To the responsible FOI Officer,

These questions are best answered by the Chief Nurse / DIPC

As you will be aware, healthcare organisations are obligated to meet the requirements for the critical clinical competency of aseptic technique in the Health & Social Care Act 2008, and associated regulation 2010, 2012 and 2015 – monitored and randomly assessed by the CQC.

Health & Social Care Act 2008, 2010, 2012, 2015: Statutory requirements for aseptic technique:
1. All relevant staff should receive **education, training and assessment**
2. The technique should be **standardised** across the organisation
3. Compliance should be monitored by **audit**

Background to this FOI request
Aseptic technique is a generic term evolved historically without clear consensus on its principles and process. In contrast, Aseptic Non Touch Technique (ANTT®), is recognised by NICE as a, ***'Specific type of aseptic technique with a unique theory and practice framework' (NICE 2012).*** ANTT is now the most commonly used aseptic technique in the UK and is used widely internationally with Governments increasingly mandating its use at a national level, such as in Australia and Wales.

The purpose of this FOI survey is to:
a) Explore how organisations are meeting the above requirements of the Health & Social Care Act 2008 for aseptic technique.
b) Establish the utilisation of ANTT in England in the NHS and private sector.
c) Support organisations to meet the above statutory requirements.

The Association for Safe Aseptic Practice (The-ASAP), is a not-for-profit, non-governmental organisation that oversees the development and dissemination of ANTT. It supports healthcare organisations to implement, practice and sustain safe aseptic practice. Please note that ANTT® is trademarked only to help protect the integrity of the framework - not to inhibit its utilisation. ANTT core resources are provided freely.

Survey information

The name of your organisation:___ University Hospitals of North Midlands

1. Does your organisation have a standard aseptic technique?   **Yes** / ~~No~~

    *IF YES: Please continue to **question 2.**   IF NO: Please go direct to **question 9.***

2. What is your standard aseptic technique called?

    a) We use ANTT   **Yes** / ~~No~~   *(If no go to 2b)*

    b) We use an alternative standard aseptic technique: *(State what this standard technique is termed and where it is defined)* _____

    _____

    _____

3. Is ANTT or your alternative standard aseptic technique stipulated in policy(s)? **Yes** / ~~No~~

4. Does your organisation provide specific education and training
    for ANTT or your alternative standard aseptic technique?   **Yes** / ~~No~~

5. Does your organisation provide clinical competency assessment for ANTT
    or your alternative standard aseptic technique?   **Yes** / ~~No~~

6. Is compliance to ANTT or your alternative standard aseptic technique audited? **Yes** / ~~No~~

Comment: __**clinical areas are audited by their ANTT champions; independent audits are undertaken if required, for example a complaint or concerns raised.**

7. Does your organisation provide a periodic competency assessment update?   Yes / No

Frequency: __**ANTT champions undertake competency assessments annually and on appointment of new staff**

8. Does your organisation use ANTT Procedure Guidelines?   **Yes** / ~~No~~

UHNM have a Sister and Staff Nurse whose role is to lead on ANTT throughout the organisation and lead the ANTT champions. They provide 'kiosk' training in the clinical areas; as well as linking with the Keele University Medical/Nursing School so new HCWs are trained and assessed during training

If you answered 'Yes' to Question 1 you have completed the survey – thank you

If you answered 'No' to Question 1 please answer the below:

9. What best describes the different aseptic techniques used in your organisation:

(Please tick all that apply)

- ☐ **Aseptic** technique
- ☐ **ANTT**
- ☐ **Sterile** technique
- ☐ **Clean** technique
- ☐ **Non-touch** technique
- ☐ A combination of the above
- ☐ **Other**

Describe: _____

_____

_____

Thank you for completing this request

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