

FOCUS on

INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL



REGIONAL INFECTION
CONTROL NETWORKS

Central South

FALL 2009

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Back to the Books!

The first meeting of the 2009/10 CIC Study Group was held on the afternoon of Thursday, September 17th. A warm welcome to the members of this years study group!

There is still time for you to join the group if you are interested in preparing to write the certification exam. [Contact us](#) for a schedule of meetings and locations. We are planning on arranging for some of the meetings to be held via video-conference if the distance is too far for you to travel.

Members from this year's group took a moment from their studies to pose for a picture!



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.

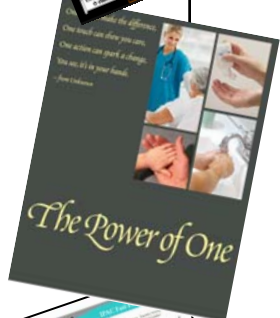
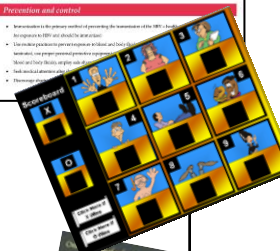
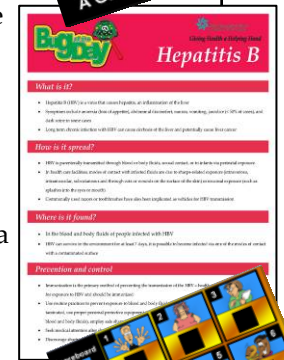
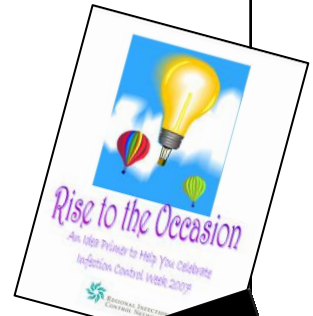
The key to a successful Infection Control Week is to provide a variety of activities that maintain a high level of interest. Success also depends upon getting a wide variety of people or departments actively involved. Your first task is to designate why your organization should participate in Infection 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 are available for download on our website www.ricn.on.ca. More Infection Control Week ideas are available 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

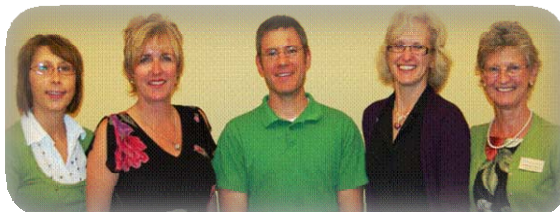




Are You Ready to Fight the Flu?... We are!

Central South Infection Control Network has partnered with several Regional Public Health Units to help deliver the message of the importance of the flu season and preparedness.

September 23rd, Dr. Cividino presented the Occupational Health Issues of the Pandemic at Brant County Health Unit's Big Shot Challenge. The consultants introduced the highlights of the 'new' PIDAC Best Practice



The CSICN Team from L-R: Oksana, Virginia, Mark, Anne and Dr. Cividino

Guidelines on Routine Practices and Additional Precautions. We also are promoting the area long term care facilities and homes to join a LTC Infection Control Group in partnership with Public Health, CSICN and acute care. Currently there are LTC ICC groups which meet in the Hamilton and Niagara areas. Membership to one of these groups has proven to be invaluable to the attendees.

Niagara Public Health LTC day was held on September 24th. The consultants met with attendees and shared several resources including the latest best practice document.



Dr. Cividino and Virginia Tirilis chatting with attendees at the Big Shot Challenge.

Halton Public Health Unit organized an evening for Community Physician Offices seminar which was held on October 21st and a LTC and Retirement Homes session on October 22nd. CSICN along with MHICN presented on topics that included applying the new RPAP document into the various practice settings.

Coming Soon...

The Just Clean Your Hands program has been successfully implemented in hospitals across the province, helping to improve hand hygiene for health care providers. Since its initial roll-out, there have been numerous requests for a Long-Term Care adaptation of the program. We are happy to announce that the final touches are being put on the Just Clean Your Hands program for Long-Term Care. Ontario's Regional Infection Control Networks will be assisting with the roll-out of the program. Be sure to check our website often for updates on this great upcoming program!

Lunch & Learn

CSICN Medical Coordinator, Dr. Maureen Cividino presented to a large audience on September 28th. She shared information via videoconference to local and northern Ontario stakeholders during a noon hour lunch and learn. The topic primarily addressed H1N1 and employee/facility preparedness and challenges.



September 16th, the Niagara Regional Homes invited the consultants to hold a half day workshop on construction and maintenance issues for some of their staff. Discussions included the use of a construction matrix for risk assessments, "What's down the Drain?" and "Dust and the Wind".

Our community partners have also contacted us to review the latest guidelines. Sessions will be held at Acclaim Health during the month of October as well as the Brain Injury Services Program in Hamilton.



A special invite was extended to us from one of the schools in our LHIN to engage their students at an assembly on hand hygiene. Below is a picture of Henry the Hand (a.k.a Mark Jefferson). Schools are normally outside of our mandate but since schools have been epicenters for the flu it just made sense for us to go. *We had fun!*



New Mandatory Public Reporting Indicator – Surgical Safety Checklist

Excerpt from OHA Newsletter Sep 30, 2009

The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) has publicly announced a new patient safety indicator. Every hospital that has an operating room will be required to publicly report on the compliance with a surgical checklist.

Beginning July 31, 2010 hospitals must publicly report on the percentage of surgeries where the surgical safety checklist was performed. In order to ensure consistent implementation of the surgical safety checklist across the province and readiness for public reporting, a toolkit will be developed by year end and extensive education will be provided through the delivery of regional education sessions from January to March of next year. This initiative will continue to be led through a partnership between the MOHLTC and the Ontario Hospital Association (OHA).

For further information, contact Karen Sequeira at 416-205-1328 or ksequeira@oha.com

Ready...Set..Audit!

CHICA-Canada is pleased to announce the launch of 10 Infection Prevention and Control audit tools 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.

We encourage you to use the tools and provide feed-back using the evaluation form included with the audits so they can continue to improve them.

The tools being launched today include:

1. Additional Precautions
2. Client/Patient/Residents Service Unit
3. Hand Hygiene Practice

4. Hand Hygiene Readiness
5. Housekeeping Supply Room
6. Management of Enteric Outbreaks
7. Management of Respiratory Outbreaks
8. Unit Kitchens
9. Use of Personal Protective Equipment
10. Surgical Scrub

The tools will be located on the member section of the website: toolkit website URL: <http://www.chica.org/AuditToolkit/toolkithome.html>



Upcoming IPAC LTC Meetings

Niagara Long Term Care Infection Control Group

December 15, Holiday Health Meeting
Betty's Restaurant, Niagara Falls
8:00 am - 9:30 am

Hamilton (and area) Long Term Care Infection Control Group

November 26, St. Joseph's Villa, Boardroom
8:00 am - 10:00 am

Webber Training

All teleclasses are offered *free* at the CSICN office from 1:30 to 2:30 pm. Let us know your coming! Call the office to reserve your spot.

October 29

Preventing Catheter-Associated Urinary Tract Infection: New Strategies for CDC/HICPAC

November 5

Viruses and Hand Hygiene

November 10

British Teleclass: Getting Guidelines into Practice

November 12

Clostridium difficile Associated Disease: A Financial Burden Analysis

For a complete listing of upcoming teleconferences visit the website at www.webbertraining.com

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

Central South Infection Control Network

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Giving Health a Helping Hand