

Health Inspectorate Wales
Infection Control Review
Response from Gwent Healthcare NHS Trust

Issue	Area		
	A&E	4/2	3/4
<p>Is the integrity of fixtures and fittings intact?</p> <p><u>ACTION:-</u></p>	<p>There are a number of marks on the walls, dents etc and some walls and curtains are dirty.</p> <p><i>A refurbishment plan for A&E is being developed which is at the design stage. Recognising a projected timescale for completion of 9 to 12 months, the Executive Team is committed to taking immediate actions to address shortfalls identified in this review. Further environmental improvements are anticipated as part of the broader refurbishment of A&E.</i></p> <p><i>The Department was last decorated in December 06. Redecoration will commence on the 12th November. Given the high volume of patient traffic, A&E will be monitored for 'wear and tear' 3 monthly to determine the frequency of future redecoration. Additional</i></p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Yes</p>

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	<p><i>wall buffer bars are being considered to improve long-term durability. The frequency of the rolling curtain replacement schedule has been increased</i></p> <p><i>The frequency of the rolling curtain programme where curtains are changed on a regular basis, is also supported by the A&E staff who will contact the linen room to request curtain changes within the existing programme time frame, if curtains are dirty or soiled. Additional curtains are regularly made to support stocks.</i></p>		
Are bed frames clean and free from dust?	<p>Yes generally, there were a number of refillable spray bottles that had been labelled with a sticker 'soap and water'. They were musty smelling and undated and were being used to clean trolleys (Photo 439). This was raised with the Nurse</p>	Yes	Yes

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<u>ACTION:-</u>	in Charge during the visit. <i>Spray bottles were immediately removed. Staff have been reminded of equipment cleaning guidance (appendix a) and a regular monitoring process has been implemented.</i>		
Are the following free of splashes, soil, film, dust, fingerprints, and spillage? Lockers Chairs and stools Tables	Yes	Yes	Yes
Are the following pieces of equipment in a good state of repair? Lockers Chairs Tables	Couches are covered but some of the footstools are ripped.	Yes	Yes

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<u>ACTION:-</u>	<i>Ripped footstools condemned and removed from the Department. Replacements being procured.</i>		
Are floors, including edges and corners, free of dust and grit? <u>ACTION:-</u>	Some dust under patient trolleys <i>Floor areas have been cleaned and an increase in cleaning hours for the department has been agreed and implemented. The development of a 'A Rapid Response Team' is currently being planned to cover the 24/7 period with Domestic Services.</i>	Yes	Yes
Are all high and low surfaces free from dust and cobwebs? <u>ACTION:-</u>	No, there was some dust on some of the spot lamps. <i>Lamps cleaned and increased cleaning hours agreed, as above.</i>	Yes	Yes
Are curtains and blinds free from stains, dust and	The Bereavement room smelt of old smoke, there was a rusty	Yes	Yes

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<p>cobwebs?</p> <p><u>ACTION:-</u></p>	<p>bin in the toilet and a dirty dusty flower arrangement (Photo 440)</p> <p><i>The room will be re-decorated w/c 12th November and fabric covered furniture (harbouring smells) replaced. A battery powered air freshener will be deployed. The rusty bin has been replaced.</i></p>		
<p>Are fans clean and free from dust?</p> <p><u>ACTION:-</u></p>	<p>Very dusty</p> <p><i>Fans have been cleaned and a regular monitoring process established. Staff have been instructed to cover them with plastic bags when not in use.</i></p>	Yes	Yes
<p>Are air vents clean and free from excessive dust?</p> <p><u>ACTION:-</u></p>	N/A	Yes	<p>No, the male shower vent was very dusty (Photo 458).</p> <p><i>Air vents have been cleaned and a regular monitoring process established.</i></p>

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Are patient call bells clean and free from debris?	N/A	Yes	Yes
Are the patient audio-visual systems clean and free of dust and marks?	N/A	N/A	N/A
Work station equipment in clinical areas are visibly clean e.g. phones, computer keyboards?	Yes	Yes	Yes
Are ear phone pads single use and changed between patients? If reusable ear phones are used, are they cleaned between patients?	N/A	N/A	N/A
<u>Bathrooms, Showers, Toilets</u>	<p>Patient toilets were clean.</p> <p>Female staff toilet had fabric elastoplast tape holding the lid</p>	<p>Patient toilets and bathrooms were clean.</p> <p>There was large container of lime soap with no lid on stored</p>	<p>Patient toilets and bathrooms were clean.</p> <p>Personal items are being stored on the shelf in male</p>

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ACTION:-	up. <i>Toilet seat replaced.</i>	in ladies shower area (Photo 446). <i>Lime Soap Removed. Patients to be encourage to use own toiletries where possible. Single patient use toiletries accessible via Nurse in Charge when needed. HCSW's to check bathrooms/showers each shift to dispose of used soap/toiletries.</i>	shower room <i>Personal items removed. Locker storage space being reviewed.</i>
ACTION:-	Female staff changing rooms – untidy, cluttered, dirty floor and facilities. The shower was dirty and mouldy with bars of soap lying in and around the shower tray. <i>Alternative provision of changing and shower facilities to be provided while refurbishment is underway. Changing room to be refurbished with improved locker facilities. Shower to be</i>	Linen basket. <i>(Please clarify)</i> . The male shower curtain is dirty and does not appear to have been washed recently (Photo 451). <i>Curtain replaced and a regular cleanliness monitoring process implemented.</i>	Communal hospital shampoo/soap (Photo 452) in toilets/bathrooms and concern re contamination if these are refillable. <i>Patients to be encourage to use own toiletries where possible. Single patient use toiletries accessible via Nurse in Charge when needed. HCSW's to check bathrooms/showers each shift</i>

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<p>ACTION:-</p>	<p><i>retiled and upgraded.</i></p> <p>Male staff changing rooms – untidy, cluttered and dirty. The shower was dirty and mouldy. Out of date endotracheal tubes are being stored in the room.</p> <p><i>Alternative provision of changing and shower facilities to be provided while refurbishment is underway. Changing room to be refurbished with improved locker facilities. Shower to be retiled and upgraded.. Endotracheal tubes disposed of.</i></p>		<p><i>to dispose of used soap/toiletries.</i></p> <p>Shower curtain in male shower room had mould on the bottom (Photo 457).</p> <p><i>Curtain replaced and a regular cleanliness monitoring process implemented.</i></p>
<p>Do hand washing facilities available including soap and paper towels?</p>	Yes	Yes	Yes
<p>Are raised toilet seats clean</p>	N/A	Yes	Yes

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and ready for use?			
<p>Handwashing</p> <p><u>ACTION:-</u></p> <p><u>ACTION:-</u></p> <p><u>ACTION:-</u></p>	<p>Some of the sinks in the patient areas do not have bins near them.</p> <p><i>Compact bins ordered that can be accommodated in the available space.</i></p> <p>Some of the sinks do not conform to Health Building Note 4 or Health Technical Memorandum 64. Example in photo with inappropriate taps and a plug on a chain (Photo 438).</p> <p><i>Sink units to be replaced with units that conform to current regulations. Will be completed by end November 2007</i></p> <p>Out of date surgical scrub solution (expired 2006) still in use in one of the resuscitation rooms.</p>	<p>Generally good hand hygiene facilities and staff awareness of the use of alcohol hand rub.</p>	<p>Generally good hand hygiene facilities and staff awareness of the use of alcohol hand rub.</p>

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<p><u>ACTION:-</u></p>	<p><i>Expired scrub removed and replaced. Regular monitoring process implemented.</i> Not all alcohol hand pumps contained gel.</p> <p><i>Dispensers refilled and a standard now in place for replenishment as required. Regular monitoring by HCSW to take place</i></p>		
<p>Clinical Room/Clean Store/Clinical Equipment</p> <p><u>ACTION:-</u></p>	<p>The Bandage store cupboard was found to have wooden shelves, which are difficult to clean and to be untidy, dusty, and dirty with bandages and other clean items on the floor (Photo 442).</p> <p><i>Store cupboard to be decorated and refurbished with new shelving and flooring. Removal of clutter and regular cleanliness monitoring by HCSW's to take place.</i></p>	<p>Equipment was appropriately stored and the ward was uncluttered.</p>	<p>Equipment was appropriately stored and the ward was uncluttered.</p>

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<u>ACTION:-</u>	A box with a black bag had a number of blue straps and possibly some rubbish in it (Photo 443). <i>Box and contents removed.</i>		
Storage & Management of Linen <u>ACTION:-</u>	Linen bags were found in a room (unclear what the room was for) which were overfilled and did not appear to be colour coded (Photo 444). <i>Room to be labelled as a 'Dirty Utility Room' with appropriate signage. Staff reminded of guidance for waste and linen segregation. Laminated guidance placed on display.</i> The clean linen store shelves were tidy, but the floor was very dusty (Photo 445). <u>ACTION:-</u>	Linen was appropriately stored and the areas were clean	Linen was appropriately stored and the areas were clean Storage cupboard in the men's toilets has items on the floor (Photo 455). <i>Items removed.</i>
<u>ACTION:-</u>	<i>Cleanliness monitoring to be</i>		

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<p><u>ACTION:-</u></p>	<p><i>addressed with additional cleaning hours.</i></p> <p>Blankets were being stored in the corridor.</p> <p><i>Practice discontinued. Blankets to be stored in the clean linen store. Appropriate stock control of linen and other consumables/disposables will be implemented through adoption of LEAN principles in A&E in the next 3 months.</i></p>		
<p>Dirty utility & Waste management</p> <p><u>ACTION:-</u></p>	<p>There was no evidence of sharps containers at the point of use.</p> <p><i>Sharp bins are placed on trolleys and taken to the patient when treatment occurs.</i></p>	<p>A disposable urine bottle was found in a dirty sink and a glass bottle containing a colour liquid at another sink in the dirty utility room (Photo 448, 447).</p> <p><i>Items removed and appropriately disposed of.</i></p>	<p>A disposable bowl was found in the dirty utility rooms with a used blood bag and line (Photo 453).</p> <p><i>Items removed and appropriately disposed of.</i></p>

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<p><u>ACTION:-</u></p>	<p>The sluice room cupboard had a bottle of water for irrigation that was signed and dated as opened in August 2006.</p> <p><i>Item removed. HCSW's tasked with regular monitoring of expiry dates.</i></p>		<p>The sharps box was over full with items protruding out (Photo 454).</p> <p><i>Staff reminded by Senior Nurse of importance of Sharp Storage. Frequency of audits of to be increased as part of regular compliance monitoring.</i></p>
<p><u>ACTION:-</u></p>	<p>Cleaners cupboard is very small with no hand wash basin, no sink in which to decontaminate cleaning equipment. Cleaning equipment stacked up on top of itself.</p> <p><i>Installation of appropriate hand washing facilities to be provided.</i></p>		

