

# 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.

**April 2021**

## News

[Green Shirt Day and World Health Day](#): April 7, 2021

[National Medical Laboratory Week](#): April 11 – 17, 2021

[National Organ and Tissue Awareness Week](#): April 18 – 24, 2021

[World Immunization Awareness Week](#): April 24 – 30, 2021

[IPAC Canada's 2021 National Educational Conference – What's on the Horizon?](#): May 3 – 5, 2021

## Highlights from the World of Infection Control

- [Have you really cleaned your stethoscope?](#) Study looks at cleaning practices and organisms still present on HCW stethoscopes.
- 5 Second Rule: APIC podcast covers healthcare [construction](#) and [water](#).
- [Research](#) underway to develop *Staphylococcus aureus* vaccine.
- Scientists summarize current understanding of [acute flaccid myelitis \(AFM\)](#) etiology and biennial transmission pattern → [listen](#) to an interview with an article author. Also, learn about Canada's [AFM surveillance program](#).
- [Results](#) from the first year of the Canadian Lyme Sentinel Network. Tick [surveillance](#), [eTick](#), and [Saskatchewan](#) specific information.
- COVID-19 outbreak among physicians at a [Canadian curling bonspiel](#).
- The problem of [microbial dark matter](#) in neonatal sepsis.
- Multidrug-resistant [Candida auris infections](#) in critically ill COVID-19 patients, India.
- Study looks at roadblocks and other factors that impact sustainability of [antibiotic stewardship programs in nursing homes](#).
- Role of hospital floors, patient socks, and beddings in spread of [healthcare pathogens](#).
- [Highlights](#) from ID Week 2020.
- Bathrooms, staff areas, hallways? Assessment of [SARS-CoV-2 air contamination in hospital settings](#) recently published in [JAMA](#).
- *S. aureus* [ICU pneumonia](#) risk higher when patients are colonized at admission.
- Universal face shield and [reduction of SARS-CoV-2 infections](#) in a quaternary care centre.
- Crowded LTC homes: [Investigation](#) shows deadlier COVID-19 outbreaks in nursing homes with shared bathrooms and bedrooms.
- [Microbiology Case Study](#): Blood stream infection in a 77 year old patient – is it Really from Mosquitoes?
- [COVID-19 most contagious](#) in first 5 days of illness.
- [Issues](#) and confusion around naming [COVID VoCs \(Variants of Concerns\)](#).
- Public Health Ontario releases COVID-19 IPAC Fundamentals training [module](#).
- [Public Health Ontario](#) summarizes key features of influenza, SARS-CoV-2, and other common respiratory viruses. \*Open in Google Chrome\*
- Canada: [National cross-sectional survey](#) of public perceptions of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Navigating the COVID-19 “[Infodemic](#)” – Staying ahead of [misinformation](#).
- [WHO](#) reports lower than expected numbers for influenza globally.

## 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>

**April 8, 2021:** [Healthcare Water & Sanitary Services – The Price of Poor Design, Construction, Usage and Maintenance](#)

**April 15, 2021:** [The Global Virus Network in the COVID-19 Era](#)

**April 27, 2021:** [Hygiene Behaviour in Our Homes and Everyday Lives to Meet 21<sup>st</sup> Century Needs](#)

## **Webinars/Learning Opportunities**

- CAMDR Conference: Drilling Down to Basics & Rising to the Challenge [Virtual Exhibit Hall](#)
- Webinar: [PHAC: COVID-19 Vaccines Emerging Issues: Delayed Injection Site Reactions](#)
- Free Long-term care ICP training course developed by the [CDC](#).
- Webinar: [Women's issues in pandemic times: How COVID-19 has exacerbated gender inequities for women in Canada and around the World.](#)
- Webinar: [IPAC Canada Reprocessing Interest Group: Critical Appraisal](#) – Login to IPAC Canada member site is required

## **Vaccine Quiz**

**Which of the following is NOT a vaccine-preventable disease?**

- Cervical cancer
- Polio
- Hepatitis B
- Asthma
- Measles

For the answer and more questions, visit WHO: [How much do you know about immunization?](#)

**The first vaccine developed was against smallpox.**

- True
- False

For the answer and more questions, visit University of Rochester Medical Center: [Vaccination Quiz](#)

**Heather Whitestone, who was crowned Miss America in 1994, was deaf because of...**

- a smallpox vaccine reaction
- a Hib infection
- a DPT vaccine reaction
- a MMR vaccine reaction

For the answer and more questions, visit Vaxopedia: [Immunization Quiz](#)

**In the early 2000s, what two illnesses caused the most deaths of children worldwide?**

- Meningococcal disease and smallpox
- Varicella (Chickenpox) and measles
- Pneumonia and severe diarrhea
- Influenza and diphtheria

For the answer and more questions, visit Vaccine Trivia: [Just the Vax](#)

For more vaccine related articles, please visit our website here: <https://saskipac-canada.org/olens-link-letter.php>