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COMING SOON!

Environmental Cleaning Best Practices Training Tools

In January 2010, the Provincial Infectious Diseases Advisory Committee (PIDAC) released a Best Practice document on *Environmental Cleaning* for Prevention and Control of Infections. In anticipation of its release the Regional Infection Control Network developed a partnership with two environmental services organizations, Canadian Association of Environmental Management (CAEM) and the Ontario Healthcare Housekeepers Association (OHHA). This project team's goal was to develop a training toolkit for environmental services in healthcare facilities based on this *new Environmental Cleaning* document.



Wednesday, May 5, 2010

STOP! Clean Your Hands Day

The Canadian Patient Safety Institute, Accreditation Canada and CHICA-Canada invite you to participate in the first ever "STOP! Clean Your Hands Day".

This national event will coincide with a global initiative of the World Health Organization Save Lives, Clean Your Hands Day

Go to:

<http://www.saferhealthcarenow.ca/EN/HandHygiene/>

The Environmental Cleaning Best Practices Project Team consists of:

Nora Boyd, Network Coordinator, Erie-St. Clair Infection Control Network
Brenda Smith, Network Coordinator, Central West Infection Control Network
Grace Volkening, Network Coordinator, Central Region Infection Control Network, Keith Sopha, President, (CAEM), Glennda Kaufmann, President, (OHHA), Liz Van Horne, Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion (OAHPP), Sarah Cox, Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) Dr. David Sheridan, Facilitator Shercon Associates Inc.



Environmental service representatives from healthcare facilities across the province have assisted with the development of the curriculum and content for the training materials. The toolkit will allow the trainer to educate their staff as a group, through self directed learning or using one on

one coaching. The toolkit is under construction with estimated delivery date of summer 2010. Train the trainer sessions will be supported by the RICN. Progress updates are posted on the RICN website at www.ricn.on.ca.

Ask the Expert: Dr. Abdul Chagla



Acanthamoeba keratitis due to contaminated contact lens solution

Background:

Increased use of contact lenses has also increased the risk of corneal infections. While contact lens wear is generally very safe, lenses that are not properly cleaned and disinfected can raise the risk of severe eye infection. Lenses removed from the eye should be cleaned and disinfected before being reinserted. Recent scientific publications have reported contamination of contact lens care systems with acanthamoebae resulting in severe eye infection.

What are some of the symptoms?

Common symptoms include: eye pain; red eyes; blurred vision; sensitivity to light & feeling that something is in the eye.

How is the infection diagnosed?

The infection is usually diagnosed by an eye specialist based on symptoms, growth of the amoebae from a scraping of the eye, and/or seeing the amoebae by a process called confocal microscopy.

Have there been outbreaks?

In 2007 Centre for Disease Control (CDC) reported an outbreak of acanthamoeba keratitis with a possible link to a brand of contact lens cleaning solution. Though no direct evidence was found, the company voluntarily recalled the product. There have also been reports on the presence of Acanthamoeba in water that was used for storage of contact lens.

What is the disinfection criterion for contact lens solution?

ISO Standard 14729 requires that contact lens disinfecting solutions reduce the load of certain strains of microbes in the solution by specific amounts (for example, a 1 log reduction for *Fusarium* and *Candida* or a 3 log reduction for *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *Serratia marcescens* and *Staphylococcus aureus*).

Are there any current disinfection criteria for Acanthamoeba in contact lens solutions?

No, these are being developed and need verification.

What is the best way to avoid microbial contamination of contact lens solution?

- Wash your hands before applying, removing, cleaning or handling your contacts
- Use recommended products and follow manufacturer's recommendation on use and storage
- Maintain a daily cleaning regimen
- Replace your lens case frequently—every three to six months. Care of contact lenses includes cleaning the storage case since it is a potential source of infection

Audits – A Foundation for Change!

Though the word 'audit' strikes fear in the hearts of many, it can provide us with valuable information. Audits are an important part of change management and vital in providing evidence of program effectiveness, improvement and compliance with best practices.

Theories of behaviour change will emphasize the importance of feedback as a key part of sustaining change over time. Audits can provide tools and evidence to make that happen. Bryce (*AJIC, May 2007*) describes the infection control audit as an ideal vehicle to assess consistency of approach to infection prevention and to gauge compliance with best practices. Audits provide some of the hard data that is often used to measure progress—both internally and externally.

Malik et al (*AJIC, May 2003*) notes that audits should highlight good performance, facilitate positive feedback, identify areas for improvement and provide a quality indicator measure. These components allow us to assess the current level of compliance with infection control best practices, measure compliance against benchmarks, provide feedback to participating staff and stakeholders, and identify where improvements can be made.

So don't be afraid of the audit! It is an organized examination of where you are now that will help guide you to where you want to be.



Just Clean your Hands for LTC

The CICN facilitated the roll out of the JCYH campaign for LTC through January and February 2010. We would like to thank the LTC facilities in our region who agreed to host our training: Almonte Country Haven, Centre d'accueil Roger Séguin, St Joseph's Continuing Care, Salvation Army Grace, Centre d'accueil Champlain, Granite Ridge and Marionhill. The day was rated as *Excellent* by most participants!!!



Great to have a program with documented data to teach about handwashing. Worthwhile day! Excellent session. Great package for training. Wonderful tools!. Job well done. Thank you

Potpourri of Pathogens

A sold out success! What an event! CHICA-Ottawa Region and CHICA Renfrew provided an excellent opportunity for learning: great speakers, timely topics, good food at an accessible location. Participants came from all areas of Champlain: Winchester, Deep River, Ottawa, Cornwall, Barry's Bay... and all rated the event a great success! Thanks to the Planning Committee, the wonderful speakers and the many sponsors for making this day possible!



Congratulations!



The Champlain Infection Control Network would like to extend congratulations to our newest CIC in the Champlain region. Recently, Kristine Desjardine RN, BSc.N, ENC (C), ICP successfully challenged the Certification exam. Kristine is a registered nurse (since 1994) and has acquired broad experience working in acute care. Currently, she is responsible for Infection Control at the Queensway Carleton Hospital (since 2005) and as a casual employee at The Ottawa Hospital. Kristine's most recent adventure was a deployment to Kandahar, Afghanistan last year as a civilian critical care nurse with the Canadian Forces. Kristine is presently enrolled in a Master's in Nursing program on a part time basis.

Resource Highlight!

The CICN has 2 models of "Hand Hygiene Commitment Trees" available in our ever expanding lending library.

A great visual to celebrate the implementation of the JCYH Campaign in your facility!

For availability, inquire at info@icn-rcic.on.ca



MRSA and VRE Surveillance

If you work in a long term care or acute care setting, don't forget that the CICN is gathering data for surveillance of MRSA and VRE across the region. If you haven't had a chance to send in your facility's information, please do so as soon as possible so that we can provide you with a regional picture of the burden of MRSA and VRE in Champlain! If you are unable to find the surveillance tool that we provided to you, please contact us at info@icn-rcic.on.ca.



"This dance video represents the next level of training in hand hygiene – not based on rational but on art – opening a new way of acquiring proficiency in healthcare delivery."

To view and/or to download a copy, go to:

<http://vigigerme.org/videos/>

You are invited to join us in the CICN boardroom for Webber Teleclasses 1:30-2:30 p.m. Contact us at info@cicn-rcic.on.ca

Webber Training



- May 6:** Disinfection & Sterilization: Pediatric Issues
- May 13:** MDRO in a Behavioral Health Setting
- May 20:** Epi of HAI in Limited Resource Regions
- May 31:** (Free) Challenges: Reprocessing in Community
- June 2:** (Free) Going Green While Keeping Clean: Collaborations Between Environmental & Infection Control Best Practice
- June 9:** From Obscurity to "Superbug": The Rise of CDI
- June 17:** Norovirus Outbreaks - Issues & Interventions
- June 22:** Patient HH Perceptions & Behaviour
- June 24:** Infection as a Risk Factor for Chronic Disease
- July 15:** (Free) The Lujo Virus Experience in Johannesburg
- July 29:** (Free) Addressing IPAC in Low resource Settings
- Aug 12:** (Free) positive Deviance: Unleashing Secret Change Agents in Your Hospital to Prevent MRSA Infections

For more information: www.webbertraining.com

Don't miss the following videoconference



Lunch & Learn Sessions

in the CICN boardroom.

Employee Health & IPAC: May 20, 2010
Isolation Practices for Tuberculosis: June 17, 2010
 Target audience: All front line staff across the continuum of care (Acute Care, Long Term Care, Community and Public Health)

Contact: info@cicn-rcic.on.ca for details



Just Clean Your Hands Additional Sessions



We are committed to providing this excellent training session to all LTCFs in the Champlain region. The CICN will be hosting 2 additional half-day train-the-trainer sessions June 10, 2010.

For your convenience, the sessions will be given from 9:00 a.m. to noon or from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the boardroom of the CICN office 1405-751 Parkdale Ave, Ottawa.

We are hoping to reach the remaining LTC homes in the region on this date. info@cicn-rcic.on.ca for further information.

Coming Soon to CICN



Do you need to stay up to date with current IPAC news and have access to recent articles? Sign up today to receive *e-focus*; our new electronic monthly newsletter.

English— <http://eepurl.com/caW7>

This newsletter was prepared by a collaborative effort of the RICNs and this Network.

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REGIONAL INFECTION CONTROL NETWORKS



Giving Health a Helping Hand