

# 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.

## Mark Your Calendars:



**IPAC Canada 2020 National Education Conference:** May 3-6th, Winnipeg, Manitoba  
20/20 Vision. What's on the Horizon? Start applying for scholarships and funding now. [Diversey info](#) [Gojo info](#) [Chlorox info \(new\)](#)  
[SASKPIC application](#) and [Policy](#)

## Highlights from the World of Infection Control:

**Germes are everywhere:** Stay healthy over the holidays by reviewing when and how you wash your hands

Preventing transmission of bloodborne viruses from infected HCWs to Patients: [New Canadian Guidelines](#)

**Micro Cases Study:** A 54 year old with vomiting and diarrhea followed by pneumonia

Disease of the Week: [Scarlet Fever—check out the quiz](#)

**Food Safety Tips** for the Holidays

Engineers create a toilet bowl coating so slippery that [‘human waste can’t stick to it’](#)

**Canadian Nurse:** Nurses are critical in effective antimicrobial stewardship

Reducing unnecessary urine culturing & Antibiotic overprescribing in LTC: [A before and after analysis](#)

5 Steps to Fewer [Surgical Site Infections](#)

**Test your Superbug IQ:** 5 questions about antibiotic resistance from recent headlines

The Lancet (Infectious Diseases): Are booster doses of [yellow fever vaccine needed?](#)

**Alberta Health Services:** How to ensure mobile electronic devices are kept clean in health care settings

8 Crucial times to practice hand hygiene in the Community from the Royal Society for Public Health—[Instagram graphic](#)

**“To Err is Human” revisited:** Serious patient safety and quality issues remain 20 years later

Follow us on Twitter [@PICNS1](#) for current and interesting stories from the world of Infection Prevention and Control. If you have question or a great resource to share and want to let others know about—contact us [infectioncontrol@saskhealthauthority.ca](mailto:infectioncontrol@saskhealthauthority.ca)



## Connections

[Public Health Ontario Talk \(9 minutes\)](#): Antibiotics and the Zoo living in you (your microbiome)

CDC releases updated guidance: Infrastructure and Routine Practices for [Occupational Infection Prevention & Control Services](#)

Non-Ventilator Healthcare-Associated Pneumonia—[APIC Practice Position Statement](#): Are you aware of the importance of pneumonia prevention and it's relationship to oral hygiene? The Nov 7th Webber Teleclass by Martin Kiernan is a great educational tool for this topic . Ask your local Infection Control Professional about how to access it.

Public Health Ontario has updated their [LTC Urinary Tract Infection Program](#). It has great educational tools, communication materials and Fact Sheets to help reduce harm to residents and decrease the risk of antimicrobial resistance. [Here's a 2 minute video with an overview](#)

Infection Control Risk Assessments (ICRA) are essential to protect and reduce the risk of infection during the design, construction and renovation of all health care facilities. [Find out more about ICRA here](#)

[Here's a Link to 5 education videos](#) on superbugs, hand hygiene, home from the hospital ++ from Health Services Ireland

**Upcoming Webber Teleclasses** <http://www.webbertraining.com/schedulep1.php> \*international, or check time

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

**Wednesday Dec 18th**: **Free Class** - CLEANING IN HEALTHCARE

**Friday January 17th**: **Free Class**—The 2019 WHO GLOBAL SURVEY

**Friday January 31st**: BARRIERS AND FACILITATORS TO *C. DIFFICILE* INFECTION PREVENTION –A NURSING PERSPECTIVE

**Wednesday February 5th**:\* ISSUES IN ANTIFUNGAL STEWARDSHIP: AN OPPORTUNITY THAT SHOULD NOT BE LOST

**Friday February 7th**: **Free Class**—THE EFFECTIVENESS OF TUBERCULOSIS INFECTION CONTROL STRATEGIES IN HIGH HIV/TB SETTINGS

**Thursday February 13th**: THE INTRODUCTION OF RISK-BASED ASSESSMENT FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF ESBL PATIENTS IN ACUTE CARE

### Have you heard?

... about foldscopes? It will help make microscopes as ubiquitous as pencils. Bring [the gift of microscopy](#) to family & friends

... the emergence of Canine Parvovirus, a highly infectious virus that kill thousands of dogs a year —dog lovers will want to check out this [Microbe Talk Podcast](#)

... the IPAC Canada Position Statement on "[Essential Oils in Healthcare Settings](#)". Use of these popular remedies is increasing

## **Answers to Questions You May Need in the Future:**

Immunoglobulins are available for which of the following?

1. Tetanus 2. Rubella 3. Pertussis 4. Varicella-zoster

A. 1, 2, 3 B. 2, 3, 4

C. 1, 3, 4 D. 1, 2, 4

Answer [found here](#)

If you have a question or event/project you'd like to share send it to:

infectioncontrol@saskhealthauthority.ca