

Pest Control Policy	Policy Register No: 08024 Status: Public
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Developed in response to:	HCAI Criterion 2
Contributes to CQC Outcome:	8 and 10

Consulted With	Post/Committee/Group	Date
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Author/Contact for Information	Jim Dorrian, Hotel Services Manager
Policy to be followed by (target staff)	All staff
Distribution Method	Intranet and Website
Related Trust Policies (to be read in conjunction with)	Uniform Policy Waste Management Policy Food Hygiene Policy Pest Control Policy

Document Review History

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1.0		20th March 2008
1.1	Jo Mitchell & Angela Hyman - Update to include Infection Prevention & EIA	27/08/09
2.0	Jim Dorrian	27th October 2011
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3.1	Jo Mitchell – 6 month extension request due MSB standardisation	6 th November 2018
3.2	Jo Mitchell – 4 month extension request due MSB standardisation	29 th May 2019

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1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this policy is to ensure that the Trust recognises its legal and moral obligations in relation to Pest Control, and ensure that a preventative pest control supplier is available to respond to requests and provides a preventative service.

2. Introduction

- 2.1 To meet infection prevention requirements it is necessary to ensure that all hospital premises are kept free from pests.
- 2.2 There are a number of animals that can be considered pests within the Healthcare setting and have the potential to cause disease or harm. These can range from mammals, such as foxes, mice, rats and squirrels; insects such as ants, pharaoh ants, cockroaches, beetles, wasps and spiders; parasites such as bed bugs, mites, lice and some birds, including pigeons.
- 2.3 Apart from the possibility of disease transmission, food may be tainted and spoiled, fabric and building structure damaged. Furthermore, Pharaoh's ants have been responsible for the penetration of sterile packs and the invasion of patients' dressings, including those used on wounds.
- 2.4 Pest control is a specialist problem, which requires immediate attention.

3. Scope

- 3.1 This policy applies to all Trust staff and premises.

4. Roles and Responsibilities

- 4.1 The **Chief Executive** has overall responsibility to the Trust to ensure adequate pest control services are provided.
- 4.2 **Director of Estates & Facilities** is responsible for ensuring that a pest control service is in place within the Estates & Facilities directorate which is regularly reviewed and monitored.
- 4.3 The **Authorised Officer** (Head of Hotel Services) is responsible for the management of the pest control Service and providing guidance on appropriate action to be taken in the absence of a specialist pest control officer.
- 4.4 All **staff** have a responsibility to report any sightings of a pest or evidence of pests within the hospital premises immediately.

5. Evidence of Pests

5.1 Below are the main sources of evidence of pests:

- Live or dead insects or rodents
- Droppings
- Eggs, maggots, pupae and maggot casings
- Chewed packaging and spilled food
- Gnawed wood, cables, pipes
- Paw prints in spilled food
- Black greasy marks around pipes and holes on walls and skirting's

6. General Control Measures

- 6.1 Food needs to be kept covered and any spilt food must be cleared up as soon as possible.
- 6.2 Ensure that there are no areas of static water such as puddles, either in the building or in the immediate grounds.
- 6.3 Do not feed pigeons, foxes, wild cats etc. with left over food as this encourages pest and results in soilage from droppings.
- 6.4 Treatment with insecticides and rodenticides is rarely enough and it is essential that attention be paid to good general hygiene and structural maintenance.
- 6.5 Buildings should be well maintained, drains covered, damaged surfaces repaired, access holes sealed and leaking pipe work repaired. All of these can provide access to pests.
- 6.6 Close fitting windows and doors, fly screens and bird netting all help to reduce access to health care environments.

7. Reporting and Responsibilities

- 7.1 All staff sighting a pest or evidence of pests within the hospital premises must report the incident immediately via the General Office extension 4019 or via Facilities Helpdesk on extension 6000.
- 7.2 Once General Office have received a call (via either x4019 or x6000 requiring pest control the job request will be entered on to the Pest Sighting Log and on to the General Office database spreadsheet.
- 7.3 If assistance is required from Retained Estates or Bouygues, General Office will call through via x6000 to log such a request. If the request is for Retained Estates this request will be put on to Maximo. If the request is for

Bouygues such a request will be called through to Bouygues Maintenance from the Helpdesk.

7.4 The information required will include:

- The location i.e. clinical area or department and room
- The type of pest if known
- The possible numbers and frequency of sighting
- The name of the person reporting
- If feasible, insects etc. can be captured and kept in a clean container

7.5 If evidence of pests is severe the Authorised Officer in Facilities should be contacted to give advice on usage of the area whilst awaiting the pest control contactor.

7.6 The Manager of the area will liaise closely with the pest control service provider and is responsible for the follow-up monitoring and reporting to General Office any further sightings to ensure that the pest has been eradicated.

8. Infection Prevention

8.1 In the event of severe evidence of pests, The Authorised Officer should be informed and alert Infection Prevention to provide expert advice of potential risks to patient, staff and visitors which may involve vacating an area.

90 Monitoring

9.1 The monitoring of the Policy will be through monitoring of requests for pest control service in addition to the Trust Risk Event reporting procedure and subsequently through Health & Safety group reporting.

10. Communication and Implementation

10.1 The policy will be made available on the Trust's intranet and website.

10.2 The approved policy will be notified in the Trust's Staff Focus that is sent via e-mail to all staff.