

VICTORIAN INFECTION PREVENTION & CONTROL ADVISORY SERVICE

Phone 03 9956 1046 & Toll Free: 1800 312 968

<https://www.infectionpreventionhelpline.com.au/>



Infection Prevention Helpline

**Available to Primary Health Care
workplace teams including**

- **General practices**
- **Community Pharmacists**
- **Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations**

Top five infection prevention control challenges in general practice

your mandatory COVIDSafe Plan is being regularly reviewed and updated

	Current challenges	Plan should include
	Vaccination – mention COVID-19 and influenza vaccination in every consultation for all eligible patients and healthcare workers	
1	Lack of understanding of HVAC (heating, ventilation and air conditioning) requirements including air exchange	An AC engineer will be able to test for the minimum of 6-8 air exchanges per hour https://www.health.vic.gov.au/covid-19-ventilation-principles-and-strategies-to-reduce-aerosol-transmission-in-community-and
2	Cleaning -including : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • frequency (requesting to decrease) • general - such as carpets, use of linen & material chairs • TGA approved cleaning products- what to use 	Cleaning at least twice a day or more if visibly dirty or contact with an infected patient. Carpets and material chairs not recommended Cleaning products should be placed in areas for easy access with staff educated on the products use https://www.health.vic.gov.au/coronavirus-cleaning-guidelines-for-workplaces-doc
3	PPE- donning and doffing with PPE not being worn correctly by staff	Regular staff training https://www.health.vic.gov.au/contact-assessment-and-management-guidance-primary-care-community-based-healthcare-and-emergency
4	Aerosol Generating Procedure equipment actively being used (nebuliser)	Replace nebulisers with single use/single person spacers https://www.health.vic.gov.au/infection-prevention-and-control-principles-for-general-practice-respiratory-clinics-pdf
5	Use of staff tea rooms	Staff education on transmission and risk https://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/managing-covid-19-risks-office-environment