

WINTER 2010	
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It's Here!
New PIDAC Document Released:
Environmental Cleaning
 The long awaited best practice guidelines are now available at www.pidac.ca
 Contents include:

- Principles of Cleaning & Disinfecting Environmental Surfaces
- Best Practices for all health care settings
- Differentiation between "hospital clean", "hotel clean" and "construction clean"
- A Risk Stratification Matrix to determine the frequency of cleaning
- Practical steps for numerous types of cleaning / handy charts, tables and sample procedures
- Selection of Finishes and Surfaces
- Advantages and disadvantages of various products and new technology
- Occupational health considerations
- Education and auditing and more!

Watch for notification of a videoconference about this document in the near future!

Doctors, NPs, & Community Practitioners:
Hold this Date: March 4th 4-9 pm
MHICN Educational Event:
Infection Prevention in Primary Care Offices
 — A flyer will be sent to you shortly!

Just Clean Your Hands Adapted for Use in Long-Term Care!



The Just Clean Your Hands program created for acute care settings has now been designed especially for Long Term Care! This is exciting news as throughout the development and rollout of JCYH- Acute Care there were many requests from LTC about implementing the program in their homes.

In the fall of 2008 the MOHLTC began looking at how this program could be adapted for LTC settings and soon development was in progress including focus groups with stakeholders from LTC and the establishment of a task force to provide expert advice for creation of the program components.

Early in the new year, each Long Term Care home will receive a letter announcing the program and a JCYH-LTC Training Kit. Following this, the program will rollout across the province between January and April 2010 with corresponding training sessions offered by the Regional Infection Control Networks. For more information visit the RICN website www.ricn.on.ca or call your local RICN office for training details.

RICN Non-Acute Care ICP Training Program Achievement!

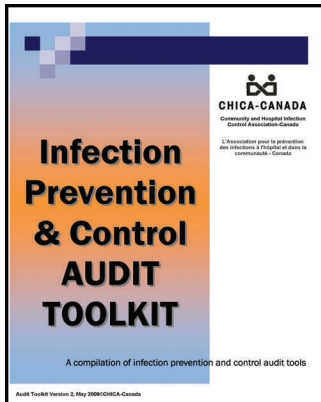


The RICN Non-Acute Care Infection Control Professional (ICP) Training Program Working Group is pleased to announce that the RICN Non Acute Care ICP Training Program has now received CHICA-Canada endorsement. This means that we can use the official CHICA-Canada logo and the designation "Endorsed by CHICA-Canada" on our course materials and advertising.

This endorsement means that this program meets the stringent criteria established by CHICA-Canada and will be listed on the CHICA-Canada website alongside other established training programs. Our course is unique in that it has been designed specifically for ICPs in non-acute care settings in Ontario such as, long-term care, primary health care, home healthcare and public health. The program consists of 12 modules that are delivered over a 12 month period. It is intended for the ICP who is relatively new in the role and/or has no other formal infection prevention and control training. If you are interested in this program and would like more detail contact your local RICN office or visit our website!

One More Reason to Become a CHICA-Canada Member!

<http://www.chica.org/AuditToolkit/toolkithome.html>



Frequently in the *Focus On* news we promote the many benefits of membership with CHICA-Canada. This month, there is another very good reason to join Canada’s only national, professional association for Infection Prevention and Control.

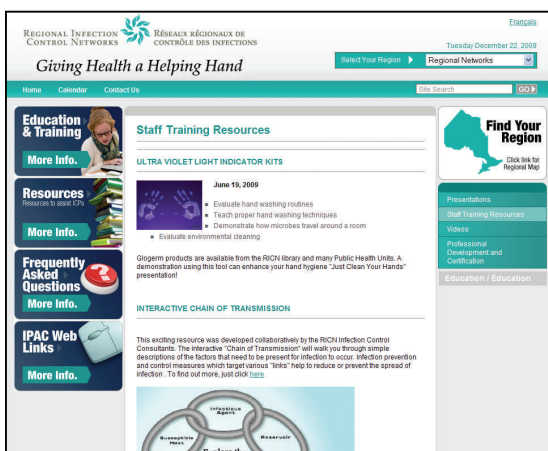
CHICA-Canada is pleased to announce the launch of 10 Infection Prevention and Control audit tools for CHICA-Canada members as part of National Infection Control Week. These tools are the first of a series that will be released over the next few months. We hope that these audit tools will support you to measure your success at moving best evidence into best practices in your organizations. The full audit toolkit will be available at the June 2010 conference.

The CHICA-Canada audit tools in this toolkit include:

- hand hygiene (readiness and practice)
- use of additional precautions (AP)
- use of personal protective equipment (PPE)
- cleaning and disinfection of client/patient/resident equipment
- healthcare environment cleaning (including ward/department kitchens)
- hemodialysis practices, equipment, facility and management of AROs
- prehospital/emergency services
- outbreak management
- disinfection and sterilization in the doctor’s office
- operating room infection prevention and control practices, asepsis and surgical scrub

The data derived from audits can be used to direct the infection prevention and control program’s annual goals and objectives. It also will assist in meeting the needs of the health care setting in relation to infection prevention and control standards and safer health care practices. CHICA Members now have access —just sign on with your member’s username and password!

Featuring....New Resources on the RICN Website!



If you haven’t checked out the RICN website recently we invite you to visit and discover “what’s new”. Over the past few months there have been new features added that we think you might find useful!

- The Interactive Chain of Transmission
- Workshop Resources
- Frequently Asked Questions
- The Infection Prevention and Control Pocket Guide for Acute Care Settings
- Practical Web Links
- Educational Event Calendar
- Resources that are offered in both French and English
- About the RICN and much more....

In addition to searching the Provincial RICN website browse the regional sites by clicking on the drop down box that says “Select your Region”. On the Regional Web Pages you can find local news and library listings as well as a variety of interesting tools and unique resources. To find the website search “RICN Ontario” OR connect to www.ricn.on.ca

Steering Committee Member: Dr. Alicia Sarabia



Dr. Sarabia has been the Medical Microbiology representative on our Steering Committee since its inception.

A graduate of McMaster University Medical School, she is a specialist in Internal Medicine with certification in Infectious Diseases and Medical Microbiology. Dr. Sarabia is the Infection Control Officer and Consultant Medical Microbiologist in the Department of Laboratory Medicine at the Credit Valley Hospital (CVH), one of two Infectious Diseases consultants at CVH. She has been providing ID consultation services throughout Peel Region for the past 13 years, having worked in the former Brampton Civic Hospital and Trillium Health Centre, prior to her current appointment. Dr. Sarabia's other roles include: Chair of the QMP-LS Microbiology Committee, a member of the Royal College Specialty Committee of Medical Microbiology, and Royal College national examiner in Medical Microbiology. She is also a member of our Surveillance Working Group and is a contributor to our e-focus newsletter. Thank you, Dr. Sarabia, for all you do for IPAC!

Environmental Cleaning Training Program

The Provincial Infectious Diseases Advisory Committee (PIDAC) has developed a comprehensive best practice document on environmental cleaning released this week! The Regional Infection Control Networks are collaborating with the Ontario Healthcare Housekeepers Association (OHHA) and the Canadian Association of Environmental Management (CAEM) to create a training program to support the provincial roll-out of the information, tools and resources in the document to environmental services staff in healthcare organizations across the province. A project team with environmental services representation from Ontario hospitals, long-term care homes and other healthcare agencies has been established and met in mid-December to start assembling the training curriculum. It is our goal to have training packages available to health care facilities across the province in Spring 2010.

Contact Grace.Volkening@nygh.on.ca or watch the RICN website: www.ricn.on.ca for information and updates on this exciting project.



Mississauga Halton

Giving Health
a Helping Hand

e-focus
on infection prevention and control

e-focus: Are you a Subscriber?

Launched in May, 2009, the *e-focus* is a biweekly electronic newsletter from the MHICN. Its purpose is to provide you with quick updates and links and gather information in one place to decrease the number of mailers we send to you. Content also includes subjects you requested in your MHICN survey responses.

Features include:

- Physician's Corner – written by our MH LHM's Infectious Disease physicians, it is pertinent to primary care physicians
- IPAC Briefs – quick links to new articles from the MMWR or CCDR or other journals
- Showcasing of stakeholder activities
- Highlighting of MHICN resources
- Monthly quiz with associated prizes
- Stakeholder activities
- More!

Like the newsletter you are now reading, this more frequent electronic version is a forum for sharing YOUR IPAC activities or a short article! Please think about sharing your recent successes or perhaps information from a recent conference you attended. If you would like support in preparing or editing, we can help with that too. We currently have almost 300 subscribers to our e-focus distribution list and would like to see more. We can't sign you up directly because it is a "mail chimp" address. To subscribe or view previous issues click [here](#).

Maternal Newborn Program for IPAC: Online Now!

The Regional Infection Control Networks (RICN) are pleased to announce the release of the Provincial Recommendations on Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) Practices Within and Between Maternal and Newborn Units. All acute care hospitals recently received a ministry memo about this project.

The recommendations can be accessed at <http://www.pcmch.on.ca/infectionprevention.htm>. Refer to this site regularly as information will be posted as it becomes available.



Madeleine, Risa and Laurie Boyer (NEOICN ICC) presented an academic resource kit, H1N1 update and RICN resources to the **National Association of Career Colleges** instructors conference in November. Pictured are the NACC Examination Services Committee members Ann Robinson, Myrna O'Brien, Janet Szczukocki, Jeffrey Miller, & Tessie Abagan.

MHICN Stakeholders & Activities



Here are our 4 MHICN students in the **RICN Non-Acute Care 2009-2010 CHICA-endorsed course**: L to R: Eric Harela (Labdara), Majlinda Dedelli (Villa Forum), Jesselyn Carvajal (Specialty Care), and Margaret Stanuch (Highbourne-Extendicare).



Anne Bialachowski (CSICN NC) provided training on the **IPAC SET** to participants from 3 hospitals.



The 2009-2010 **CIC study group** members are hard at work and plan to write their CIC in the spring. Happy Studying!



Hope Place Women's Treatment Centre's Dawn Nichol and Jeanine Edgar sing a song while washing their hands. (Happy Birthday?).



Peel Senior Link PSWs were hard at work during their educational day in November. They enjoyed the Routine Practice and Hand Hygiene games presented by Risa.



The MHICN staff attended the **Toronto Central ICN (TCICN)** official opening on October 23rd. L to R: Julie Morton (AA), Sarah Eden (NC) and Eva Skiba (ICC).



Jesselyn Carvajal, ICP at **Specialty Care—Mississauga**, posted displays and numerous contests and activities during Infection Control Week. What did you do? **Please share your activities to showcase in our next newsletter.**

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



REGIONAL INFECTION CONTROL NETWORKS

Mississauga Halton

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