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.

May 2021

Highlights from the World of Infection Control

- Industry reviews the science of medical tape.
- “Dofficers” may be associated with a reduction in infection control errors.
- APIC Prevention Strategies (Spring 2021 edition) discusses COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy and PPE shortages.
- APIC creates national infection prevention academic pathway to accelerate careers of news IP&C professionals.
- Studying for the CIC®? Check out the interactive APIC Infection Preventionist competency model.
- Dr. Khan, medical health officer for Indigenous Services Canada: Public health emergency - congenital syphilis in Saskatchewan.
- Lax IP&C practices in a hospital ICUs during COVID-19 linked to increase in gram-negative MDROs.
- Outbreak of Yersinia has ended with iceberg lettuce as the suspected source.
- The Government of Canada shares ventilation and filtration recommendations for long-term care homes.
- COVID-19 and healthcare workers: A systematic review and meta-analysis.
- Dialysis patients 40 times more likely to be hospitalized with COVID.
- Urgency of surgery as an indicator for SSIs.
- Scientists dismantle myths about airborne transmission.
- B.1.1.7 strain shows similar aerosol stability as other strains. Increased transmissibility likely not due to enhanced survival in the environment.
- Microbiology Case Study: A 53 Year Old Man with Confusion, Auditory Hallucinations, and Hearing Loss.
- Is media offering a different picture of COVID-19 from science journals?
- COVID-19 restrictions, reduction in infectious disease transmission, and a shift to telemedicine associated with a decline in antibiotic prescribing.
- ICYMI: PHAC distributes VITT information for health care providers.
- Common fungus emerges as threat to hospitalized COVID-19 patients.
- WHO calls for suspension of selling live-caught wild animals in food markets to reduce spread of zoonotic diseases.
- Using a structured huddle to improve on the basics for CAUTI prevention.

News

National Physician’s Day: May 1, 2021
Emergency Preparedness Week: May 2 – 8, 2021
IPAC Canada’s 2021 National Educational Conference – What’s on the Horizon?: May 3 – 5, 2021
World Hand Hygiene Day: May 5, 2021
National Nursing Week: May 10 – 16, 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/schedule.php
May 5, 2021: Seconds Save Lives: Clean Your Hands
May 11, 2021: The Norway Experience Controlling the Coronavirus Pandemic
May 18, 2021: Hygiene Behaviour in Our Homes and Everyday Lives to Meet 21st Century Needs
May 20, 2021: Complacency About Diseases, Anxiety About Vaccines: The Meningitis Perspective
May 27, 2021: Emerging Pathogens – Have We Learned any Lessons?
Hand Hygiene Fun Facts

- Germs can survive for up to three hours on your hands.
- There are between 2 to 10 million bacteria on your fingertips and elbows.
- One germ can multiply into more than 8 million germs in one day.
- Damp hands spread 1,000 times more germs than dry hands.
- More than 90% of healthcare worker phones are contaminated with pathogenic bacteria including those known to cause hospital-acquired infections.

Various hand hygiene videos can be found here: https://www.saskatoonhealthregion.ca/about/Pages/Hand-Hygiene.aspx

For references to the “Hand Hygiene Fun Facts” and more hand hygiene related articles, please visit our website here: https://saskpic.ipac-canada.org/picns-link-letter.php