

FALL 2009	
Inside this Issue	
INFECTION CONTROL WEEK	PAGE 1
WEBBER SCHEDULE	PAGE 1
PIDAC BEST PRACTICE	PAGE 2
RICN WEBSITE	PAGE 2
CHASING ZERO CONFERENCE	PAGE 3
INFECTION CONTROL WEEK	PAGE 3
PHYSICIAN EDUCATION	PAGE 4
IPAC POCKET GUIDE	PAGE 4
CIC STUDY GROUP	PAGE 4
CIC SUCCESS STORIES	PAGE 4
Webber Teleclasses	
October 15, 2009 The Socioeconomic Cost of Enteric Disease Dr. Paul Sockett	
October 21, 2009 National Work on the Prevention of Healthcare Acquired Infections in Australia Dr. Marilyn Cruikshank	
October 22, 2009 Improving Infection Control in Developing Countries (free teleclass) Dr. Bernadetta Allegranzi	
October 29, 2009 Prevention of Catheter Associated UTI: new strategies from CDC/HICPAC Russell Olmstead	
November 5, 2009 Viruses and Hand Hygiene Prf. Syed Sattar	
November 10, 2009 Getting Guidelines into Practice (British Teleclass) Prof. Carol Pellowe	
<i>Clostridium difficile</i> Associated Disease A Financial Burden Analysis Prof Ralf-Peter Vonberg	
For a complete schedule and more information check www.webbertraining.com	

Planning Your Infection Control Week

October 19-23, 2009

The third week in October is designated as **National Infection Control Week** in Canada and the United States. In Canada, Infection Control Week originated in 1988 to highlight infection control efforts in acute care, long-term care and the community. It was an opportunity for Infection Control Professionals (ICPs) to educate staff and the community about the importance of infection prevention and to promote the valuable work being done by ICPs in a visible and fun way. In 1989 the federal government proclaimed Infection Control Week an annual event.

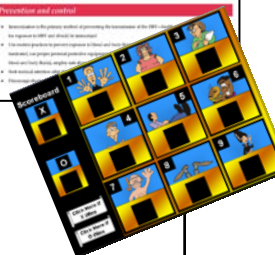
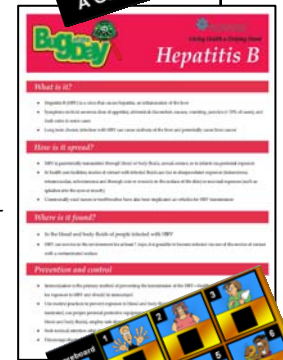
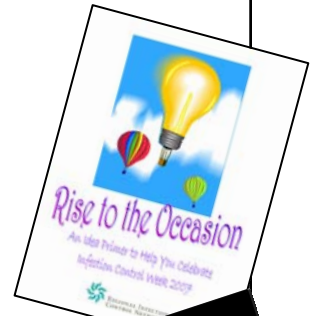
The key to a successful Infection Control Week is to provide a variety of activities that maintain a high level of interest. Success also depends upon getting a wide variety of people or departments actively involved. Your first task is to determine why your organization should participate in Infection Control Week and what you hope to achieve.

The Regional Infection Control Network has come up with a variety of new resources to help ICPs promote Infection Control Week including recommendations on how to use the resources. These include:

- ◆ Bug of the Day
- ◆ Fast Facts
- ◆ Games
- ◆ Daily Emails
- ◆ Rise to the Occasion Primer

One-page fact sheets on bacteria and viruses of health care interest have been created including hepatitis B, norovirus, and *C. difficile*. Six Fast Facts topics including hand hygiene, Routine Practices, and environmental cleaning can be shared with your staff. Power point games on a variety of infection control topics such as vancomycin resistant enterococci and Routine Practices have been developed. Be creative, games are a fun way to provide education to staff. Daily emails have also been created to promote messages on infection control topics.

These resources will be available for download soon at www.ricn.on.ca. More Infection Control Week ideas can be found on the CHICA-Canada website at: http://www.chica.org/news_icweek.html.



The New Routine Has Arrived!

The Provincial Infectious Diseases Advisory Committee (PIDAC) has released its latest Best Practice document – *Routine Practices and Additional Precautions in All Health Care Settings*. Although a new document to PIDAC, the concept of Routine Practices and Additional Precautions (RPAP) is not new to Ontario healthcare facilities. Infection Control Professionals have been teaching these concepts, based on Health Canada’s 1999 document titled *Routine Practices and Additional Precautions for Preventing the Transmission of Infection in Health Care* (currently being revised), for almost a decade.

What’s New With RPAP?

In general, the new document reiterates many of the principles noted in the original Health Canada document. PIDAC has just placed greater emphasis on a number of the important concepts. Below you will find a list of some of the re-emphasized material as well as highlights of some of the changes PIDAC has made to RPAP.

What’s Emphasized?

- ◆ Importance of performing a **risk assessment** before each client interaction
- ◆ Facilities **must** have a comprehensive hand hygiene program that includes **point of care** dispensers and a **hand care** program
- ◆ **Mask and eye protection** to be worn to protect the mucous membranes
- ◆ Clients, staff, and visitors should observe **respiratory etiquette** principles (e.g. coughing into a tissue)

What’s Changed?

Health Canada - 1999	PIDAC - 2009
Droplets travel less than 1 metre	Droplets can travel up to 2 metres
No mention of droplet/aerosol generating procedures	Staff to wear PPE when conducting a droplet/aerosol generating procedure (see pg 33 of PIDAC document)
Acute Care Contact Precautions – gloves and gowns on room entry	Gloves on room/bed space entry, gown if skin or clothing will come in contact with patient or patient’s environment
N95 respirator required when entering room of patients with active pulmonary or laryngeal TB	N95 respirator required on room entry and when transporting patient with active pulmonary or laryngeal TB
When visiting a patient on Airborne Precautions, if indicated, visitors should be instructed in the appropriate use of a mask and other precautions	Household contacts of a patient with active pulmonary or laryngeal TB do not require an N95 respirator when visiting the patient
Disease chart with required precautions indicated	Same chart, but many required precautions have changed (see pages 93-105 for details)

The new RPAP document can be downloaded at:

http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/infectious/diseases/ic_routine.html.

Contact (insert local info here) to learn more about implementing this document in your healthcare setting.

Check Out Our NEW Look!

Our website has changed and features:
 Improved Access to Tools & Resources
 User Friendly Navigation



www.ricn.on.ca

Chasing Zero

...Infection prevention measures can and do reduce infection rates!

On September 25th, Paul Huras, CEO, SE LHIN, provided opening remarks to approximately 50 attendees at this conference organized by SEOICN. Participants came from all levels of health care including front line staff, Chief Nursing Executives, Human Resources Directors, VPs, CEOs and Board members. An outstanding cast of experts explored the economic, legal and public reporting implications of healthcare associated infections in the setting of health care. Speakers described how investment in prevention can have a sustainable and positive impact on patient safety, patient satisfaction, hospital reputation and the hospital's bottom line.

Tanya Goldberg, partner in the Health Law Group at Borden, Ladner, Gervais provided the presentation "**Noscomial Infections: An Evolving Legal Landscape**". Her convincing message reinforced the importance of polices and procedures, education, compliance measurement and documentation. In his presentation, "**Healthcare Associated Infections as Adverse Events: Why is this so hard?**" **Dr. Michael Gardam**, Director Infectious Disease Prevention & Control Ontario Agency for Health Protection & Promotion, compared hospital acquired infections to medical errors. **Dr. Michael Baker**, Executive Lead Patient Safety, MOHLTC reviewed the achievements of the public reporting of patient safety indicators in his address "**Public Reporting: Is it Making a Difference?**". **Dr. Dick Zoutman**, Medical Coordinator SEOICN, detailed the financial burden of infections to our hospitals and to the Canadian health care system in his presentation "**The Economics of Hospital Acquired Infections: Why They are a Bad Investment!**". Prevention is always cost effective!



What's Next in Public Reporting?

Dr Michael Baker announces the Surgical Safety Checklist Indicator for 2010.

What did participants say?

- "what I heard was important and valuable" - Manager Quality / Risk
- "Good summary of what has occurred over the last year & what is to come"
Infection Control Professional
- "These issues are important and not addressed often enough"
Director of Care, LTCH
- "very scary! Eye opener" - Hospital Administrator

Presentations will soon be available on the SEOICN website

Infection Control Week October 19-23, 2009

Share your facility's 2009 Infection Control Week activities with SEOICN to win exciting prizes.

Prizes will be awarded to the top 3 entries as determined by SEOICN staff and Steering Committee members



1st place: SEOICN tote bag with Glow Germ starter kit

2nd place: SEOICN tote bag with Microbiology reference book

"Microbiology Made Ridiculously Simple"

3rd place: SEOICN tote bag with Glow Germ lanyard

E-mail to walkerm1@kgh.kari.net your pictures, articles, games and any other activities along with a brief description of your Infection Control Week activities by Monday November 2nd.

Winners will be notified and acknowledged in our November bulletin

Infection Control for Primary Care Physicians

On September 17th, in the first of a series of videoconferences for primary care physicians, Dr. Dick Zoutman reviewed the current world wide epidemiology and clinical features of the H1N1 influenza virus. To view the presentation visit the SEOICN website

Mark Your Calendars :

- ◆ Thursday, November 26, 2009
5:30pm- 6:30 pm
Topic : To Be Announced
- ◆ Thursday, January 21, 2010
5:30pm –6:30 pm
- ◆ Tuesday, March 2, 2010
5:30 – 6:30 pm



www.ricn.on.ca

Infection Prevention & Control Pocket Guide

By now most of you have seen a copy of the IPAC Acute Care Pocket Guide published earlier this year. This valuable resource, developed by a group of acute care ICPs from our region recently underwent a second printing. To date, nearly 70,000 copies have been distributed throughout the province. Recent requests to purchase more copies indicate that a 3rd printing will likely take place early in 2010.

For more information on how to purchase additional copies please contact Marianne Walker at walkerm1@kgh.kari.net or 1-613-548-3921.

A searchable HTML version of the pocket guide is being developed and will be available at www.ricn.on.ca later this fall.



Coming Soon! A Pocket Guide for Non-Acute Settings

A diverse group of ICPs, supported by SEOICN, is hard at work on a version of the handbook dedicated to support front line workers in the non-acute care settings. The plan is to have the pocket guide ready for print early in 2010.

Working group members:

Dana Anderson; McQuigge Lodge, Belleville
Joan King; J.M. Parrot Centre, Napanee
Amanda Knapp; KFLA Public Health
Debbie Green; Rideaucrest, Kingston
Debbie Moulton; Ongwanada, Kingston
Lisa Hope; Providence Care, Kingston
Susan Ward-Moser; Providence Care, Kingston

CIC Study Group



The Fall 2009 Study Group is underway. A dedicated group of 9 ICPs are meeting weekly to prepare for the certification exam. During our first session we were joined via teleconference by Sharon Krystofiak, the 2009 President of CBIC (Certification Board of Infection Control). Sharon gave a wonderful presentation which described the exam process and the process by which questions are created. Sharon also announced exciting upcoming changes to the exam content based on the recent 2009 practice review survey.

The group will continue meeting Wednesday afternoons through mid November, from 4 - 6 pm at the network offices. It's not too late to join! For more information contact Sue Cooper at coopers@kgh.kari.net or call the office at 613-548-3921.

2 More CIC Success Stories



SEOICN is pleased to congratulate two more successful CIC candidates in our region. **David Ryding**, a Health Inspector with the Hastings Prince Edward Public Health Unit and **Pam Burns** an ICP at the Perth & Smiths Falls District Hospital both recently successfully completed the certification exam. David is currently a student in the Masters of Public Health program at Queens and Pam is employed as the Senior Quality Technologist at PSFDH. They both attended SEOICN study group sessions.

The CIC designation is an internationally recognized level of excellence in infection prevention and control practice and by achieving this certification Infection Control Professionals enhance their credibility and achieve formal recognition as a professional in the field

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

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South Eastern Ontario

*Giving Health
a Helping Hand*