



The Regulation and  
Quality Improvement  
Authority

**THE REGULATION AND QUALITY IMPROVEMENT  
AUTHORITY**

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**ANNOUNCED ESTATES INSPECTION**

**Inspection No:** IN020091  
**Establishment ID No:** 10626  
**Name of Establishment:** Kingsbridge Private Hospital, Belfast  
**Date of Inspection:** 17 June 2014  
**Inspector's Names:** K. Monaghan

## 1.0 GENERAL INFORMATION

<b>Name of Hospital:</b>	Kingsbridge Private Hospital
<b>Address:</b>	811-815Lisburn Road Belfast BT9 7GX
<b>Telephone Number:</b>	028 90 66 78 78
<b>Registered Responsible Person:</b>	3fivetwo Medical Ltd (Mr. Mark Simon Regan, Operations Director - Private Sector)
<b>Registered Manager:</b>	Mrs. Sarah Joy Marks
<b>Person in Charge of the Hospital at the time of Inspection:</b>	Mrs. Sarah Joy Marks, Registered Manager
<b>Other person(s) present during inspection:</b>	Ms. Sinead O’Kane, Hospital Supply Chain Manager Mr. Paul Whitcombe, Hospital Facilities Officer Mr. Anthony Trimble, Estates Management Partnership, Facilities Management Consultant to the hospital
<b>Type of establishment:</b>	Independent Hospital
<b>Categories of Care:</b>	AH , AH(DS), PD ,PT (E ), PT(L)
<b>Number of Registered Places:</b>	16

## GENERAL INFORMATION CONTINUED

<b>Conditions of Registration:</b>	Independent Hospital with 16 inpatient beds. Registered to provide services as outlined in Appendices 1 - 10 of the Statement of Purpose. The hospital is also registered for six day beds to be accommodated in the day case ward.
<b>Date of previous inspection:</b>	29 January 2013
<b>Date and time of inspection:</b>	17 June 2014 (10:00am. – 11:30am.)
<b>Inspectors:</b>	<p>Mr. David Pollock, Authorising Engineer (Decontamination) [AE(D)], Department of Health and Social Services and Public Safety Northern Ireland (DHSSPSNI), Health Estates Investment Group (HEIG)</p> <p>Mr. John Singh, Authorising Engineer (Decontamination) [AE(D)], Department of Health and Social Services and Public Safety Northern Ireland (DHSSPSNI), Health Estates Investment Group (HEIG)</p> <p>Kieran Monaghan, Estates Officer, Regulation and Quality Improvement Authority (RQIA)</p>

## 2.0 INTRODUCTION

The Regulation and Quality Improvement Authority (RQIA) is empowered under The Health and Personal Social Services (Quality, Improvement and Regulation) (Northern Ireland) Order 2003 to inspect independent health care establishments.

This is a report of an announced inspection to assess the quality of the premises and grounds in which the service is being provided including the upkeep of the building and engineering services and equipment. The report details the extent to which the standards measured during inspection were met.

## 3.0 INSPECTION BACKGROUND

It is now seven years since the report on the Independent Review of Endoscope Decontamination in Northern Ireland (chaired by Dame Deirdre Hine) was published.

In 2010, DHSSPSNI, HEIG carried out an audit of the arrangements in place for the decontamination of endoscopes in the statutory hospitals operated by the four Health and Social Care Trusts. The purpose of this audit was to establish if current best practice was being followed and if the appropriate standards were being achieved. The audit also sought to identify any areas for improvement and to inform policy development in relation to this aspect of health care services.

It was considered appropriate that a similar review should be carried out in relation to the arrangements in place for the decontamination of endoscopes in the independent hospitals regulated by RQIA.

The Independent Health Care Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2005 regulation 15.(3) states that *“Where reusable medical devices are used in an establishment or agency, the registered person shall ensure that appropriate procedures are implemented in relation to cleaning, disinfection, inspection, packaging, sterilisation, transportation and storage of such devices.”*

Establishing the level of compliance with this regulation that was being achieved in relation to endoscopes was the key aim of this focused inspection.

## 4.0 INSPECTION PURPOSE

The purpose of this inspection was to review the arrangements in place for the reprocessing of flexible endoscopes to establish the level of compliance with current legislative requirements and the DRAFT Independent Health Care Minimum Standards for HOSPITALS AND CLINICS issued by the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety (DHSSPS). This was achieved through a process of evaluation of the available evidence.

The Regulation and Quality Improvement Authority aims to use inspection to support providers in improving the quality of services, rather than only seeking compliance with regulations and standard.

## 5.0 INSPECTION METHOD/PROCESS

Specific methods/processes used in this inspection include the following:

1. Discussions with Mr. M. Regan, Registered Responsible Person, Ms. S. Marks, Registered Manager, Mrs. S. O'Kane, Hospital Supply Chain Manager, Mr. P. Whitcombe, Hospital Facilities Officer and Mr. Trimble, Estates Management Partnership, Facilities Management Consultant to the hospital.
2. A review of the area of the premises used for the storage of used endoscopes and the area of the endoscopy theatre adjacent to the pass through hatch.
3. Evaluation and feedback
4. A review of a number of documents associated with the new arrangements for reprocessing flexible endoscopes
5. Examples of the areas covered by this inspection include:-
  - Operational management arrangements
  - Procurement arrangement for decontamination services
  - The endoscope storage environment
  - Health and Safety
  - The implementation of NICE IPG 196 (CJD)
  - Traceability
  - Hine Review Recommendations
  - Reprocessing arrangements for flexible endoscopes requiring sterilisation

Any other information received by RQIA about this regulated establishment has also been considered by the Inspectors in preparing for this inspection.

## **6.0 INSPECTION CONSULTATION PROCESS**

During the course of the inspection, the Inspector spoke to Mr. M. Regan, Registered Responsible Person, Mrs. S. Marks, Registered Manager, Ms. S. O’Kane, Hospital Supply Chain Manager, Mr. P. Whitcombe, Hospital Facilities Officer and Mr. A. Trimble, Estates Management Partnership, Facilities Management Consultant to the hospital.

## **7.0 INSPECTION FOCUS**

This inspection sought to establish the level of compliance achieved with respect to the following DHSSPS Draft Independent Health Care Minimum Standards HOSPITALS AND CLINICS. This inspection focused specifically on the arrangements for reprocessing flexible endoscopes.

### **Standards inspected:**

- Standard C.18. Premises and Grounds

## **8.0 PROFILE OF SERVICE**

The endoscopy procedures at Kingsbridge Private Hospital are carried out in a dedicated endoscopy theatre. The volume of procedures varies from week to week with up to a maximum of eight procedures being carried out per day at peak times.

From the 28 May 2014 the arrangements for reprocessing flexible endoscopes changed to an out-sourcing model. To facilitate this, a service level agreement was established with the South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust for the reprocessing of the hospital’s flexible endoscopes. The reprocessing is carried out at the Ulster Hospital’s sterile services department. The service level agreement also includes the transportation of the used and the decontaminated flexible endoscopes between the two hospitals.

## 9.0 INSPECTION SUMMARY

Following this Inspection of the Kingsbridge Private Hospital in Belfast on 17 June 2014 improvements are required to comply with The Independent Health Care Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2005 and the criteria outlined in the following draft minimum standards:

- Standard C.18. Premises And Grounds

This resulted in one recommendation. This is outlined in the quality improvement plan appended to this report.

The Inspectors would like to acknowledge the assistance of Mr. M. Regan, Registered Responsible Person, Mrs. S. Marks, Registered Manager, Ms. S. O’Kane, Hospital Supply Chain Manager, Mr. P. Whitcombe, Hospital Facilities Officer and Mr. A. Trimble, Estates Management Partnership, Facilities Management Consultant to the hospital during the inspection process.

RQIA would also like to acknowledge the assistance of Mr. Pollock and Mr. Singh from DHSSPS, HEIG throughout the inspection process.

## 10.0 INSPECTION FINDINGS

### 10.1 Recommendations and requirements from previous inspection

10.1.1 This Estates inspection focused on the arrangements in place for the reprocessing of flexible endoscopes. The recommendations and requirements from previous Estates inspections to this establishment were not therefore reviewed during this inspection.

### 10.2 Standard C18: Premises and Grounds

***The premises and grounds are safe, well maintained and remain suitable for their stated purpose***

10.2.1 The following issues were discussed during this Estates inspection in relation to this standard:

10.2.2 Mr. Pollock stressed the importance of keeping the used flexible endoscopes moist until they are decontaminated. From the discussions on this issue it was agreed that the holding tray for the used flexible endoscopes should be lined with a suitable damp cloth. Reference should be made to item 1 in the attached Quality Improvement Plan.

## 10.0 INSPECTION FINDINGS CONTINUED

### 10.2 Standard C18: Premises and Grounds Continued

- 10.2.3 Mrs. Marks confirmed that the hospital's Authorising Engineer (Decontamination) was consulted and was providing ongoing advice in relation to the development of the new out-sourcing arrangements for the reprocessing of the flexible endoscopes. As a follow up to this consultation process it was agreed that the hospital's Authorising Engineer (Decontamination) should be requested to complete an audit to sign off the new arrangements. Reference should be made to item 1 in the attached Quality Improvement Plan.
- 10.2.4 The transportation of the endoscopes between Kingsbridge Private Hospital and the Ulster Hospital's sterile services department was discussed. Under the terms of the service level agreement the Ulster Hospital's sterile services department are responsible for all transportation of flexible endoscopes. Mr. Singh agreed to consult the manager of the Ulster Hospital's sterile services department to establish the position in relation to compliance with the current European legislative requirements for the transportation of flexible endoscopes.
- 10.2.5 At present there is a procedure in place for the decontamination of the trolleys being used for the storage and transportation of flexible endoscopes that are to be reprocessed. It was suggested that it would be beneficial if these trolleys could be also be decontaminated at the Ulster Hospital's sterile services department in the dedicated trolley wash. Reference should be made to item 1 in the attached Quality Improvement Plan
- 10.2.6 A 'dead leg' to the plumbing pipework was identified in the room being used for the storage of the flexible endoscopes that are to be transported for reprocessing. Mr. Whitcombe however confirmed that this section of pipe had been isolated from the live plumbing system and that arrangements had been made for it to be removed.

## **10.0 QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PLAN**

The details of the Quality Improvement plan appended to this report were discussed with Mr. M. Regan, Registered Responsible Person, Mrs. S. Marks, Registered Manager, Ms. S. O'Kane, Hospital Supply Chain Manager, Mr. P. Whitcombe, Hospital Facilities Officer and Mr. A. Trimble, Estates Management Partnership, Facilities Management Consultant to the hospital, as part of the inspection process.

The timescales commence from the date of inspection.

Requirements are based on The HPSS (Quality, Improvement and Regulation) (Northern Ireland) Order 2003 and The Day Care Settings Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2007 and must be met.

Recommendations are based on the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety's minimum standards for registration and inspection, promote current good practice and should be considered by the management of the day care centre to improve the quality of life experienced by service users.

The registered provider is required to record comments on the quality improvement plan.

## **11.0 INSPECTION ENQUIRIES**

Enquiries relating to this report should be addressed to:

**Regulation and Quality Improvement Authority  
9th Floor  
Riverside Tower  
5 Lanyon Place  
BELFAST  
BT1 3BT**



The **Regulation** and  
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## QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PLAN

### ANNOUNCED ESTATES INSPECTION

**KINGSBRIDGE PRIVATE HOSPITAL, BELFAST RQIA ID 10626**

**17 JUNE 2014**

QIP Position Based on Comments from Registered Persons		QIP Closed		Estates Officer	Date
		Yes	No		
A.	All items confirmed as addressed.				
B.	All items either confirmed as addressed or arrangements confirmed to address within stated timescales.				
C.	Clarification or follow up required on some items.				

Announced Estates Inspection (Endoscopy Reprocessing Arrangements) to Kingsbridge Private Hospital, Belfast RQIA ID 10626 17 June 2014  
(K. Monaghan)

**NOTES:**

The details of this Quality Improvement plan were discussed with Mr. M. Regan, Registered Responsible Person, Ms. S. Marks, Registered Manager, Mrs. S. O’Kane, Hospital Supply Chain Manager, Mr. P. Whitcombe, Hospital Facilities Officer and Mr. A. Trimble, Estates Management Partnership, Facilities Management Consultant to the hospital, as part of the inspection process.

The timescales commence from the date of inspection.

The Requirements are based on The HPSS (Quality, Improvement and Regulation) (Northern Ireland) Order 2003, and The Independent Health Care Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2005 and must be met.

Recommendations are based on the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety’s Draft minimum standards for registration and inspection, promote current good practice and should be considered by the management of the Clinic to improve the quality of the service being provided.

The Registered Provider is required to record comments on the Quality Improvement Plan.

The Quality Improvement Plan should be signed below by the Registered Provider and Registered Manager and returned to [estates@rqia.org.uk](mailto:estates@rqia.org.uk).

**Please complete the following table to demonstrate that this Quality Improvement Plan has been completed by the registered manager and approved by the responsible person / identified responsible person:**

<b>NAME OF REGISTERED MANAGER COMPLETING QIP</b>	
<b>NAME OF RESPONSIBLE PERSON / IDENTIFIED RESPONSIBLE PERSON APPROVING QIP</b>	

Announced Estates Inspection (Endoscopy Reprocessing Arrangements) to Kingsbridge Private Hospital, Belfast RQIA ID 10626 17 June 2014 (K. Monaghan)

**Assurance, Challenge, Improvement in Health and Social Care**

ITEM	STANDARD REF/ REGULATION	RECOMMENDATIONS ACTION TO BE TAKEN BY REGISTERED PROVIDER/ MANAGER	TIMESCALE	DETAILS OF ACTION TAKEN BY REGISTERED PERSON (S)
<b>The following recommendations should be noted for action in relation to Standard C18: Premises and Grounds:</b>				
1.	Standard C18	The holding tray for the used flexible endoscopes should be lined with a suitable damp cloth. As a follow up to the consultation process, the hospital's Authorising Engineer (Decontamination) should be requested to complete an audit to sign off the new decontamination out sourcing arrangements. Consideration should also be given to decontaminating the trolleys being used for the storage and transportation of flexible endoscopes that are to be reprocessed, at the Ulster Hospital's sterile services department in the dedicated trolley wash. Reference should be made to items 10.2.2, 10.2.3 and 10.2.5 in the report.	Ongoing	

Announced Estates Inspection (Endoscopy Reprocessing Arrangements) to Kingsbridge Private Hospital, Belfast RQIA ID 10626 17 June 2014  
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A completed Quality Improvement Plan from the inspection of this service has not yet been returned.

If you have any further enquiries regarding this report please contact RQIA through the e-mail address [info@rqia.org.uk](mailto:info@rqia.org.uk)