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.

September 2020

News
World Patient Safety Day: September 17, 2020
Virtual SASKPIC Fall Conference and AGM – September 18, 2020 at 1330 – 1530h
National Healthcare Environmental Services Week: September 13 – 19, 2020
National Infection Control Week: Infection Prevention and Control Beyond the Horizon – October 19 – 23, 2020

Highlights from the World of Infection Control
- What are the sources of exposure in healthcare personnel with COVID-19?
- NACI guidance on influenza vaccine delivery during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Why are Indigenous communities seeing so few cases of COVID-19?
- Learn more about major changes to CDC’s recommendations for HCW RTW criteria and discontinuation of precautions for patients with confirmed COVID-1 and reasoning behind these changes.
- With recent Salmonella outbreak, listen to this podcast to learn how to avoid food-borne illness.
- The Marvels of Mucus and Phlegm – The Slime That Keeps You Healthy
- Using Schlieren imaging, see how well masks work in reducing the spread of COVID-19.
- Blind Spot: Many Hospitalized Patients Not Encouraged to Wash Their Hands
- Study shows favorable maternal and neonatal outcomes during COVID-19 pregnancies.
- Why one dangerous mosquito developed a taste for human blood.
- Retrospective study shows 1 in 3 UTIs in nursing homes are associated with a resistant pathogen.
- Grapefruit-based insect repellent developed by the CDC will be available 2022.
- International survey shows widespread use of antibiotics in COVID-19 patients.
- Case series shows good outcomes in infants hospitalized with COVID-19.
- Ingestion of alcohol based hand rubs leads to serious health issues including death.
- Why the novel coronavirus has the power to launch a pandemic.
- Massive COVID-19 Testing: 30 Million Tests/Week
- The 7 Keys to Success for COVID-19 Contact Tracing

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

September 10, 2020: Look At What The Cat Scratched In – Pet Associated Zoonoses, What’s New and Relevant for Infection Prevention and Control
September 17, 2020: Reprocessing of Critical Foot Care Devices
September 24, 2020: Waterborne Pathogens: Why is Their Profile Changing?
Did You Know...

- Salmonellosis is an acute gastrointestinal illness caused by bacteria belonging to the family of *Salmonella*.
- Symptoms include fever, headache, abdominal cramps, vomiting and diarrhea about 6 – 72 hours after eating contaminated food or beverages and can last between 2 – 7 days.
- Outbreak investigations have implicated foods such as meat, poultry, uncooked or lightly cooked eggs and egg products, unpasteurized milk and dairy products and raw fruits and vegetables.
- Salmonellosis was added to the Public Health notifiable disease list in 1959. Paratyphoid Salmonellosis reporting started in 2000.
- According to the Public Health Agency of Canada, in 2017, there were 7133 cases of Salmonellosis identified in Canada. Of them, 3423 positive cases were male, and 3709 were female. [Health Canada/Public Health of Canada](https://diseases.canada.ca/notifiable/charts?c=abs)
- The burden of foodborne diseases is substantial: every year almost 1 in 10 people fall ill and 33 million of healthy life years are lost.
- Diarrheal diseases are the most common illnesses resulting from unsafe food, 550 million people falling ill each year, including 220 million children under the age of 5 years.
- *Salmonella* is 1 of 4 key global causes of diarrheal diseases.
- Antimicrobial resistance is a global public health concern and *Salmonella* is one of the microorganisms in which some resistant serotypes have emerged, affecting the food chain (WHO). Most people recover without specific treatment and should not take antibiotics (CDC).
- Although large *Salmonella* outbreaks usually attract media attention, 60–80% of all salmonellosis cases are not recognized as part of a known outbreak and are classified as sporadic cases, or are not diagnosed as such at all. [World Health Organization - February 2018](https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/salmonella-(non-typhoidal))
- CDC estimates *Salmonella* bacteria causes about 1.35 million infections, 26,500 hospitalizations, and 420 deaths in the United States every year. [CDC – August 2020](https://www.cdc.gov/salmonella/index.html)

### Crossword

2. *Salmonella* illness is more common in this season.
6. Common name of food-borne illness is food _______.
7. Gram stain of *Salmonella*.
8. Shape of *Salmonella* when seen under a microscope.
9. Life-threatening illness caused by a *Salmonella* serotype. Usually comes with fever.
10. What type of pathogen is *Salmonella*?

### Down

1. Age group most likely to get a *Salmonella* infection.
2. First scientist to discover *Salmonella*.
3. After contracting salmonellosis, a small number of people will develop this type of arthritis. Symptoms also include painful urination and eye irritation.
4. A vaccine is available for this strain of *Salmonella*. It’s usually given to travelers before leaving for South Asia.
5. Most common strain of *Salmonella* in our food supply.

If you have any interesting articles you would like to see in the IPAC Link Letter, please feel free to send them to [Kevin.Duran@saskhealthauthority.ca](mailto:Kevin.Duran@saskhealthauthority.ca) or [Asma.Ahmad@saskhealthauthority.ca](mailto:Asma.Ahmad@saskhealthauthority.ca)