



Infection Prevention & Control During Building & Construction Procedure

Procedure Number

CHC-IC-0021

Version Nos:

6

1. Purpose

This Procedure is performed as a means of providing the best possible protection for patients, visitors and staff members of West Coast District Health Board (WCDHB) from potential infection during and after the building and construction of WCDHB facilities.

2. Application

This Procedure is to be followed by all staff throughout WCDHB.

3. Definitions

There are no definitions associated with this Procedure.

4. Responsibilities

For the purposes of this Procedure:

The Executive Management Team (EMT) shall:

- notify the Infection Control Coordinator of all anticipated building and construction activities and ensure that the Clinical Nurse Specialist – Infection Control is to be included in the project steering committee for all building and construction activities.

The Clinical Nurse Specialist - Infection Control shall:

- oversee all aspects of this procedure.

5. Resources Required

This Procedure requires:

- WCDHB Infection Prevention During Building/Construction/ Demolition Form

6. Process

- 1.00 The EMT shall notify the Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS) Infection Control of all anticipated building and construction activities (including building demolition activities).
- 1.01 The EMT shall ensure that the CNS Infection Control will be included in the project steering committee for all building, construction and demolition activities.
- 1.02 Each project site will be inspected by the CNS Infection Control before, during and after the project, and a record kept of each visit.
- 1.03 The CNS Infection Control will ensure that:
 - i) appropriate signs and warnings are posted;
 - ii) track rugs are used to control dirt and dust;
 - iii) designated break areas, toilet and handwashing facilities for construction workers are identified;
 - iv) physical barriers between construction areas and adjoining patient care areas are constructed of a suitable material and are made airtight with tape at the floor and ceiling and that access through the barrier is via a self-closing door;
 - v) all waste materials should be disposed of through the outside of the building;
 - vi) damp mopping is used for dust control outside of the building and construction area;



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vii) the ventilation filters are checked for breaks or leaks during and after completion of building and construction, to ensure that there is no recirculation of air from the building and construction area to the rest of the hospital.

- 1.04 Where the building, construction or demolition activities are being undertaken in high-risk patient areas, this work is to be undertaken with an exhaust system to the outside to ensure the production of a negative pressure.
- 1.05 Upon completion of the building, construction, or demolition activities, initial cleaning of the site is to be undertaken by the contractor and/or cleaning services to ensure that all debris, dust and dirt are removed.
- 1.06 The CNS Infection Control shall inspect the site after it has been cleaned and arrange for cultures to be taken to ensure that the site is suitable for occupation..
- 1.07 Upon satisfactory levels of cleanliness being achieved (dependent upon the results of the cultures), the Infection Control Adviser will authorise in writing that the site is suitable for occupation, and inform the relevant manager accordingly.

7. Precautions and Considerations

- ➔ CNS Infection Control to be included in all building, construction and demolition project teams
- ➔ CNS Infection Control to give written authorisation before site can be occupied.

8. References

University of Kansas Medical Centre Infection Prevention and Control Manual
CDHB – Building Construction & Maintenance- Infection Control 2004

9. Related Documents

NZ Standard Infection Control NZS 8142:2000
WCDHB Health and Safety Policy and Procedure Manual
Health & Safety in Employment Act, 1992
WCDHB Infection prevention During Building/ Construction / Demolition form
NZ Standard Ventilation for Acceptable Indoor Air quality NZS 4303: 1990
Building Act (1991)
Building Regulations (1992)



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