

# LANRVN3

## Infection control in a veterinary setting



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### Overview

This standard is about preventing and controlling infection within the veterinary practice.

You will need to ensure that infection control is an integral part of your personal objectives.

This standard is suitable for registered veterinary nurses.

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### Performance criteria

- You must be able to:*
- P1 select and use appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE)
  - P2 use effective hand hygiene, to include washing and using of gels
  - P3 develop, apply and monitor appropriate hygiene protocols for different areas of the practice
  - P4 select and use the appropriate method of disinfection or sterilisation for the situation
  - P5 care for animals using barrier nursing techniques
  - P6 complete records in accordance with practice procedures
  - P7 provide advice to clients on the risks of infection and the steps to minimise risks:
    - P7.1. prior to arriving at the practice
    - P7.2. whilst in the practice
    - P7.3. during care of the animal at home
  - P8 dispose of waste materials correctly
  - P9 report any personal health conditions that may be a risk e.g. ringworm, MRSA
  - P10 consider the potential risk of exposure of yourself and others to infections micro organisms, before and during each activity you undertake
  - P11 carry out infection control measures:
    - P10.1. on a routine, scheduled basis, following practice policies
    - P10.2. when environment is visibly dirty
    - P10.3. to ensure patient comfort and well-being
    - P10.4. for cases where there is an increased risk of infection or transmission
  - P12 identify and report any hazards, problems, or evidence of potentially infections conditions to the appropriate person as soon as possible
  - P13 assess the potential risks to health and safety in this area of work

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### Knowledge and understanding

*You need to know and understand:*

- K1 the types and use of PPE
- K2 the different methods of hand hygiene and their correct use
- K3 how the spread of infection or contamination can be minimised through good personal hygiene
- K4 the hygiene protocols for different areas of the veterinary setting
- K5 the types and use of disinfection and sterilisation techniques
- K6 the dress requirements for different areas of the practice
- K7 regulations relating to the handling and storage of potentially hazardous substances
- K8 practice policies for access to different areas of the veterinary practice, to include zoning and protective barriers
- K9 the use of surveillance programmes
- K10 the source of information on infection control
- K11 the zoonotic risks
- K12 the advice that should be given to clients to minimise infection risks with their animals
- K13 how to set up and maintain barrier nursing conditions
- K14 the range of conditions that may require barrier nursing
- K15 how to segregate and dispose of the different categories of waste
- K16 why it is important to report any personal health conditions that may increase the risk of transmission to self and others, to include immunosuppression and allergies
- K17 the actions that should be taken before, during and after a procedure to minimise the risks of exposure to infections agents and cross-contamination
- K18 the principles and causes of infection, cross-infection, transmission and colonisation
- K19 the meaning and significance of the terms pathogenic, non-pathogenic, zoonotic, notifiable, infectious and contagious

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