WHY INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL MATTERS TO ACHIEVE HEALTH FOR ALL

WHAT IS INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL (IPC)?

A practical and proven set of organisational and technical approaches and measures to prevent the spread of avoidable infections and antimicrobial resistance (AMR) within both community and health care settings.

IPC MEANS CLEAN CARE FOR ALL

IPC PLAYS A CRITICAL ROLE IN MEETING YOUR NATIONAL HEALTH PRIORITIES

- **Quality UHC**
  IPC is an essential component for quality of health care delivery and patient safety across all levels of the health system.

- **Reducing AMR**
  IPC prevents both the spread of antibiotic resistant organisms and the occurrence of infection and thus, the need for antibiotic use.

- **Health security**
  Strong IPC capacity and programmes ensure adequate preparedness and response to outbreaks.

- **Maternal and neonatal health**
  Prevention of infection and sepsis reduces morbidity and mortality in these vulnerable populations.

ACTIONS YOU CAN TAKE NOW

1. Consider how IPC is relevant to implement WHA resolutions on AMR, WASH, international health regulations, sepsis, and patient safety ☑

2. Make sure you have a strong national IPC programme and team, in line with the WHO IPC Core Components and interlinked with quality, AMR, emergencies, and other programmes ☑

3. Develop IPC guidelines and standards ☑

4. Make sure that you grow IPC expertise and all your health workers know basic IPC ☑

5. Check what is the frequency of infection and AMR in your health facilities ☑

6. Make sure that your facilities
   - have water, electricity, and sanitation
   - are well staffed and equipped ☑

7. Empower facilities to implement IPC best practices ☑

8. Check IPC indicators, show progress and act to correct gaps ☑

9. Be a powerful champion of IPC in your country ☑

5 REASONS TO INVEST IN IPC

1. Directly improves health outcomes

2. Reduces health care costs and out-of-pocket expenses

3. Monitors and tracks quality

4. Consists of proven strategies supported by implementation aids

5. Is scalable and adaptable to your local context

WHERE TO GET HELP

WHO IPC Global Unit
(http://www.who.int/infection-prevention/en/)
WHO quality in UHC
(http://www.who.int/servicedeliverysafety/areas/qhc/en/)
WHO AMR
(http://www.who.int/antimicrobial-resistance/en/)
WHO WASH
(http://www.who.int/water_sanitation_health/en/)

World Health Organization