



Infection Prevention and Control Lapse Report

Dr P J Ringwald

Initial Report

Premise/facility under investigation

Dermatology Clinic
148 MacLaren St
Ottawa, On
K2P 0L2

Type of premise/facility

Medical Clinic

Date Board of Health became aware of IPAC lapse

2018-08-08

Date of Initial Report posting

2018-09-21

Date of Initial Report update(s)

N/A

How the IPAC lapse was identified

In response to a public complaint regarding infection prevention and control (IPAC) practices at this clinic, OPH inspected this clinic and determined that an IPAC lapse has occurred.

Summary Description of the IPAC Lapse

Reprocessing of reusable medical equipment:

- Autoclave: no documentation for monitoring of time, temperature and pressure of autoclave, no record of servicing of autoclave, no biological indicator (BI) supplies available at clinic
- No one-way flow in reprocessing area noted to prevent cross contamination
- A single sink present/used for hand hygiene and cleaning of medical equipment for reprocessing, which is a risk for cross-contamination
- Reuse of single use devices

Medication storage and preparation

- Multidose vials not labelled with date opened

Environmental cleaning

- Inadequate environmental cleaning

Occupational Health and Safety

- Non-safety engineered needles present at clinic
- Removing needles from syringes
- No eyewash station
- Inappropriate use of 2% glutaraldehyde

Hand hygiene

- Expired alcohol based hand rub (ABHR), topping up of ABHR, bar soap available at sink

Policies and procedures

- No IPAC policies and procedures

IPAC Lapse Investigation

Did the IPAC lapse involve a member of a regulatory college?

Yes

If yes, was the issue referred to the regulatory college?

College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario

Were any corrective measures recommended and/or implemented?

Yes

Please provide further details/steps

Reprocessing of reusable medical equipment

- Challenge the autoclave prior to use and provide proof to OPH that the standard has been met
- Reorganize of reprocessing area to ensure one way flow
- Reprocess all reusable medical equipment using the qualified autoclave prior to use
- Package reusable medical equipment for sterilization and store according to current best practice
- Test the autoclave with a biological indicator (BI) each day the autoclave is used, for each type of autoclave cycle
- Service the autoclave regularly according to manufacturer's instruction

Medication storage and preparation

- Label all multidose vials with date opened

Environmental cleaning

- Establish a cleaning schedule

Occupational Health and Safety

- Discard and replace all non-safety engineered needles present at clinic
- Discard sharps in appropriate container
- Install permanent eyewash station

Hand Hygiene

- Provide ABHR at point of care

Policies and Procedures

- Complete written IPAC policies and procedures based on the most current best practices

Education

- Undertake education to implement infection prevention and control (IPAC) best practices consistently (e.g., Public Health Ontario's IPAC Core Competencies, Reprocessing in Community Health Care Settings) and provide a proof of completion.

Date any order(s) or directive(s) were issued to the owners/operators (if applicable)

- Verbal and written directive to cease all medical procedures requiring reusable equipment until further notice was provided to, and acknowledged by the clinic owner on August 8, 2018.

Initial Report Comments and Contact Information

Any Additional Comments

N/A

If you have any further questions, please contact:

Title: Kathryn Downey, Ottawa Public Health

E-mail address: IPAC/PCI@ottawa.ca ,

Phone number: 613-580-2424 ext. 26325

For general updates regarding this investigation, continue to monitor this report.

The results of routine inspections are posted on the [Ottawa Public Health Disclosure website](#).

Final Report

Date of Final Report posting:

2018-10-04

Date of Final Report Update(s)

2018-10-04

Date all corrective measures were confirmed to have been completed

2018-09-12

Brief description of corrective measures taken

Reprocessing of reusable medical equipment

- Reprocessing area reorganized to enable dirty-to-clean flow and prevent cross-contamination
- Biological indicator (BI) supplies available at clinic
- Autoclave met qualification standards on August 13, 2018

Medication storage and preparation

- Compliant

Occupational Health and Safety

- All non-safety engineered needles discarded and replaced with safety-engineered needles
- Appropriate sharps container available at point of care
- Permanent eyewash station installed

Hand Hygiene

- ABHR available at point of care

Policies and Procedures

- IPAC policies and procedures based on the most current best practices available

Education

- Demonstration of reprocessing of medical devices compliant with best practices.

Final Report Comments and Contact Information

Any Additional Comments

Invasive procedures using reusable medical equipment requiring reprocessing resumed on September 12, 2018, after Ottawa Public Health verified that corrective actions had been taken.

If you have any further questions, please contact:

Name:

Title:

Email address:

Phone number: 613-580-2424