Regional Infection Control Networks

Northwestern Ontario

Giving Health a Helping Hand

AN INNOVATIVE LEARNING OPPORTUNITY

K Clinker, Northwestern Ontario Infection Control Network (NWOICN), P Piaskowski, (NWOICN)
L Christie - Jacobson, First Nations and Inuit Health (FHIH)

Issue
In 2006, SLFNHA was contracted by the NWOICN to complete an environment scan which identified an immediate need for education on reprocessing (cleaning, disinfection and sterilization) in Nursing Stations in isolated First Nations communities.

After exploring a number of delivery options, a unique face-to-face conference was designed.

Project
The objectives for this reprocessing conference included

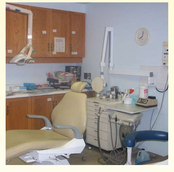
1) Address identified knowledge gaps related to reprocessing
2) Work collaboratively with participants to meet current best practices in Ontario
3) provide information in a manner that considered the unique learning needs of a specific target audience
4) provide learning activities in a atmosphere conducive to learning as well as in a culturally sensitive manner
5) provide an opportunity to evaluate newly developed reprocessing procedures with the key participants who would be using these procedures

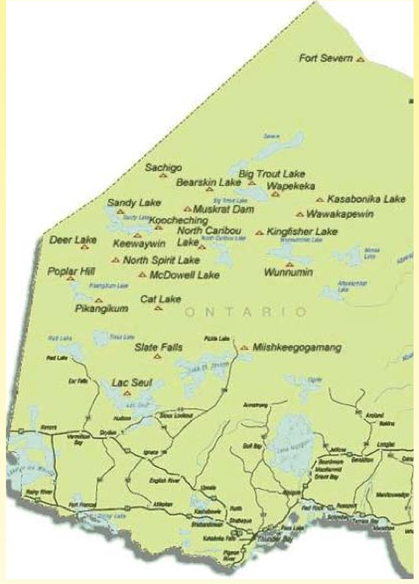
Results
A face-to-face, hands-on conference was held on October 8 and 9, 2008 in Thunder Bay. Participants were able to return to their communities with newly gained knowledge and practice skills and to immediately apply this new knowledge and practical skills in their day-to-day activities.

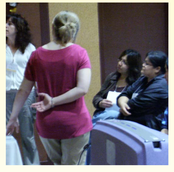
Lessons Learned
Very specific learning needs and educational challenges were addressed through innovative thinking and team effort. The development of a reprocessing manual and videotaped procedure will help to ensure ongoing quality assurance and education.

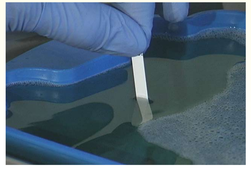
First Nations Reprocessing Conference Comments

- *"There have been excellent inroads at the nursing stations".*
- *"Now I know how to use PPE properly and how to wash the medical utensils. I even learned how to clean an auto clave".*
- *"The workshop made a big impact".*
- *"I was ignorant and didn't know what was required. It was a real eye opener".*
- *"They also taught protocol in how to handle infectious materials.*
- *"I am more aware of general hygiene e.g. using hand sanitizers".*
- *"They taught you how to be safe in a clinic and your place of work"*
- *"The workshop was really helpful. At first we didn't know how to clean the sterilizing machine. They showed us how to take it apart and clean it. We didn't know how to take it apart or put it back together again".*
- *"The workshop had an impact because I learned to clean the instruments for my safety and for patient safety".*
- *"They gave training about cleaning and sterilizing".*









First Nations Reprocessing Conference Timetable

Wednesday October 8, 2008

- ❑ Breakfast
- ❑ Welcome
- ❑ Introduction to Reprocessing Power Point Presentation
- ❑ Basics of Microbiology Power Point Presentation
- ❑ Refreshment Break
- ❑ Disease Transmission – Power Point Presentation
- ❑ Routine Practices and Additional Precautions – Power Point Presentation
- ❑ Lunch

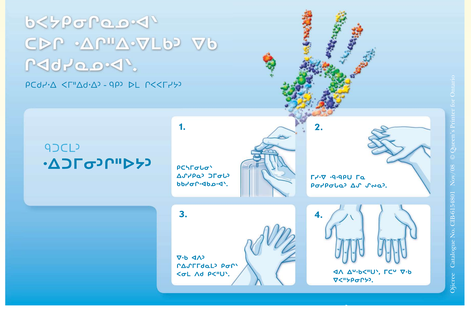
Concurrent Sessions (90 minutes each) – participants broken up into 3 groups

1. **Tour of Central Supply Room at Thunder Bay Regional Hospital**

2. **All About the Germs – Activity Stations**
   a) Germ Poster board display
   b) Hand hygiene demonstration and practice (glow germ) and poster board display
   c) Donning and removal of personal protective equipment
   d) Cleaning/Disinfection/Sterilization chemicals
   e) Injury Prevention
   f) General cleaning of workstation
   g) Preventing cross-contamination

3. **Your References and Record Keeping – Lecture and Demonstration Session**
   a) Review and use of CSR manual and procedures
   b) Review of sterilizer cleaning and maintenance
   c) Review of record keeping related to reprocessing/sterilization

- ❑ Brief recap of the day's activities

Wednesday October 9, 2008

- ❑ Breakfast
- ❑ **6 Breakout Sessions – Discussion, Demonstration and Practice**
  (participants broken up into 6 groups)
  1. Set up of workstation
  2. Receiving and Decontamination
  3. Sorting, Inspecting, Packaging and Wrapping
- ❑ Refreshment Break
  4. Sterilization and High Level Disinfection
  5. Storage
  6. Preventative Maintenance and Record Keeping
- ❑ Lunch
- ❑ **6 Breakout Sessions – Return Demonstration by Participants**
  (participants broken up into 6 groups)
- ❑ Closing Comments and Certificate of Achievement