Job Title: Infection Preventionist	**Reports To:** Director of Nursing
Job Classification: Part-Time	
FLSA Status: Exempt	**Revised Date: April 2024**

POSITION SUMMARY

The Infection Preventionist is a healthcare professional specializing in preventing and controlling infectious disease withing the long-term care facility and oversees the facility's infection prevention and control program. This role involves implementing policies, conducting surveillance, and providing education to reduce the risk of infection among residents and staff.

GENERAL JOB DUTIES

- All employees are responsible for a basic knowledge of the employee handbook, along with the mission and vision of the Facility, and must conduct themselves with behavior that supports these values.
- All employees understand the safety and well-being of both the residents and staff members is the number one priority of their Facility.
- All employees are responsible for making the most of their working time and reach maximum potential by being on time for appointments, checking voicemails/emails as appropriate and completing deadlines in a timely manner.
- All employees are expected to escalate issues as necessary.
- All employees will specifically be trained on their job duties, however; other mandatory trainings may be deemed appropriate by leadership for one or all members of the team.
- Other projects and/or duties as assigned.

ESSENTIAL JOB FUNCTIONS

- Implement infection prevention and control policies and procedures.
- Conduct regular surveillance for infections withing the facility.
- Complete infection tracking and surveillance documents.
- Analyze infection data and report findings to relevant committees and regulatory agencies.
- Educate staff, residents, and visitors on infection prevention practices.
- Coordinate with the nursing and housekeeping departments to ensure a clean and safe environment.
- Stay updated on the latest infection control guidelines and best practices.
- Investigate and manage infection outbreaks within the facility.
- Follow established standards of nursing practice and implement facility policies and procedures.
- Interpret existing policies and procedures to Resident Care Technicians, residents, families, and physicians.
- Supervise and evaluate all direct resident care and initiate corrective action as necessary.
- Receive report from the nurse you are relieving and record sufficient information to implement follow-up action as necessary.
- Provide report to nurse coming on duty, including sufficient information for follow-up action if necessary.
- Conduct resident rounds daily, reporting problems to the Director of Nursing, if necessary, and initiate corrective action.
- Identify safety hazards and take appropriate action.
- Follow, supervise, and evaluate the implementation of the Resident's Rights Program.
- Provide clinical supervision of Certified Nurse Aides giving direct resident care.
- Attend staff meetings, in-service programs, and committee meetings as assigned.

- Follow staffing guidelines and make nursing assignments according to qualifications of staff and characteristics of the resident population.
- Assume responsibility for compliance with Federal, State, and local regulations within the assigned unit.
- Counsel Certified Nurse Aides and recommend disciplinary action, when necessary, to the Director of Nursing.
- Participate in the employee evaluation process by providing information on the clinical performance of Certified Nurse Aides to the Director of Nursing.
- Report changes in resident's condition to his/her physician, responsible party, Director of Nursing, and/or the Administrator.
- Follow facility admission procedures and communicate resident's admission to other departments, physicians, and ancillary services.
- Provide direct resident care and give ongoing instructions to RCT's related to resident care.
- Listen to residents, families, and/or physician concerns and initiate corrective action and/or report concerns to appropriate supervisory staff.
- Work with Certified Nurse Aides in making timely rounds, changing linens, turning, and positioning all residents as necessary to ensure good body alignment and skin protection.
- Consistently work cooperatively with facility administration, nursing personnel, ancillary personnel, all facility departments, and consultants.
- Follow established infection control and universal precautions and monitor facility staff for the same.
- Observe all facility safety policies and procedures including working responsibly to ensure personal safety.
- Come to work in a clean, neat uniform, and consistently present an appropriate professional appearance.
- Come to work as scheduled and consistently demonstrate dependability and responsibility.
- Act as the facility Social Worker Designee in the absence of the appointed Social Worker.
- May be asked to participate in the facility education programs and coordinate student activities with the Director of Nursing.
- Complete reports for facility committees as assigned.
- Accept and perform additional duties as assigned by your department head or Administrator in a cooperative manner.
- Comprehend and follow all OSHA, State, and Federal policies and regulations.
- The use of personal vehicle for approved work related tasks will be reimbursed for mileage at a pre-determined rate.
- The sensory and communication activities essential to the performance of this position include ruling, hearing, seeing, smelling, speaking, reading, and writing.

EDUCATION & EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS

- Graduate of an accredited nursing program.
- Licensure/Certification in the state of Iowa required.
- Specialized training in infection prevention and control.

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS

- Must be able to work in high-pressure or emergency situations that may face strict deadlines. Extended shifts may be necessary, and hours may exceed 40 per week to perform duties effectively, including some weekends and evenings.

- Ability to lift up to 100+ pounds or more with assistance. This position requires regular movements such as: grasping, kneeling, lifting, pulling, pushing, reaching, repetitive movement, standing, and stooping. An individual in this position will be expected to use, assist, and demonstrate devices for handling or lifting residents.
- An individual in this position may be exposed to inside and outside environmental conditions, physical, chemical, or respiratory hazards.
- An individual in this position may be exposed to Bloodborne Pathogens.
- Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions of the position.

REQUIRED SKILLS

- Consistently demonstrate dependability, responsibility, and set a positive example for all other staff.
- Proven track record of collaborative leadership in diverse teams.
- Passionate about excellent resident care, compliant processes, and methodologies and a willingness to continually learn.
- Must be able to explain complicated information in a way that is easy for anyone to understand.
- Excellent decision making and conflict-resolution skills.
- Effective written and verbal communication skills, both professional and interpersonal.
- The ability to work both independently and within a team.
- A responsible, organized, and detail-oriented mindset.
- Refined time management skills and the ability to multi-task.
- Advanced critical thinking and problem-solving skills, in addition to superior computer skills.

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

At your Facility, we understand that every employee is different in his or her own way. We do not discriminate in employment on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, political affiliation, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, genetic information, age, retaliation, military status, or other non-merit factors. The Facility is a proud Equal Opportunity workplace.

By signing below, I am certifying that I am qualified for this position (as described above) and capable of performing the general and essential functions of the position. I agree that this Job Description has reasonable expectations and that this is in no way, shape, or form a contract of employment. By signing this document, there is no guarantee of continued employment as the State of Iowa mandates at-will employment.

_____

FACILITY NAME

_____ _____

EMPLOYEE SIGNATURE DATE

_____ _____

PRINT EMPLOYEE NAME DATE

_____	_____
REGIONAL DIRECTOR OPERATIONS SIGNATURE	DATE
_____	_____
PRINT REGIONAL DIRECTOR OPERATIONS NAME	DATE