HLTINF001 Comply With Infection Prevention and Control Policies and Procedures Sample 1

Case Study:-

Susan is a healthcare worker responsible for assisting patients in a busy hospital ward. One day, she notices that a patient has developed a high fever and a persistent cough. She suspects the patient may have an infectious disease. How should Susan respond, keeping in mind the principles of infection prevention and control?

In this scenario, Susan should follow the principles of infection prevention and control to ensure the safety of both her and other patients. She should take the following steps:

- **Isolation:** Susan should immediately isolate the patient in a designated isolation area or a single room with appropriate precautions to prevent the spread of infectious diseases.

- **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):** Susan should wear appropriate PPE, including gloves, a gown, a mask, and eye protection, to protect herself from potential exposure to the infectious agent.

- **Hand Hygiene:** Before and after any direct contact with the patient or their immediate environment, Susan should practice proper hand hygiene by washing her hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or using an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

- **Respiratory Hygiene/Cough Etiquette:** Susan should educate the patient on respiratory hygiene practices, such as covering their mouth and nose with a tissue or their elbow when coughing or sneezing, to minimize the dissemination of respiratory droplets.

- **Reporting:** Susan should promptly report the situation to the appropriate healthcare authorities and follow the hospital's policies and procedures for managing infectious diseases, including notifying the infection control team or a designated staff member.

It is crucial for Susan to follow these infection prevention and control measures to prevent the potential spread of infection within the healthcare facility and protect the health and well-being of other patients, staff, and herself.