



Position Description

Position title:	Clinical Nurse Specialist Infection, Prevention and Control	Date:	May 2025
Reports to:	Safety, Quality and Risk Manager	Department:	Safety, Quality and Risk
Number of reports:	Direct: NA Total (include indirect): IPC Link Team	Location:	Auckland
Delegated financial authority:	NA	Budget ownership:	No
Level of influence:	Leading others		

Our Organisation

At Southern Cross Healthcare, our vision is to help people live their best lives by reimagining healthcare.

Across our nationwide network and at our national support office, we combine the skills of more than 4,000 people including nurses and anaesthetic technicians, working with specialists, surgeons, anaesthetists, and allied health practitioners.

As New Zealand's largest private provider of healthcare, our strong "for purpose ethos" and through being recognised as one of New Zealand's leading and most trusted brands, we are poised to amplify the delivery of healthcare services like no other.

Vision	Purpose
Our vision is for what we aspire. To help people live their best lives by reimagining healthcare.	Our purpose is why we exist. To advance the provision of quality healthcare in Aotearoa New Zealand.

Values and Behaviours

Care First: Care is at our heart. It's the foundation of who we are and how we approach our mahi. Through genuine manaakitanga, we deliver a quality of care that makes healthcare more human.

Better Together: Our strength comes from connection and collaboration – we bring together our diverse skills, perspectives, and experiences in the spirit of partnership and kotahitanga. We all play our part creating better outcomes for everyone.

Pursue Excellence: Every day brings a new opportunity to improve, innovate, and excel. We don't settle for 'good enough'. We're here to do our best work, delivering our best care for the people and communities we serve.

Role Purpose

- To develop and implement the hospital IPC programme and antimicrobial stewardship programme in alignment with the national IPC programmes.
- To ensure risks of infection for patients, employees and visitors are minimised.
- Support and advise on matters relating to IPC and ensure compliance with the Ngā Paerewa standards.
- Perform surveillance activities and provide feedback on patient outcomes to the hospital IPC committee and specialists.
- Provide education to promote evidence informed practice.
- Collaborate with others as necessary to perform the role effectively.

Key Relationships

Internal

- Safety, Quality and Risk Manager
- Hospital leadership team
- Southern Cross Healthcare staff
- National Support Office resource teams
- Hospital Infection Prevention and Control link team members

External

- DHB IPC Teams
- Medical Specialists
- Community and Public Health
- Medical Microbiologist/Infectious Disease expert
- External experts e.g. Health, Quality and Safety Commission

Key Accountabilities

Safety, Quality and Risk

- Develops and implements the IPC and Antimicrobial Stewardship programmes in alignment with the National IPC and AMS strategies and the hospital's Strategy and Business Plan and Quality Plan to ensure risks of infection are minimised.
- Support and advise the General Manager and Quality and Risk Manager on matters relating to IPC
- Contributes to development and review of national IPC policies and guidelines as necessary and disseminates these in the hospital as needed
- Leads the hospital in achieving, maintaining and exceeding the IPC Certification Standards
- Monitors compliance with appropriate and recognised professional standards, Ngā Paerewa Health and Disability Services Standard for Infection Prevention and Antimicrobial Stewardship and provide evidence of this at certification audits

- Works with National IPC to develop and implement systems that improve clinical quality and decrease clinical risk.
- Monitors for breaches in practice which may contribute to adverse event investigations and implements changes in practice/equipment/environment where necessary.
- Collaborates with the hospital Quality Manager/Health and Safety Coordinator to review IPC adverse events, implement prevention strategies were identified and evaluate effectiveness
- Supports and collaborates on national and international quality initiatives such as the HQSC Hand Hygiene initiatives and International IPC week and implements these in the hospital.
- Participates in the Safety, Quality, and Risk Management (SQRM) committee.

Surveillance of Infection

- Leads the hospital surgical site surveillance programme, analyses data and reports findings to the relevant specialists and committees.
- Investigate any clusters of infection identified from surveillance activities.
- Monitors MDRO rates in the hospital and distributes relevant alert notifications and provides feedback to the Hospital IPC committee.
- Ensures processes are in place for surveillance of high-risk equipment eg. Endoscopes where these are used and acts on results as necessary.

Safe Environment

- In collaboration with facilities manager reviews building environmental monitoring to ensure any risk of infection is addressed e.g. water test reports.
- Actively contributes to risk assessment and monitoring during any hospital building/renovation projects and gives appropriate guidance on how to manage infection risks and design out risks where possible.

Education and Learning

- Promotes IPC evidence to support practice and accesses relevant resources to inform this approach.
- Plans and coordinates IPC link meetings and education so they can actively contribute to and role model good practice to others.
- In liaison with the Nurse Educator, provides education on IPC related issues to clinical and non-clinical employees including at orientation and update days.
- Assists with the development of IPC resources for consumer/visitor education where needed.
- Provides patient education/information as needed.

Collaboration for an integrated approach

- Communicates with local and national healthcare organisations regarding new or current regulations, standards and trends in infection prevention and control
- Develops and maintains collaborative relationships with Medical Specialists, other health providers, patients and the community
- Collaborates with Health and Safety Coordinators on issues relating to IPC and employee wellbeing
- Contributes to discussions about proposed changes to staffing, practises, product, equipment or facilities (including renovation and new builds) that may have an IPC impact
- Contributes to and leads the Hospital IPC Committee processes and develops agendas or papers for discussion as needed
- Contributes to Hospital Clinical Governance Committee as required such as discussion about IPC related events
- Evaluates and revises the IPC Plan with the assistance of the Hospital IPC committee and National IPC Lead

Own Professional Development

- Maintains professional and personal competence as required by the professional body
- Works towards the attainment of a high level of IPC knowledge

Health, Safety and Wellbeing

- All employees are responsible for complying with health and safety policies and procedures.
- You are responsible for your own health and safety while at work and ensuring that your actions or inactions do not put others at risk.
- Identify, report and self-manage hazards where appropriate.
- Ensure that you complete early and accurate reporting of incidents at work.
- Participate and co-operate for shared health and safety responsibilities
- Actively participate where improvements to health and safety at SCHL can be made
- Consult, co-operate and coordinate over overlapping duties.

Commitment to the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi

- Demonstrate awareness and understanding of Te Tiriti o Waitangi obligations through manaakitanga (respect) and kawa whakaruruhau (cultural safety) as evidenced in interpersonal relationships.

Commitment to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI)

- Honour diversity by acknowledging and respecting others' spiritual beliefs, cultural practices and lifestyle choices as evidenced in interpersonal relationships.
- Seek opportunities to include diversity, equity and inclusion practices in everyday work.

Commitment to Environment, Social and Governance (ESG)

- Engage in sustainable practices whenever possible. Try to reduce the environmental impact of your work and take an active role to initiate change to meet Southern Cross' ESG (Environmental, Social and Governance) commitments.
- Actively engage to improve your knowledge regarding sustainable practices whenever possible.

Role Requirements

Experience and skills required:

- **5+ years IPC experience**
- Broad clinical experience in surgical care setting

Experience and skills desirable:

- Experience in IPC or previous involvement in an IPC Team

Education and qualifications required:

- **Registered Nurse with Post Graduate papers in IPC related subject (Level 7) or Working towards Level 8/Masters)**
- Proven written and verbal communication skills
- Effective computer skills using Microsoft applications.
- **Demonstrated ability to understand and implement contemporary IPC practices.**

Education and qualifications desirable:

- Leadership and change management course/s
- Proven ability to analyse and interpret data.

	• Adult teaching and learning experience or qualification. • Knowledge of private surgical sector
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Leadership Attributes	
Human Centred Leadership • Empathy • Adaptability • Connection Performance Coach • Accountability • Engagement • Collaboration	Change Enabler • Execution • Energy • Contribution