HIQA overview of hospital inspection activity

Monitoring of measures to prevent and control Healthcare Associated Infections in Irish public acute hospitals

January 2014

Inspection process summary

Inspections can be announced or unannounced. Inspections generally start in the Emergency Department (ED) or outpatients department and follow a patient’s journey to an inpatient ward.

On-site

- On-site review of at least 2 (normally 3) clinical areas.
- 2 service provider meetings on site. All serious risks are notified.

Report

- HIQA drafts report. Draft issued to hospital for factual accuracy review. 5 working days to review / respond.

QIP

- Hospitals must publish quality improvement plans (QIP) within 6 weeks of HIQA publishing report.

Irish hospitals

- 1,100,000 ED attendances
- 2,300,000 outpatient attendances

54 inspections

November 2012 - December 2013

81% of these were unannounced

Read our hygiene inspection reports on hiqa.ie

Moments for Hand Hygiene promoted by the World Health Organization

- before touching a patient
- after touching a patient
- before aseptic procedure
- after body fluid exposure risk
- after touching a patient’s surroundings

Hand Hygiene

1,499 hand hygiene opportunities were observed during the 54 inspections. These are key moments when staff should wash their hands and / or use appropriate hand-mb gels.

Total hand hygiene opportunities

- 69% taken
- 31% missed

From the opportunities taken

- 79% compliant with best practice
- 21% not compliant

RISK

Observed hand hygiene practice was the most commonly identified serious infection prevention and control risk.

The hygiene inspection programme will remain a priority for HIQA over the next few years

100 recommendations were issued to 10 hospitals

Read the full overview report on www.hiqa.ie

SOURCES: