A close-up of a lips print

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**Infection Prevention and Control Policy:**

**Date effective: 02/02/24**

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As a healthcare professional working for the NHS, Robyn has completed the Standard Infection Control Precautions (SICPs) required. This is a yearly update via online learning on Turas. Because of this, Robyn is well versed in infection control policies and the necessary requirements for the clinic. There is four main chapters to the National Infection Control and Precautions manual which include: Standard infection control precautions, Transmission based precautions, healthcare infection incidents, outbreaks and data exceedance and infection control in the built environment and decontamination. These all have subsections relating to the chapter and are thorough in explaining policies relating to infection control.

The main focus in regard to infection control for the clinic is hand hygiene, PPE usage, cleaning and decontamination (including safe disposal of wastage, safe management of bodily fluids or blood and safe management of the environment) and occupational safety (relating to sharps injuries).

Further to this, the following posters will also be kept in the clinic for accessibility purposes. Robyn will also routinely check for infection control updates and has a requirement to complete the yearly update for SICEPs also. Although this is part of Robyn’s NHS role and requires yearly updates, it is relevant due to the nature of the learning. SICEPs stand for Standard Infection Control Precautions which have a foundation layer of 10 precautions and topics. Some, if not all of these, are relevant to Refine Beauty and include topics like “*breaking the chain of infection*”, “*hand hygiene”, “personal protective equipment (PPE)”* and *“safe disposal of waste*”. Due to the nature of Robyn’s role in healthcare, Robyn completes around 3-5 modules on a yearly basis. This is to keep up with the latest evidence-based practice for each topic which is provided by the National Infection Prevention and Control Education Team. This is transferrable knowledge and can ensure that the correct procedures and protocols are followed in the clinic.

Using one of the topics produced by SICEPs and National Infection Prevention and Control, hand hygiene is one of the most important aspects to infection prevention. Correct methods of washing your hands, including using the correct equipment and soap or substitute have been proven by evidence to reduce the risk of infection. As a nurse, Robyn was taught this method at university and has used this method since, which is over 10 years of practice. But as a practitioner, Robyn is always learning, and refreshing her skills to keep her patients and clients safe. Yearly updates ensure Robyn is learning the correct methods and guidelines. This teaching includes what soap or substitute to use in which situation and how to effectively wash ensuring all aspects of the hands are clean. It ties in with other topics like PPE and/or safe disposal of waste ensuring a well-rounded approach to infection prevention.

The below posters will be printed and laminated to put up in the clinic as a reminder to the practitioner and clients. It also helps demonstrate to clients Refine Beauty Aesthetics is aware of the policies and that patient safety remains our main focus.







Refine Beauty Aesthetics’ priority is to provide a clean, safe, effective, and hygienic environment for clients and Robyn. The clinic environment has been created as per Healthcare Improvement Scotland’s guidelines ensuring a suitable environment is used for treatments. This includes a hospital grade floor that extends 100mm up the wall to reduce dust and ease cleaning. The plumbing required has been done to HIS standards, including use of an arm lever operated tap and Armitage shanks 500mm wide sink with no overflow to reduce risk of bacterial build up. Hand soap dispensers and paper towel dispensers are all wall mounted and wipeable, along with the lockable medicine’s cabinet. Both the couch and stool are high durability, wipeable pieces of furniture. The fridge will be cleaned weekly alongside a daily temperature check. The fridge is also PAT tested until September 2024.

For all equipment, the appropriate cleaning products will be used. Clinell universal wipes will be used unless there is an instance where Antichlor is required.

After each client, the couch will be wiped ready for the next client. A weekly cleaning schedule will be completed demonstrating floors cleaned, sink and tap cleaned, fridge cleaned and any other surfaces. Dependent on the time of year (eg winter) the floors will be cleaned more regularly, but the necessary cleaning schedule will always be completed once a week regardless.

Robyn is aware of occupational hazards including sharps injuries and what to do in this instance. The policy is there for support, but should this happen to Robyn or a client, will follow the steps and seek medical support if required.

As a practitioner, Robyn is up to date with all immunisations and vaccines, including Covid-19 vaccines. Robyn also gets a yearly flu vaccine. Robyn will protect clients if unwell and reschedule appointments to reduce the risk of transmission in the appropriate cases. Robyn will also ask clients to reschedule if they have been recently unwell and has or had covid-19 within the past month, not only to reduce the risk of transmission, but to protect patient safety, as treatment is not recommended in those with recent illness.

References:

National Infection Prevention and Control Manual 2022. Access at: <https://www.nipcm.scot.nhs.uk>

Healthcare Improvement Scotland HAI Standards of 2022: Access at: <https://www.healthcareimprovementscotland.org/our_work/standards_and_guidelines/stnds/ipc_standards.aspx>