

Link professionals in Germany

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Personelle und organisatorische Voraussetzungen zur Prävention nosokomialer Infektionen

Empfehlung der Kommission
für Krankenhaushygiene und
Infektionsprävention

Personnel and organisational requirements for preventing nosocomial infections

Recommendations of the Commission for hospital
hygiene and infection prevention

Bundesgesundhbl 2009, 52, 951-962

Since 2011 mandatory



Link doctor

At least one per hospital

Senior staff member

In bigger hospitals more, eg for risk departments (hematology-oncology, internal ICU, surgery with ICU, neurosurgery, pediatrics)

Training according to respective society

German Society of Hospital Hygiene: 40 hours course

Some hours paid leave of absence recommended



Link doctor

Tasks, eg

- link between hospital hygiene and department
- member of hygiene commission
- member of working groups
- co-writer of standards of department
- engagement in hygienic training
- engaged in outcome surveillance
- antibiotic policy
- outbreak management



Link nurse

One per ward and units like physiotherapy, endoscopy, radiology

Experienced nurse

German Society of Hospital Hygiene: 40 hours course



Link nurse

Tasks, eg

- link between hospital hygiene and department training in ward
- member of working groups and quality groups
- co-writer of standards of care
- outbreak management



Experience

Nurses very engaged, most have training

Few doctors engaged

Engagement might increase because of growing importance of hygiene in Germany

Own experience since 10 years:

80 nurses: at least 60 % active

20 doctors: up to 20 % active

