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.

August 2021

Highlights from the World of Infection Control

- Following observation and follow-up questions, researchers found 15.8% of hospital visitors wrongly claimed to have cleaned their hands.
- Lessons learned during a Legionella outbreak in hospital. If you would like to learn more about Legionnaires, check out this recent podcast episode.
- HCV outbreak report in a dental setting.
- Study reviews healthcare worker hand hygiene compliance before and during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- University of Regina Graduate student working to clarify the Candida-cancer connection.
- Celebrating 20 years of Teleclass education with Paul Webber.
- Post-strep glomerulonephritis outbreak report in a First Nations community.
- News from the Canadian Light Source in Saskatoon: Scientists break record while battling antibiotic resistance.
- Reduction of MDROs in nursing homes seen after multi-component intervention.
- Three out of four emerging infectious diseases are zoonotic – quick overview of viral spillover.
- Microbiology case study: salads, stools, and special staining studies.
- Screening study builds case for frequent COVID-19 antigen testing.
- NIH study suggests COVID-19 prevalence far exceeded early pandemic cases.
- Lottery-based incentive not associated with increased rate of COVID-19 vaccination. Read the JAMA research letter here.
- Successful health campaigns during COVID-19 need to manage our altered ideas about the future.
- Pandemic-related drop in basic childhood vaccinations reported worldwide.
- New data leads to rethinking (once more) where the pandemic actually began.
- Economic burden of surgical management of surgical site infections following hip and knee replacements in Calgary, Alberta.
- All pandemic long, scientists brawled over how the virus spread.
- Systematic review examines if medical procedures which induce coughing or involve respiratory suctioning are associated with increased generation of aerosols and risk of SARS-COV-2 infection.
- The state of microbiome science at the intersection of infectious diseases and antimicrobial resistance.
- Will COVID-19 vaccination enthusiasm last? Lessons from polio and H1N1.

News

August is: National Immunization Awareness Month and MedicAlert Awareness Month

World Breastfeed Week: August 1 – 7, 2021
International Youth Day: August 12, 2021
World Humanitarian Day: August 19, 2021
World Mosquito Day: August 20, 2021
International Bat Night: August 28-29, 2021
International Overdose Awareness Day: August 31, 2021

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

August 12, 2021: Home Health & Hospice Aides: Preventing and Controlling Infections when Providing Personal Care in the Home


August 26, 2021: Bacteriophage Use For Infection Prevention in Healthcare Settings
Rabies Multiple Choice

1. The rabies virus is passed on by contact with what part of an infected animal?
   a. Skin
   b. Saliva
   c. Blood
   d. Claws
   e. B and C

2. In which animal is rabies more likely to be found?
   a. Dog
   b. Cat
   c. Bat
   d. Raccoon
   e. C and D

3. If you have been bitten or scratched by a wild animal, what should you do?
   a. Clean the wound with soap and water to remove any saliva
   b. Call your health care provider as soon as possible
   c. Call your state or local health department as soon as possible
   d. All of the above

4. How soon do symptoms typically appear after a person is infected with the rabies virus?
   a. 48 hours
   b. 1 week
   c. 1 month
   d. 1 year

5. Which of these is an early symptom of rabies?
   a. A short period of depression
   b. Restlessness
   c. Itching and numbness around the site of the bite
   d. Nausea
   e. All of the above

6. Which of these is a symptom of rabies in animals?
   a. Choking sounds
   b. Loss of appetite
   c. Agitation
   d. Trembling
   e. All of the above

7. How soon after a potentially infectious bite should a person be treated for rabies?
   a. Within 6 hours
   b. Within 24 hours
   c. Within a week
   d. Within 2 weeks

8. What can you do to prevent getting rabies?
   a. Have your pets and other domesticated animals regularly vaccinated against rabies
   b. Keep your dog on a leash when you take it outside your yard
   c. Don't approach wild animals
   d. All of the above

Rabies Quiz

T or F: If you’re bitten by an animal that might be rabid, you should see a medical professional even if you don’t have any symptoms?

T or F: Squirrels, rats, mice, and other rodents often spread rabies?

Source and Answers: University of Rochester Medical Centre, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Figure. Schematic representation of the pathogenetic events following peripheral inoculation of rabies virus by an animal bite (Adapted from Basicmedical Key).

Interested in learning more? See the SASKPIC website for rabies information, and other bat and infectious diseases articles.