

# The IPAC Link Letter

A monthly review of highlights and linked updates from the ever-changing world of Infection Prevention and Control to help you stay current and informed.

## August 2021

### Highlights from the World of Infection Control

- Following observation and follow-up questions, researchers found 15.8% of hospital visitors [wrongly claimed](#) to have cleaned their hands.
- Lessons learned during a [Legionella outbreak](#) in hospital. If you would like to learn more about [Legionnaires](#), check out this recent podcast episode.
- [HCV outbreak](#) report in a dental setting.
- Study reviews healthcare worker [hand hygiene compliance](#) before and during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- University of Regina Graduate student working to clarify the [Candida-cancer connection](#).
- Celebrating 20 years of [Teleclass](#) education with Paul Webber.
- [Post-strep glomerulonephritis](#) outbreak report in a First Nations community.
- News from the Canadian Light Source in Saskatoon: Scientists break record while battling [antibiotic resistance](#).
- [Reduction of MDROs](#) in nursing homes seen after multi-component intervention.
- Three out of four emerging infectious diseases are zoonotic – quick overview of [viral spillover](#).
- [Microbiology case study](#): salads, stools, and special staining studies.
- Screening study builds case for [frequent COVID-19 antigen testing](#).
- NIH study suggests COVID-19 [prevalence](#) far exceeded early pandemic cases.
- [Lottery-based incentive](#) not associated with increased rate of COVID-19 vaccination. Read the JAMA research letter [here](#).
- Successful health campaigns during COVID-19 need to manage our [altered ideas about the future](#).
- [Pandemic-related drop](#) in basic childhood vaccinations reported worldwide.
- New data leads to [rethinking](#) (once more) where the pandemic actually began.
- [Economic burden](#) of surgical management of surgical site infections following hip and knee replacements in Calgary, Alberta.
- All pandemic long, scientists brawled over [how the virus spread](#).
- Systematic review examines if medical procedures which induce coughing or involve respiratory suctioning are associated with [increased generation of aerosols and risk of SARS-COV-2 infection](#).
- The state of [microbiome science](#) at the intersection of infectious diseases and antimicrobial resistance.
- Will COVID-19 vaccination enthusiasm last? [Lessons from polio and H1N1](#).

### News

August is: [National Immunization Awareness Month](#) and [MedicAlert Awareness Month](#)

[World Breastfeed Week](#): August 1 – 7, 2021

[International Youth Day](#): August 12, 2021

[World Humanitarian Day](#): August 19, 2021

[World Mosquito Day](#): August 20, 2021

[International Bat Night](#): August 28-29, 2021

[International Overdose Awareness Day](#): August 31, 2021

### Upcoming Webber

#### Teleclasses

With our provincial subscription, if you miss the live Teleclass you can always go back and watch it at a later date.

<https://webbertraining.com/schedulep1.php>

**August 12, 2021:** [Home Health & Hospice Aides: Preventing and Controlling Infections when Providing Personal Care in the Home](#)

**August 18, 2021:** [Normothermia – The Why, How and When Questions Impacting Post-Op Infections](#)

**August 26, 2021:** [Bacteriophage Use For Infection Prevention in Healthcare Settings](#)

### Rabies Multiple Choice

- The rabies virus is passed on by contact with what part of an infected animal?
  - Skin
  - Saliva
  - Blood
  - Claws
  - B and C
- In which animal is rabies more likely to be found?
  - Dog
  - Cat
  - Bat
  - Raccoon
  - C and D
- If you have been bitten or scratched by a wild animal, what should you do?
  - Clean the wound with soap and water to remove any saliva
  - Call your health care provider as soon as possible
  - Call your state or local health department as soon as possible
  - All of the above
- How soon do symptoms typically appear after a person is infected with the rabies virus?
  - 48 hours
  - 1 week
  - 1 month
  - 1 year
- Which of these is an early symptom of rabies?
  - A short period of depression
  - Restlessness
  - Itching and numbness around the site of the bite
  - Nausea
  - All of the above
- Which of these is a symptom of rabies in animals?
  - Choking sounds
  - Loss of appetite
  - Agitation
  - Trembling
  - All of the above
- How soon after a potentially infectious bite should a person be treated for rabies?
  - Within 6 hours
  - Within 24 hours
  - Within a week
  - Within 2 weeks
- What can you do to prevent getting rabies?
  - Have your pets and other domesticated animals regularly vaccinated against rabies
  - Keep your dog on a leash when you take it outside your yard
  - Don't approach wild animals
  - All of the above

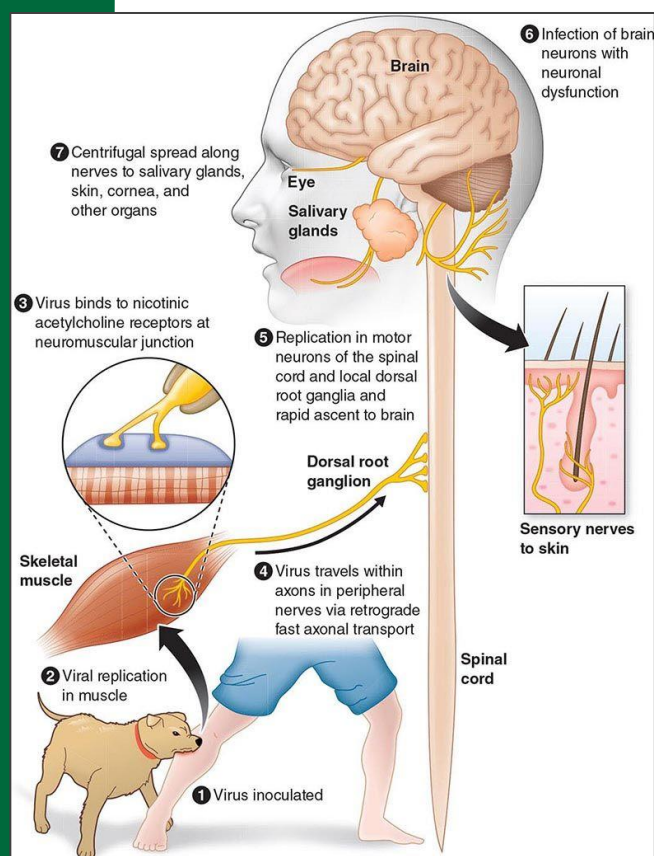
Source and Answers: [University of Rochester Medical Centre](#)

### Rabies Quiz

**T or F:** If you're bitten by an animal that might be rabid, you should see a medical professional even if you don't have any symptoms?

**T or F:** Squirrels, rats, mice, and other rodents often spread rabies?

Source and Answers: [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)



**Figure.** Schematic representation of the pathogenic events following peripheral inoculation of rabies virus by an animal bite (Adapted from [Basicmedical Key](#)).

Interested in learning more? See the [SASKPIC website](#) for rabies information, and other bat and infectious diseases articles.