

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.

May 2021

News

[National Physician's Day:](#) May 1, 2021

[Emergency Preparedness](#)

[Week:](#) May 2 – 8, 2021

[IPAC Canada's 2021 National Educational Conference –](#)

[What's on the Horizon?:](#) May 3 – 5, 2021

[World Hand Hygiene Day:](#)

May 5, 2021

[National Nursing Week:](#) May 10 – 16, 2021

Highlights from the World of Infection Control

- Industry reviews the science of [medical tape](#).
- “[Dofficers](#)” may be associated with a reduction in infection control errors.
- APIC [Prevention Strategies](#) (Spring 2021 edition) discusses COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy and PPE shortages.
- APIC creates national [infection prevention academic pathway](#) to accelerate careers of new IP&C professionals.
- Studying for the CIC@? Check out the interactive [APIC Infection Preventionist competency model](#).
- [Testing](#) and transmission of influenza, RSV, and COVID-19 – *5 Second Rule* podcast features VIDO-InterVac scientist.
- Dr. Khan, medical health officer for Indigenous Services Canada: Public health emergency - [congenital syphilis in Saskatchewan](#).
- Lax IP&C practices in a hospital ICUs during COVID-19 linked to [increase in gram-negative MDROs](#).
- Outbreak of *Yersinia* has ended with [iceburg lettuce](#) as the suspected source.
- The Government of Canada shares [ventilation and filtration](#) recommendations for long-term care homes.
- COVID-19 and healthcare workers: A [systematic review and meta-analysis](#).
- [Dialysis patients](#) 40 times more likely to be hospitalized with COVID.
- [Urgency of surgery](#) as an indicator for SSIs.
- Scientists dismantle [myths](#) about airborne transmission.
- [B.1.1.7 strain](#) shows similar aerosol stability as other strains. Increased transmissibility likely not due to enhanced survival in the environment.
- [Microbiology Case Study](#): A 53 Year Old Man with Confusion, Auditory Hallucinations, and Hearing Loss.
- Is media offering a [different picture](#) of COVID-19 from science journals?
- COVID-19 restrictions, reduction in infectious disease transmission, and a shift to telemedicine associated with a [decline in antibiotic prescribing](#).
- ICYMI: PHAC distributes [VITT information](#) for health care providers.
- Common [fungus](#) emerges as threat to hospitalized COVID-19 patients.
- [WHO](#) calls for suspension of selling live-caught wild animals in food markets to reduce spread of zoonotic diseases.
- Using a [structured huddle](#) to improve on the basics for CAUTI prevention.

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/schedule1.php>

May 5, 2021: [Seconds Save Lives: Clean Your Hands](#)

May 11, 2021: [The Norway Experience Controlling the Coronavirus Pandemic](#)

May 18, 2021: [Hygiene Behaviour in Our Homes and Everyday Lives to Meet 21st Century Needs](#)

May 20, 2021: [Complacency About Diseases, Anxiety About Vaccines: The Meningitis Perspective](#)

May 27, 2021: [Emerging Pathogens – Have We Learned any Lessons?](#)

Hand Hygiene Fun Facts

- Germs can survive for up to three hours on your hands.
- There are between 2 to 10 million bacteria on your fingertips and elbows.
- One germ can multiply into more than 8 million germs in one day.
- Damp hands spread 1,000 times more germs than dry hands.
- More than 90% of healthcare worker phones are contaminated with pathogenic bacteria including those known to cause hospital-acquired infections.

Various hand hygiene videos can be found here: <https://www.saskatoonhealthregion.ca/about/Pages/Hand-Hygiene.aspx>

For references to the “Hand Hygiene Fun Facts” and more hand hygiene related articles, please visit our website here: <https://saskiaa.ca/canada.org/pics-link-letter.php>

