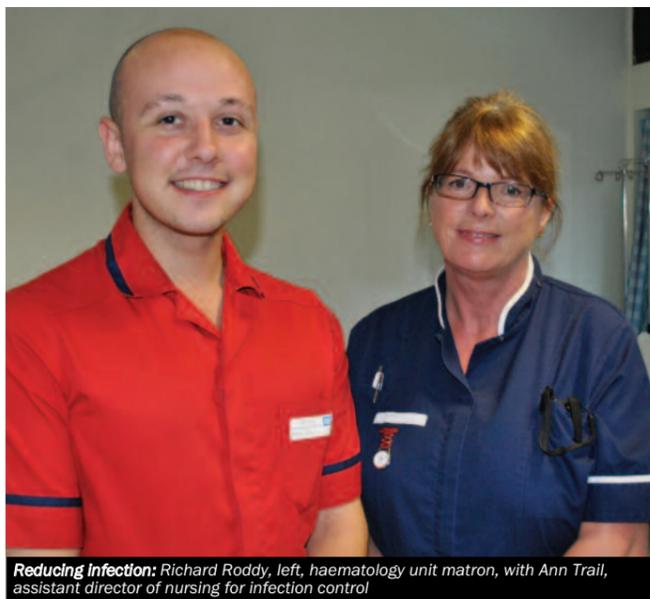
“We have consistently achieved our required infection reduction targets year on year. Infection prevention and control is absolutely pivotal in our delivery of safe, clean and personal care for our patients and as such is a top priority

within the organisation.

“We continually review our practices, as we strive to ensure our strategies incorporate emerging evidence and technologies to support infection prevention and control, such as

HPV, which we first introduced in 2011.

“This process of disinfection is just one of the many measures we take to ensure an



Reducing Infection: Richard Roddy, left, haematology unit matron, with Ann Trail, assistant director of nursing for infection control

any time of the day or night. This gives us the reassurance that the room is safe for the next patient going into it. We take advantage of this disinfection by also putting as much equipment into the room for disinfection.

“We have not experienced any adverse issues with either the process or the machines. This system is one of the many measures helping us to further minimise the incidence of infection and provide additional assurance that we have a safe, clean environment for our patients.”

“Our operational policy for the use of HPV is based around the disinfection of single patient rooms following the discharge/transfer of patients with a potential infection risk. It also focuses on disinfection of patient bays and ward utility rooms following ward outbreaks e.g. norovirus. In addition, the trust has a programme for routine ward deep cleans including HPV fogging.”

Ann added: “When building work and refurbishment occurs we use HPV disinfection.

“As an infection control expert, I am happy that the trust has supported us in the implementation of HPV disinfection with our own dedicated team.”

One area that is a regular user of the HPV foggers is haematology. Richard Roddy, haematology unit matron, explained: “We’ve been on a bit of a journey with the fogging and initially only used it in

environment which is conducive to the delivery of harm-free care.”

Ann Trail, assistant director of nursing for infection control, explained: “Salford Royal embraces up to date infection control methodologies, as this is fundamental in achieving safe, quality care for our patients. The trust’s ethos is to provide Safe, Clean and Personal care every time. Environmental cleanliness is key. This means providing an environment which not only looks clean but is clean.

“The role of the infection control team is to provide expert knowledge with continual review of practices in light of available evidence. An example of this is HPV fogging, which we believe has contributed to our success.

“We had originally used a contracted HPV service as an adjunct in the management of an outbreak. This experience provided the trust with assurance that we were achieving optimal cleanliness and minimising the risk from any on-going environmental contamination.

“We recognised the benefits of this enhanced environmental disinfection. However, we were aware of the disruption to patient services in relation to co-

ordinating the contractors and hospital staff in undertaking the process. As an acute NHS trust, we required a more timely approach to enable a faster turnaround. We therefore purchased our own HPV machines and developed a trust cleaning team to undertake required HPV disinfection 24/7.”

The machines used at Salford Royal are Sentinel HPV foggers supplied by healthcare specialist IC Solutions 24/7.

Outlining how the large trust is implementing the equipment, Ann said: “When an ‘infected’ patient is discharged or transferred the room can be cleaned and HPV disinfected at

infected rooms.

“The nature of our patients means that they are even more susceptible to infection. We constantly look to ensure we reduce incidences of infection, and now we incorporate the foggers as a routine part of a terminal clean for all side rooms whenever a patient leaves. So we use it more than anywhere else in the hospital.

“Our ward domestic simply rings domestic services and the HPV team turn up. It’s really quick - just a couple of hours and the room is re-commissioned, ready for the next patient. Any available equipment is placed in the room for decontamination fogging at the same time.

“As the manager of the area I’m always looking to give patients assurance that we’ve done all we can for them. We have eight beds and two day case areas. We’ve decanted-out before and we’ve cleaned the



equipment’s really easy to use, light weight and easily manoeuvrable. It’s a straightforward procedure. Once the machine is set-up and ready to use, we simply press the start button, leave the room and seal the door, affixing a warning notice which says when the room may be accessed again.”

Oliver Canty, managing director at IC Solutions 24/7, said: “The Sentinel machine transforms the non-toxic disinfectant into a fine mist of ionized particles and distributes it throughout the room, disinfecting every exposed surface, including those that regular cleaning cannot reach. It’s safe for use around all electrical equipment.

“Independent tests confirm a 99.99% killing efficiency against pathogens, including C. diff, MRSA, H1N1, SARS, HIV-1, E. coli and Salmonella.

“The liquid hydrogen peroxide, used at 6% and

a terminal clean, but the fogging gets everywhere - it’s very effective.”

Ann Trail agreed, adding: “We know we are doing the best we can for these vulnerable patients. It gives patients more reassurance.”

Richard said: “I have seen a significant decrease in infection since we began to use the foggers and would like to decant on an annual basis. It’s a very good working relationship between our team and the domestic services teams who operate the foggers, so the rooms get turned around very quickly.”

The trust chose equipment from IC Solutions 24/7 after a

successful user group trial. Outlining the reasons, Noleen Fulop, the trust’s assistant hotel services manager, explained: “It was the simplest machine to use of those we tested. Everyone liked the ease of use and the uncomplicated set-up. The light weight of the machines was another of the deciding factors - making it easier to move around.

“The micron size of the mist is smaller, giving greater coverage in difficult to reach areas and into equipment. It’s also quiet to use.

“IC Solutions gave us very intensive, but uncomplicated training. It was very thorough and the equipment is so easy to use.”

Sonja Brine, the trust’s hotel services manager, said: “Noleen is the in-house expert on the system and has done a great job training staff.

“It’s a massive site, so it was very important to us that we can get the machines around easily. It’s very simple to use.

“When we benchmarked, the IC Solutions machine was the most competitive.”

The trust operates a specialist action team, the SAS, which carries out terminal cleans and operates the foggers. SAS team member Gareth Stott said: “The



Clean team: Noleen Fulop, left, assistant hotel services manager, and Sonja Brine, hotel and site services manager

whole ward, including HPV fogging.

“There’s always going to be areas you can’t get to, even with



Cost effective: the ready-made chemical is safe to use

Easy to use: the system is very simple for non-technical staff to operate. Over twenty-five operators have been trained to provide cover 24/7

Ready to go: once the chemical is dispersed there is a one hour contact time



SAS team: Gareth Stott, left, and Marcelo Punongbayan, two members of the trust’s special action squad

including 60ppm silver cations, is a safe disinfectant. We hold the trust’s stock of chemicals for them to call off as required.

“Sentinels are now proving to be very popular as other hospitals appreciate the benefits which Salford Royal is experiencing.”

For further information, call IC Solutions 24/7 on 02476 34 77 22, e-mail info@icsolutions247.com or visit www.icsolutions247.com

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