

SAN MATEO COUNTY HEALTH SERVICES
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND RECOVERY SERVICES

INFECTION CONTROL COMMITTEE

The Infection Control Committee is a sub-committee of the division's Safety/Risk Management Committee.

PURPOSE

The Infection Control Committee's responsibility is to:

- identify real and potential problems in infection control; and
- plan and provide needed services for prevention and/or treatment of infectious hazards to clients and staff members.

MEMBERSHIP

Members of the Infection Control Committee are:

- QI staff (RNs)
- Community Mental Health Nurse from each of the division's five behavioral health clinics
- Medical Director, ex officio
- Other specialist consultants as needed from:
 - Risk Management, Employee and Public Services
 - Infection Control/Employee Health, San Mateo County Health Center

MEETINGS

The Infection Control Committee meets quarterly or as needed.

REPORTING FUNCTION

The Infection Control Committee reports quarterly to the Safety/Risk Management Committee.

EXAMPLES OF TASKS or ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Provided information regarding Hepatitis B inoculations, February 1996

- Arranged RN/MD training regarding OSHA precautions, May 1997

- Created and distributed fact sheet regarding viral hepatitis, July 1997
- Identified need (October 1997), then organized TB training and skin testing for all Mental Health employees, 1998 and 1999 (Currently Employee and Public Services Risk Management is responsible for providing TB training and skin testing.)
- Surveyed clinic medication room practices, September 1998
- Developed Policy 99-03, Medication Room Management, February 1999
- Distributed labels regarding Poison Control Center phone, November 1998
- Created and distributed Blood and Body Fluid Exposure information flyer, December 1998; revised flyer March 1999

CURRENT SPECIFIC TASKS

Develop Bloodborne Pathogens Exposure Control Plan, November 1999

Develop incident log and report form, December 1999

Develop protocol for county employees at risk (MDs, RNs, others at risk), and for county contract MDs to obtain Hepatitis B inoculations or boosters as needed, January 2000

ONGOING RESPONSIBILITIES

- Select clinic infection control supplies: safety needles, sharps boxes, spill kits, emergency supply barrels, etc.
- Assist follow-up of needle sticks
- Distribute San Mateo County Health Center's monthly Infection Control Newsletter to the five mental health clinics
- Annual review of Bloodborne Pathogens Exposure Control Plan, safety supplies, and any related Infection Control program(s)