

Qualification Specification

603/5115/9

iCQ Level 2 Certificate in the Principles of Infection Control



Qualification Details

Title: **iCQ Level 2 Certificate in the Principles of Infection Control**

Awarding Organisation: [iCan Qualifications Limited](http://icanqualify.net)

Fees Price List Url: <https://icanqualify.net>

Qualification Type: RQF

Qualification Level: 2

Regulation Start Date: 2 September 2019

Offered In England: Yes

Offered In Wales: No

Offered In Northern Ireland: No

Assessment Language In English: Yes

SSA: Confirm occupational competence

Total Credits: 15

Min Credits at/above Level: 15

Total Qualification Time: 150

Guided Learning Hours: 110

Overall Grading Type: Pass

Assessment Methods: Portfolio of Evidence

Structure Requirements: To achieve this qualification, learners must complete all units in mandatory group A.

Age Ranges: 16-18; 19+

Qualification Objective: The purpose of this qualification is to develop learners' knowledge and understanding in the area of infection control including the principles and prevention particularly in the context of health and social care.

The objective of the qualification is to enable learners to gain knowledge and understanding of:

- the meaning and importance of infection control
- the causes of infections, the conditions in which they thrive, and the ways that they can be spread
- the methods used to prevent and control the spread of infection.

The qualification covers the importance of good infection control practices and the implications these can have on the worker and individuals they care for. The qualification provides the learner with the underpinning knowledge and understanding of the prevention and control of infections in healthcare settings and will support their role in the workplace.

This qualification is aimed at anyone working in a healthcare or social care environment, who wish to gain an understanding in the prevention and control of infection.

Prior Qualifications Required: None

Progression: The learner may progress to the iCQ Level 2 Diploma in Care or the iCQ Level 3 Diploma in Adult Care.

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Rules of Combination (ROC)

Group Name	Mandatory	#Units	Minimum Units	Maximum Units	Minimum Credits	Maximum Credits
All) All Groups	No	0	0	0	0	0
A) Group A Mandatory Units	Yes	4	4	4	15	15

Group A Group A Mandatory Units

URN	Title	Level	GLH	Credit
A/617/8079	Understanding the principles of effective decontamination, cleaning and waste management to reduce the risk of infection	2	30	4
M/617/8077	Understanding the principles of infection control	2	30	4
M/617/8080	Understanding the causes and spread of infection	2	30	4
T/617/8078	Principles of good practice in the prevention of infection	2	20	3

Unit: A/617/8079 : Understanding the principles of effective decontamination, cleaning and waste management to reduce the risk of infection	
Know why maintaining a clean environment is important	
Assessment Criteria	
01	Explain why it is important to have a clean environment when working in a health care setting
02	Outline what is meant by a 'workplace cleaning schedule'
03	Describe why colour coding cleaning equipment is necessary
Understand roles and responsibilities in relation to cleaning, decontamination and waste management	
01	Describe the role and responsibilities of employers in relation to cleaning, decontamination and waste management
02	Describe the role and responsibilities of employees in relation to cleaning, decontamination and waste management
03	Describe the role and responsibilities that specialist personnel have in relation to cleaning, decontamination and waste management roles
04	Describe what action should be taken if an employee has concerns over standards of hygiene
05	Describe the importance of regular infection control training for health care staff
Know what decontamination is and why this is important in healthcare settings	
01	Define the term 'decontamination'
02	Describe the 3 stages of decontamination
03	Explain why decontamination is important
04	Describe the procedures to follow when using: a) cleaning agents b) disinfecting agents
05	Describe the safety procedures that should be followed when: a) Cleaning b) Disinfecting c) Sterilising d) Storing decontamination equipment
06	Explain why it is important that personal protective equipment is used during the decontamination process
Understand the sterilisation process	
01	Describe what the term 'sterilise' means within a health care environment
02	Explain what methods can be used to sterilise equipment
03	Identify how sterilisation equipment should be cleaned and stored
Understand the safe handling of laundry	
01	Explain the risks associated with handling dirty laundry
02	Outline what steps can be taken to minimise the risks of spreading infection when handling laundry
03	Describe the process that should be followed with contaminated laundry in relation to the: a) storage b) collection c) cleaning d) returning clean laundry to individuals
Understand effective waste management in healthcare settings	
01	Identify legislation that relates to waste management
02	Identify the different categories of waste in healthcare environments
03	Describe how each category of waste should be disposed of safely
04	Define what the term 'biological spillage' means
05	Describe the procedure that should be followed when a biological spillage has occurred
Know how sharps should be handled and disposed of safely	
01	Explain what is meant by the term 'sharps'
02	Describe the procedures to be followed when: a) using sharps b) disposing of sharps c) dealing with a sharps incident/accident
03	Explain how the risk from a sharps injury can be reduced

Unit: M/617/8077 : Understanding the principles of infection control**Know what infection control is and the purpose it serves****Assessment Criteria**

01	Define: a) infection prevention b) infection control
02	Explain why infection control is important within a health care setting
03	Explain the impact of an outbreak of infection on: a) service users b) employees c) the health care setting

Understand the current regulations in relation to infection control

01	Describe the relevant guidance that supports infection control practices including: a) Legislation b) Codes of practice c) Standards d) Guidelines
02	Describe the policies in your workplace that relate to infection control
03	Outline the procedures in your workplace that are followed to promote the control of infection

Know the roles and responsibilities in relation to infection control

01	Describe the roles and responsibilities of the following individuals in relation to infection control and prevention: a) employees b) employers c) specialist personnel
02	Explain the boundaries of the health and social care workers role and responsibilities in relation to infection control
03	State what records must be maintained in relation to infection control

Understand the role of risk assessments in relation to infection control

01	Define the term risk assessment
02	Explain why risk assessments are important in relation to infection control
03	Identify the stages to follow when carrying out a risk assessment.
04	Identify potential risks in a health care setting in relation to infection control
05	Explain how infection control risks can be minimised in a workplace setting
06	Outline what circumstances are classified as 'high risk' in infection control
07	Explain how the outcomes of risk assessments are communicated to relevant people in the organisation

Unit: M/617/8080 : Understanding the causes and spread of infection**Know how infection is caused****Assessment Criteria**

01	Define the following terms: a) infection b) colonisation
02	Explain the terms: a) pathogenic b) non-pathogenic
03	Describe what the difference is between systemic and local infection
04	Identify the infections that are classified under: a) Systemic b) localised

Understand the different types of infectious agents and what common illnesses they cause

01	Describe the characteristics of: a) Bacteria b) Virus c) Fungi d) Parasites
02	Explain common illnesses that can be caused by: a) Bacteria b) Viruses c) Fungi d) Parasites

Understand how infections are spread, grow and transfer

01	Explain the conditions required for the growth of: a) Bacteria b) Viruses c) Fungi d) Parasites
02	Explain how microorganisms can: a) enter the body b) exit the body

Know common sources of infection

01	Outline the common causes of infection
02	Describe what is meant by: a) indirect contact b) direct contact
03	Explain what is meant by the term 'cross infection'

Understand the 'chain of infection'

01	Describe the six links of the 'chain of infection'
02	Explain the steps that can be taken to break each link in the chain of infection
03	Explain why measures are taken to break the links in the chain of infection

Understand the need to recognise Healthcare Associated Infections (HCAI)

01	Describe what is meant by the term Healthcare Associated Infection
02	Identify common types of Healthcare Associated Infection
03	Describe the groups of individuals who are at an increased risk from Healthcare Associated Infection
04	Explain how Healthcare Associated Infections are likely to spread in a healthcare environment
05	Describe the procedures that should be followed to minimise the risk of Healthcare Associated Infection within a healthcare environment
06	Identify current sources of information and advice on current Healthcare Associated Infections

Unit: T/617/8078 : Principles of good practice in the prevention of infection**Know the principles of infection control procedures****Assessment Criteria**

- 01 Outline standard infection control procedures
- 02 Identify the different types of equipment used to carry out standard precautions

- 03 Describe the correct techniques for:
- a) hand washing
 - b) handling sharps
 - c) using personal protective equipment

- 04 Explain the procedures that should be followed when:
- a) using colour-coded equipment
 - b) carrying out cleaning duties
 - c) storing and disposing of waste
 - d) managing spillages

Know the importance of personal hygiene in the prevention and control of infection in a workplace setting

- 01 Explain what the term personal hygiene means
- 02 Describe why it is important to maintain high standards of personal hygiene
- 03 Outline the workplace procedures in your setting in relation to personal appearance and hygiene
- 04 Explain what the risks may be as a result of poor personal hygiene
- 05 Describe what circumstances may cause an employee to be advised to stay away from the workplace
- 06 State why it is important for an employee to stay away from the workplace when unwell

Understand the importance of effective hand washing

- 01 Outline the risks that may be present as a result of poor hand washing techniques
- 02 Explain why hand washing is an important part for the care workers role
- 03 Outline when and why hand washing should be carried out
- 04 Describe the correct sequence for hand washing and drying
- 05 Identify what areas of the hands are most likely to be missed during hand washing
- 06 Explain what risks may be present in relation to wearing false nails, nail varnish and jewellery

- 07 Identify the types of cleansers that should be used for different:
- a) levels of risk
 - b) tasks

Understand the principles of using Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- 01 Outline current legislation and regulations relating to Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- 02 Describe different types and uses of Personal protective equipment including:
- a) What different types there are
 - b) When they should be worn
 - c) How they are applied
 - d) How they are removed
 - e) How they are disposed of
 - f) When they should be replaced

- 03 Explain the responsibilities of each party in relation to PPE including:
- a) Employees
 - b) Employers
 - c) Specialised personnel

- 04 Outline how the level of risk will determine the selection of the PPE used for a task