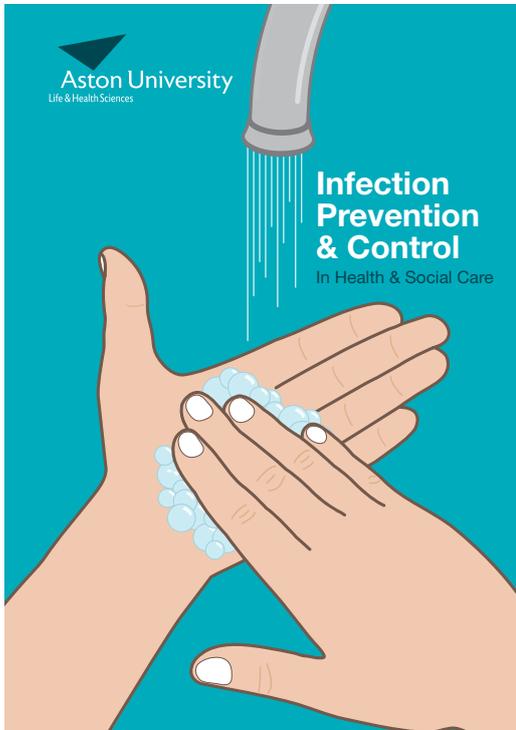


# Infection Prevention & Control In Health & Social Care Settings



Many people die each year from healthcare associated infections. This costs the NHS millions of pounds. It is important that health and social care students develop good infection prevention and control skills as soon as possible in their professional career. The Infection Prevention and Control In Health and Social Care pack is a resource to help students identify what they need to do and how to do so to prevent the spread of healthcare associated infections. The pack includes a booklet detailing key areas of infection prevention control in any healthcare setting. Key learning points include:

- Microorganisms that cause infections
- The chain of infection and how to break it
- Regulations relating to standard precautions e.g. hand hygiene; personal protective equipment; safe disposal of sharps, waste and linen; equipment and environmental cleanliness; dress code.

The booklet brings together all relevant information into a single handy A5 resource.

Correct Disposal of Clinical Waste	Breaking the Chain of Infection
<p>Clinical waste has to be segregated from general waste according to the requirements of HTM 07-01: Safe management of Healthcare Waste.</p> <p>Healthcare waste is now discarded into colour coded bags according to its decontamination requirements:</p> <p><b>Colour Description</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>CLINICAL WASTE (YELLOW)</b> Infectious waste which requires disposal by incineration: Indicative treatment/disposal required is incineration in a suitably permitted or licensed facility.</li> <li><b>TREATED WASTE (ORANGE)</b> Infectious waste which may be "treated": ORANGE Indicative treatment/disposal required is to be "rendered safe" in a suitably permitted or licensed facility, usually alternative treatment plants (ATPs). However this waste may also be disposed of by incineration.</li> <li><b>CYTOTOXIC &amp; CYTOSTATIC WASTE (PURPLE)</b> Cytotoxic and cytostatic waste: PURPLE Indicative treatment/disposal required is incineration in a suitably permitted or licensed facility.</li> <li><b>OFFENSIVE/HYGIENE WASTE (YELLOW with BLACK STRIPE)</b> Offensive/hygiene waste: YELLOW with BLACK STRIPE Indicative treatment/disposal required is landfill in a suitably permitted or licensed site. This waste should not be compacted in unlicensed/permitted facilities.</li> <li><b>DOMESTIC (municipal) waste: BLACK</b> Domestic (municipal) waste: BLACK Minimum treatment/disposal required is landfill in a suitably permitted or licensed site. Recyclable components should be removed through segregation. Clear/opaque receptacles may also be used for domestic waste.</li> <li><b>AMALGAM WASTE for recovery: WHITE</b> Amalgam waste for recovery: WHITE • Waste bags should not be overfilled as this causes leakage • They should be stored safely • They should be labelled with point of use.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Breaking the Chain Of Infection</b></p> <p>Follow Standard Precautions to prevent infection</p> <p>Decontaminate hands equipment and environment appropriately. Use aseptic non touch technique (ANTT) where appropriate for clinical procedures</p> <p>Wear protective clothing to reduce exposure to blood and body fluids. Ensure all equipment has been decontaminated appropriately or is single use. Safe use/disposal when handling "sharps"</p> <p>Take appropriate level of transmission based precautions. e.g. contact precaution, for MRSA, enteric precautions for patients with gastroenteritis, airborne precautions for patients with tuberculosis</p> <p>Identify and isolate infected/colonised people</p>

The pack also includes a Daily Diary (also available in electronic format) that students can use whenever they are in a healthcare setting. This enables them to document key infection prevention and control activities. The inclusion of a Review Diary enables them to review their daily diary, highlight any areas of concern and to document any actions taken to address them.

The aim of the pack is to help students implement good infection prevention and control behaviours to reduce the incidence of healthcare associated infections.