

# 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:



World Antibiotic Awareness Week: Nov 18-24th—to raise awareness about antibiotic resistance and encourage appropriate antibiotic use in healthcare settings. Here is a [website full of activities and videos](#) to help spread the message

World Toilet Day 2019: November 19th [A Toilet is not just a Toilet](#)

[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](#) [SASKPIC application](#) and [Policy](#)

## Highlights from the World of Infection Control:

November is *C diff* Awareness Month. Check out the CDC resources on who is [most at risk for C diff infection](#) and how to [prevent the spread of infection](#) at home and in the hospital.

Infection Prevention and You: [Do you really need an antibiotic?](#)

Micro Case study: [A novel anaerobic pathogen](#) causing septic arthritis

Antibiotics from the bench to the bedside—how new antibiotics are developed ([3 minute YouTube](#))

Infectious Syphilis cases reported in Canada in 2018—much higher than you would think [Infographic](#)

[CDC](#): Help prevent the spread of Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)

Drug-resistant infections on the rise [Canadian hospitals](#)

[Another reason to vaccinate](#)—Studies show that measles does long-term damage to the immune system

A call to action: [De-adoption of routine urine culture testing](#)

CPE (CPO) Colonization: New study suggests the [Once Positive, Always Positive](#), approach may not apply

[The Lancet](#): Scarlet Fever changes its spots (to enhanced invasive potential)

Choosing Wisely Canada: [Antibiotic use in long-term care](#) and [UTI FAQ sheet for](#) elders and their caregivers

Scientists are making [progress toward a vaccine for TB](#), The world's deadliest infectious disease

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 (PHO) has released new Occupational Contact Dermatitis Recommendations which cover all types of irritant and allergic contact dermatitis in health care workers and focuses on prevention, detection and management. [Complete document here](#) [Executive summary](#)

Report from the Canadian Council of Academies— [When Antibiotics Fail](#): the growing cost of antimicrobial resistance in Canada  
[One pager](#) [Full report](#)

Oral Health and Aging: [Information for Caregivers](#) Additional resources for [oral health](#)

Critical Care Educational Webinar: [The Management of Skin and Soft Tissue Infection](#)

PHO Grand Rounds: [What's new with the flu? 2019-2020 season](#)

PHO Talks: [How to get the Most Out of Your Data](#)— are you asking the right questions about your data

2020—Changes in how to obtain [Recertification in Infection Control](#): By exam or by Infection Prevention Units—[FAQ sheet](#)

**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.

**Thursday Nov. 7th**: HEALTHCARE-ASSOCIATED PNEUMONIA THAT IS NOT VENTILATOR-ASSOCIATED: BIG PROBLEM, BUT GUIDELINE-FREE ZONE (Martin Kiernan)

**Tuesday Nov. 12th**:\* **Free Class** – THE ROLE OF CLEANERS IN INFECTION PREVENTION-NEGLECTED FRONT LINE WORKERS IN HEALTHCARE FACILITIES (focus on low and middle income countries)

**Thursday Nov. 21st**: PRIORITIZING RESEARCH AREAS FOR ANTIBIOTIC STEWARDSHIP PROGRAMS (The Ottawa Hospital)

**Thursday Dec. 5th**: HOW TO COMMUNICATE ABOUT HEALTHCARE-ASSOCIATED INFECTION WITH X, Y AND Z GENERATIONS

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

**Have you heard?**

About this belated Hallowe'en Quiz? Test your knowledge about [Global disease costumes](#)

About *Pretty Parasites with Dr. Pritt*? Here's a close up with the [Scalp explorers](#)

About this [YouTube called What is pneumonia?](#) It provides a great explanation about the symptoms and causes

About what a great resource the Canadian Association of Medical Device Reprocessing (CAMDR) is— here's their [latest newsletter](#)

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

There is a shortage of influenza vaccine, and the ICP has been asked to help prioritize the administration of the vaccine among HCP in the facility. Which of the following employee groups would be the highest priority for immunization?

- A. The admissions clerk in ER
- B. The Lung Transplant Coordinator
- C. A nurse in labor and delivery
- D. The facility administrator

Answer [found here](#)

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

[infectioncontrol@saskhealthauthority.ca](mailto:infectioncontrol@saskhealthauthority.ca)