

Fall 2010

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### CIC Spotlight

The Waterloo Wellington Infection Control Network is pleased to announce that Naideen Bailey, Network Coordinator has recently achieved Certification in Infection Control and Epidemiology (CIC).



Naideen joined the Waterloo Wellington Infection Control Network in June and was a participant in the WWICN CIC Study Group 2010.

**Congratulations on your achievement!**



### It's Not too Late to Prepare!

*"The keys to success [in Infection Prevention and Control] are knowledgeable health care workers, an informed public, and an awareness that infection control is everyone's business."*

*CHICA-Canada IC Week Proclamation, 1989*

Participating in *National Infection Control Week* October 18 to 22 provides organizations the opportunity to highlight Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) efforts and raise the profile of infection control. IC Week is an opportunity to have fun while educating staff and community members about the importance of infection control.

If you aren't ready for *National Infection Control Week* at your organization, visit the Regional Infection Control Network website at [www.ricn.on.ca](http://www.ricn.on.ca) for activities and tools that are ready-to-use!

- Routine Practices and Additional Precautions pre-recorded education session for front-line staff
- Antibiotic Resistant Organisms pre-recorded education session for front-line staff
- Refreshed idea primer and activity package (puzzles, scavenger hunt, activity templates)
- Electronic games for environmental and dietary services staff
- Electronic game about influenza for all staff
- Bug of the Month fact sheets for use over the next 12 months

Throughout *National Infection Control Week*, stakeholders will receive a daily e-mail from their RICN. ICPs and Senior Managers will also be invited to participate in several pre-recorded, archived resilience building sessions for teams on Positive Deviance and Culture Change. Contact your local RICN for details!

### A New Home & New Look for the RICNs

The Regional Infection Control Networks have a new home with the Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion (OAHPP)!

You may have noticed the OAHPP logo alongside the RICN logo on materials and newsletters such as this one over the past few months. The transition to OAHPP means that the important work of the RICNs at the local level will be part of a coordinated and integrated provincial strategy.

As part of OAHPP, RICNs will have better access to scientific and technical expertise and in turn, will be able to keep the agency up-to-date on issues that are relevant to the field to facilitate knowledge exchange and training.

## Environmental Cleaning Toolkits Now Available

The *Environmental Cleaning Best Practices Educational Toolkit* is now ready for distribution to all healthcare facilities and public health units across the province. This toolkit is a resource to assist those involved in the education and training of Environmental Services (ES) staff on best practices for environmental cleaning in health care facilities.

Each toolkit consists of:

- Six learning modules on CDs reflective of the content in the PIDAC best practices document for environmental cleaning
- A DVD with seven sample cleaning procedures
- Power point presentations with speaker notes that allow instructors to modify the presentations
- A leader's guide to assist the instructor in planning education sessions
- Summary sheets as handouts
- Quizzes, posters and other useful tools

An information session on the toolkit will be offered by videoconference and webcast through the OHA on **October 28<sup>th</sup> from 12—1:30pm**. **The session will be repeated November 3<sup>rd</sup> from 12-1:30pm**.

To receive or borrow a toolkit, contact your local Regional Infection Control Network.



## New ONTARIO REGULATION 79/10 made under the LONG-TERM CARE HOMES ACT, 2007

On July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010, the new Long-Term care Homes Act, 2007 was proclaimed. Along with this, the Ontario Regulation, 79/10 section 229, was introduced. This replaces the “old standards” that governed LTC. The new Act will replace the Homes for the Aged and Rest Homes Act, the Nursing Homes Act, and the Charitable Institutions Act to become the single legislative authority over LTC Homes.

The impact for LTC Homes with regard to the IPAC program is that the new Regulations state that there must be a staff member designated to co-ordinate the program and they must have education and experience in infection prevention and control practices, including the following:

- Infectious diseases
- Cleaning and Disinfection
- Data Collection and trend analysis
- Reporting Protocols
- Outbreak Management

Other aspects of these revisions include: daily, required activities, additional IPAC requirements such as surveillance, hand hygiene program, immunization and screening measures, foot care and nail care, skin and wound care, housekeeping and training.

We have posted to the RICN website a summary of the changes titled ‘*The Long Term Care Homes Act: Key IPAC Points*’ for your reference. It can be found at [www.ricn.on.ca](http://www.ricn.on.ca)

The new Long-Term Care Homes Act is available through E-laws at the link below

[http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/source/regs/english/2010/elaws\\_src\\_regs\\_r10079\\_e.htm](http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/source/regs/english/2010/elaws_src_regs_r10079_e.htm)

## CAEM Conference DID IT RIGHT ✓

The Conference and Trade show held at Blue Mountain Resort September 19–21st was a great success and enjoyed by all attendees.

Dr. Dick Zoutman opened the conference on Sunday evening with *Creating a Business Case for Best Practices*. He highlighted hospital costs pertaining to aspects such as: hospital structure costs, variable costs, indirect costs, intangible costs and microscopic costs. He also identified the 3 pillars of infection prevention and control:



Surveillance, Environment and Routine Practices. As well, the Canadian Hospitals Environmental Services Survey (C.H.E.S.S.) was introduced.

The goals of this survey are to assess environmental resources and practices and to provide strategies for improvement that will help reduce

health care associated infections thereby reducing related morbidity and mortality and health care costs.

Dr. Mary Vearncombe's *Introduction to PIDAC's Environmental Cleaning Best Practice Document* placed focus on distinctions between high touch versus low touch surfaces and 'hotel clean' versus 'hospital clean' cleaning practices. Her key message was to get rid of the



### D.I.R.T. (Doing It Right Together!)

Dr. Maureen Cividino addressed *Occupational Health Issues in Environmental Services* reviewing legislative requirements applicable to all aspects of health care including standards and guidelines, protocols for bloodborne pathogens, and the importance and interpretation of "risk assessment".



Dr. Syed Sattar emphasized that 'wiping' is an integral part of cleaning and that an incorrect product and process may actually increase risk of pathogen spread. Housekeeping staff require on-going training and monitoring since they may face multiple barriers such as language and constant turn-around. He also reviewed technologies other than chemical disinfectants which are available on the market today.

Personal facility and industry experiences and successes were shared by Jo-Anne Vandierendonck, Cindy O'Neill, Doug Quong and Dean Waisman. Liz Rykert lead several interactive sessions engaging



participants on techniques to *Change the Culture*.

Time was well spent on the introduction and review of the components of the Environmental Cleaning Toolkit. Each health care facility and public health units will receive two toolkits over the next few weeks. One kit goes to the ICP and the other to the environmental/maintenance supervisor/manager of the facility.

## The Universal Influenza Immunization Program 2010/2011

The trivalent seasonal influenza vaccine for 2010-2011 will provide protection against the following strains:

- A/California/7/2009 (H1N1)-like virus (pandemic H1N1 2009 virus; pH1N1)
- A/Perth/16/2009 (H3N2)-like virus
- B/Brisbane/60/2008-like virus

Recommendations are based on epidemiological, genetic and serological tests on influenza virus isolates collected in the fall/early winter months of 2009-2010.

Current influenza activity in temperate countries in the southern hemisphere (Argentina, Chile, New Zealand, Australia and South Africa) provides us with information on possible influenza scenarios during the winter months in the northern hemisphere. The World Health Organization (WHO) reports that seasonal influenza A/H1N1 viruses are undetectable in all five countries and that there has been variable circulation in each country of influenza pH1N1, A/H3N2 and B viruses.

On August 10, 2010, WHO declared the 2009 pandemic over and stated that we have entered the post-pandemic period. Severity of pH1N1 remains unpredictable though it is likely to take on the behaviour of a seasonal virus and co-circulating with other seasonal influenza strains.

All individuals aged 6 months or older, who live, work or attend school in Ontario, and who have no contraindications, are encouraged to receive the publicly-funded influenza vaccine. Special consideration to receive the vaccine has been identified in the following groups since they experienced higher rates of pH1N1-related hospitalization and more severe outcomes last year: persons with morbid obesity (BMI ≥ 40), Aboriginal peoples and healthy children 2-4 years of age.

## Mark Your Calendar!

### WEBBER TRAINING TELECLASSES

- **Methods of Monitoring Hand Hygiene Frequency and Compliance**  
October 21, 2010 1:30pm
- **Implementing Mandatory Vaccination for Healthcare Workers** October 28, 2010 1:30pm
- **Using Social Marketing to Prevent Healthcare Associated Infections** November 4, 2010 1:30pm
- **Why are Noroviruses Such Successful Pathogens in Healthcare Settings?** November 9, 2010 1:30pm
- **Do Decolonization Strategies work for MRSA?**  
November 11, 2010 1:30pm
- **Infection Prevention Strategies in the Home Care Setting** November 18, 2010 1:30pm
- **Validation of Special Ventilation Systems in Healthcare Facilities** December 2, 2010 1:30pm
- ***Clostridium difficile*: The Sinister Spore Saga**  
December 16, 2010 1:30pm

**RICN LUNCH AND LEARNS** offered via videoconference, teleconference, live and archived webcast \*Lunch **not** provided\*

- **Norovirus** October 21, 2010 12:00—1:15pm EST
- **UTIs & ESBL** November 18, 2010 12:00—1:15pm EST
- **Monitoring your Sterile Process for Foot Care**  
December 16, 2010 12:00—1:15pm EST

### FREE WEBINARS for APIC Members

- **I Believe in Zero** October 18, 2010 1:00pm EDT
- **Infection Prevention is Everybody's Business**  
October 19, 2010 1:00pm EDT
- **Targeting Zero SSI's: Bringing Evidence to the Bedside** October 20, 2010 1:00pm EDT
- **Advances in Wound Care** October 21, 2010 1:00pm EDT
- **Improving Patient Safety and Quality of Care: Preventing Healthcare-Associated Infections**  
October 22, 2010 1:00pm EDT

### CHICA-SWO Chapter Meeting

November 5, 2010

Infection In Forensic Pathology Practice

Dr. Michael Shkrum

Medical Leader of Autopsy, London Health Sciences Centre

West Haven Golf & Country Club

7038 Egremont Dr. London, Ontario

### Ontario Hospital Association Health Achieve Conference

November 8—10, 2010

Toronto, Ontario

### CHICA-HANDIC Chapter Meeting

November 19, 2010

St. Joseph's Villa, Dundas

## International Infection Prevention Week: Stronger Together!

Infection Control Week (ICW) has been celebrated by Infection Prevention and Control Societies and Associations since the early 1980's. In 2009, CHICA-Canada led an international meeting in St John's Newfoundland to discuss how to make the third week of October a truly *International* Infection Control Week. The idea has grown and flourished with resources from around the world being shared!

The International Federation of Infection Control (IFIC) is launching this exciting collaboration on their website this year and similar pages are available on APIC and CHICA websites.



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

**Waterloo Wellington Infection Control Network**

**B4B—350 Conestoga Blvd.**

**Cambridge, Ontario N1R 7L7**

Phone: 519-624-9781 toll-free: 1-866-276-6995

Fax: 519-624-6212

Website: [www.ricn.on.ca](http://www.ricn.on.ca)

E-mail: [askwwicn@cmh.org](mailto:askwwicn@cmh.org)



REGIONAL INFECTION  
CONTROL NETWORKS

**Waterloo Wellington**

*Giving Health  
a Helping Hand*