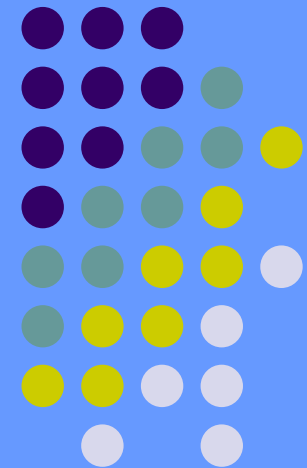


BASIC CONCEPTS OF INFECTION CONTROL

Infection Control Program Organizational Structure

International Federation of
Infection Control



Objectives

- Importance of organizational structure in Infection Control Program (ICP)
- Organizational requirements for Infection Control (IC) within hospitals and health care facilities
- Responsibilities of the Infection Control Team (ICT)



Background

- IC is a quality standard
- An effective ICP is key to quality
- Each institution's specific needs must be considered for developing or reorganizing an ICP
- Various groups and individuals may be responsible for ICP

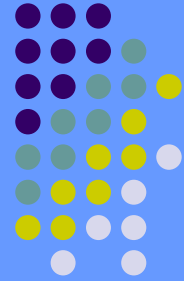


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National Program

- Support hospitals in reducing risk of healthcare-associated infections (HAI)
- Responsibilities
 - Set objectives consistent with national policy
 - Develop and update guidelines
 - Develop a national surveillance system
 - Harmonize initial and continuing education
 - Facilitate access to products
 - Encourage health care facilities to monitor HAI



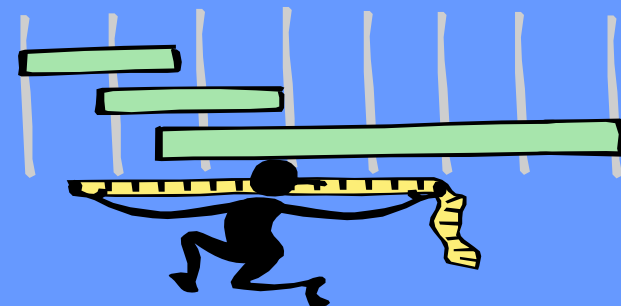
Hospital Program



- Major effort focused in hospitals and health care facilities
- ICP supported by administration
- Develop a yearly work plan
- The hospital manager or medical director is ultimately responsible for ICP

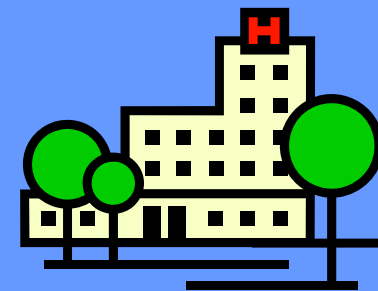


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Hospital Program

- Local organization:
 - Infection Control Committee (ICC)
 - Infection Control Team (ICT)
- Experts in infection control must be available to small institutions or home care providers



Infection Control Committee (ICC)



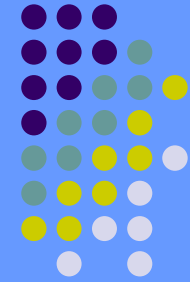
- Multidisciplinary input, cooperation, and information sharing
- Responsible for planning, implementing, prioritizing, and allocating resources for IC
- Report to administration or medical staff



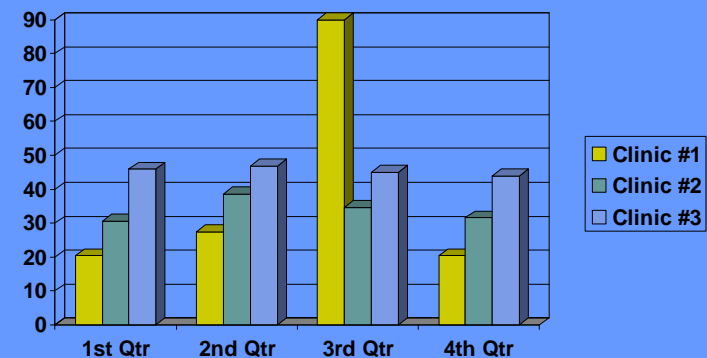
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Infection Control Committee (ICC)

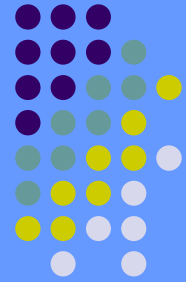


- Liaison between departments
- Hold regular meetings
- Produce an annual report and an annual business plan



ICC Membership

- Reflect the spectrum of services
 - Chief Executive or Hospital Administrator
 - Infection Control Physician (may act as chairperson)
 - Infection Control Nurse (ICN)
 - Infectious Disease Physician (if available)
 - Director of Nursing
 - Occupational Health Physician (if available)
 - Representatives from major clinical specialties
 - Invited representatives of other departments

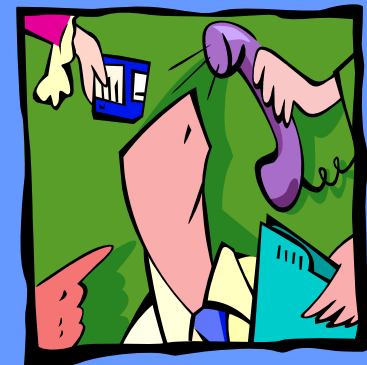
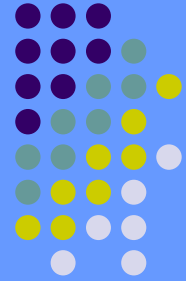


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ICC Tasks

- Review and approve the annual plan
- Review and approve IC policies
- Support the ICT and direct resources
- Ensure availability of supplies
- Review surveillance data
- Assess and promote good practices



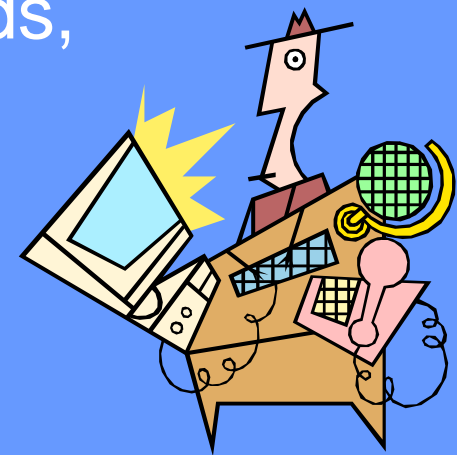
ICC Tasks

- Ensure staff training
- Monitor infectious risks of new devices and products
- Provide input and review in outbreak investigation
- Cooperate with other committees (Antibiotic, Occupational Health, etc.)

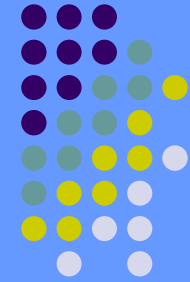


Infection Control Team (ICT)

- Responsible for day-to-day running of ICP
- Must ensure an effective ICP
- Should have expertise
- Close liaison with the microbiology laboratory
- Must have appropriate authority
- Optimal structure varies (type, needs, and resources)



Infection Control Team (ICT)



- Consist of at least
 - One physician, the Infection control officer (ICO)
 - One nurse, the Infection Control Nurse (ICN)
 - Number depends on the case mix and workload
- Should meet regularly



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Role of ICT

- Annual IC plan
- Develop and review policies and procedures
- Supervise and monitor practices in IC
- Identify problems in implementation activities
- Provide epidemiological surveillance
- Report and investigate outbreaks



Role of ICT

- Provide education for staff
- Ensure availability of supplies and equipment
- Support in purchasing & monitoring equipment
- Collaborate on antibiotic use
- Support and participate in research
- Audit activities
- Provide reports to the ICC



Infection Control Officer (ICO)

- Medical staff member involved in IC
- A medical microbiologist, an epidemiologist, or infectious disease physician
- If none available, another physician with interest in IC
- Have knowledge and experience in IC



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Infection Control Officer Duties and Responsibilities



- Leading role and advisor in the ICT
- A member of the hospital ICC (may act as chairperson)
- Assist the ICC in plans, policies and programs
- Advise the Director or Hospital Administrator
- Support and advise on IC
- Involved in setting quality standards
- Provide surveillance and audits in IC



Infection Control Nurse (ICN)



- Registered nurse
- Act as a specialist advisor in IC
- Usually only full-time practitioner in the ICT
- Takes the key role in day-to-day infection control activities



ICN Duties and Responsibilities



- Contributes to the development and implementation of ICP
- Provides specialist-nursing input
- Participates in surveillance and outbreak investigation
- Monitors practices and procedures
- Participates in preparing documents (service specifications and quality standards)
- Participates in training, educational programs



Infection Control Link Nurse (ICLN)



- Link system to develop IC
- Operational support between ICN and wards
- Responsibility for IC practices within their departments
- Help to identify problems, implement solutions, maintain communications and motivate staff
- Management support and interest essential in their success



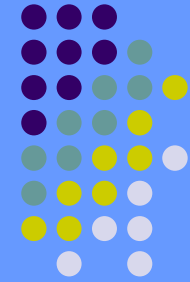
ICLN Responsibilities



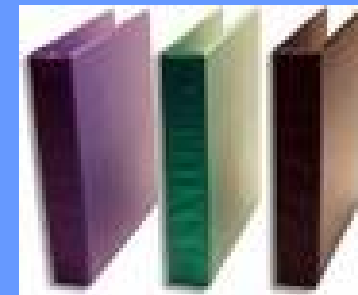
- Maintain hygiene on the ward
- Monitor aseptic technique, hand hygiene and isolation
- Report to the physician any evidence of infection
- Initiate isolation and order culture specimens
- Identify signs of communicable diseases
- Limit patient exposure to infections
- Maintain a safe and adequate supply of equipment, drugs and supplies



Infection Control Manual



- An important if not indispensable tool for ICP
- Contains recommended instructions and practices for patient care
- Developed and updated by the ICT and approved by the ICC
- Must be available for staff



Topics for IC Manual

- Patient care and ward procedures
 - Hand hygiene
 - Isolation
 - Invasive procedures
 - Obstetrical, neonatal, and intensive care techniques
- Staff health
 - Immunizations
- Production of critical items
 - Sterilisation and disinfection
 - Medication and infusion preparation

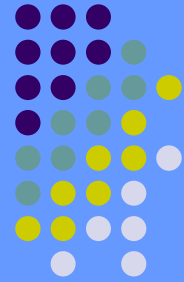


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Minimum Requirements

- A physician and a nurse with responsibilities for IC
- A manual of critical IC policies
- An educational program for staff
- A clear line of responsibility to the senior management of the hospital



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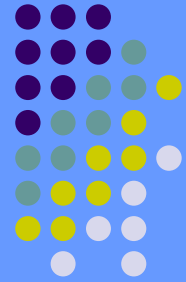
Conclusions

- National program useful to establish guidelines and promote good practices within hospitals
- Major effort focused in hospitals and health facilities
- ICP supported by higher authority
- In the local organization:
 - Infection Control Committee (ICC)
 - Infection Control Team (ICT)

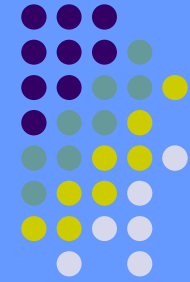


Key Points

- Risk prevention a major concern and must be supported
- ICP to have an appropriate structure
- ICP in most countries is delivered through an Infection Control Team
- A healthcare-associated infection manual is an important tool



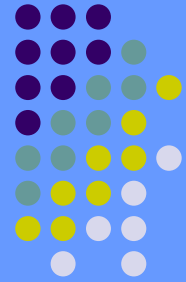
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