

## Removing IPAC Roadblocks

### #5 – Not Keeping Current on Nationally-Recognized Guidelines and Recommended Practices

Are you suspicious that some of the activities that happen in your facility are sacred cows (something considered, perhaps inappropriately, exempt from question or criticism)? Maybe it's time to critically review the sacred cows in place at your organization in relation to the most current guidelines and best practice recommendations. Nationally-recognized guidelines and best practice documents have been compiled by experts that weigh the evidence supporting (or disputing) IPAC practices. There are a tonne of nationally-recognized guidelines and resources available at your fingertips. If you feel a little unsure of where to look or how to stay connected to the latest and greatest, consider the following tactics:



1. Check the [CHICA-Canada](#) website frequently. CHICA-Canada has a News Headlines column on their website that is a great place to look to read about new guidelines and best practices. For example, they currently link to the latest PHAC Guideline for [Flexible Gastrointestinal Endoscopy and Flexible Bronchoscopy](#).
2. Sign up and read SWOICN's [e-focus](#) regularly. You may find that content does not always apply to you or your setting, but SWOICN is committed to keeping ICPs abreast of the latest news and guidelines. If a new resource is available, you will find it mentioned in e-focus! You can also [view past issues](#) of e-focus on our website.
3. Stay connected with colleagues either formally (e.g. as a part of a CHICA-chapter like CHICA-SWO or HUPIC) or informally, by simply touching base with others about what's new and exciting (and even frustrating). Conversations with other colleagues can often lead you to useful and relevant resources.
4. Bookmark websites of organizations that publish nationally-recognized guidelines and best practice documents. Such websites often feature their new products on their homepages. Consider the following: [PIDAC](#), [PHAC](#), [CDC](#), and [WHO](#). If you're feeling particularly adventuresome, consider signing up for the organization's RSS feed, if available. An RSS feed is a way to stay connected to frequently changing web material by signing up for notification of regularly changing content, like a website's news feed or blog.
5. Consider signing up for a listserv (or two). Listservs often provide you access to timely information about IPAC issues. If you are an APIC member, [APICList](#) is a great start. In the field of Public Health, consider [ProMed](#). If you find these emails quickly clutter your inbox, consider setting up your email to immediately file emails from listservs to their own folder.