



International Federation of Infection Control

IFIC e-News

FUTURE IFIC CONGRESSES

CHILE

14-17 October 2008
9th IFIC Congress
Santiago
Chile

www.sociedad-iih.cl

LITHUANIA

October 2009
10th IFIC Congress
Vilnius
Lithuania

Chair Update

Dear IFIC members,

Since 1998, IFIC has provided an educational forum to its members, initially through the IFIC Newsletter. A few years ago, this was converted into a fully fledged scientific Journal. The major driving force behind this evolution has been Gertie van Knippenberg-Gordbeke, our board member from the Netherlands, who has filled the post of Editor-in-Chief for many years. Gertie has now decided to retire from this position and her place has been taken by Judith Richards from the UK. On behalf of all of us, I would like to thank Gertie for her dedicated and enthusiastic work on our publications as well as to welcome Judith to this important position.

Major improvements to the [International Journal of Infection Control](http://www.ijic.info) have been achieved over the past few months. IJIC is now the official publication of the Federation and is a fully electronic journal, issued biannually. The journal provides a forum for publication of research articles as well as submissions dealing with local infection control challenges and practices. It has free access and is located at a separate website: www.ijic.info. Unlike most other open access journals, no fee is requested to publish articles. IJIC also differs by offering authors whose first language is not English help in correction or editing of manuscripts. In such circumstances, the manuscript would be sent for editing to third parties (who are separate from the reviewers) and who have indicated their willingness to help in such a task.



Michael Borg
Chair, 2008

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Invitation to IFIC Congress 2008

[IFIC](http://www.theifc.org) and the [Chilean Society of Infection Control and Hospital Epidemiology](http://www.theifc.org) extend an invitation to all professionals involved in the fields of infection control, hospital epidemiology and quality improvement to gather in Santiago in 2008. Together we will build a better future for infection control and patient safety everywhere. International experts will give keynote lectures and participate in symposia. Submission of free papers is strongly encouraged; IFIC will support a number of delegates to attend through scholarships, details about which will be available on www.theifc.org the Federation's website. Pharmaceutical and medical companies are welcome to support this unique event through their participation in the Congress exhibition and industry symposia. <http://www.ifc2008.cl/>

Please plan on attending the
Annual General Meeting on
Wednesday October 15 at 5pm

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9th Congress of the
International Federation of
Infection Control



Santiago, Chile
14 - 17 October 2008

Chair Update continued

Donations to support the work of the Federation are welcome. Donations can be designated for either general or scholarship funds. The scholarship fund was established to increase participation at IFIC conferences for under-funded member delegates.

Contributions to IFIC can be sent to:

Pamela Allen
47 Wentworth Green
Portadown
Co Armagh
BT62 3WG
N Ireland UK
Email: info@theifc.org

We are always looking for articles, especially of a practice-oriented nature and/or coming from developing countries. We depend on you to submit manuscripts for peer review and make sure that IJIC is even more successful in the future.

Thank you,

Michael Borg
Chair, 2008 IFIC Board

**International Infection
Prevention Week**
October 19 - 25, 2008



Safe Injection Practice (SIP) Special Interest Group

Meeting held on Sunday 21st October during the 8th International Congress of IFIC held in Budapest, Hungary

The meeting was chaired by Dr Ossama Rasslan.

Ossama Rasslan provided an overview of the background for the development of this SIG which originated at a meeting in Amsterdam. The purpose of this inaugural meeting was to set out the terms of reference for the group. The participants of the meeting appointed Prof. Ossama Rasslan as the chair, Edward Krisiunas as co-chair and Jane Murphy as secretary, for a term of office of 2 years. A list of interested people present at the meeting was compiled with email contact details. Jane Murphy agreed to forward minutes and amended Terms of Reference to all participants.

Global Knowledge Sharing for Patient Safety

2nd International Patient Safety Congress

This successful conference organized by the Turkish Patient Safety Association www.patientsafetycongress.net was held 25-29 March 2008, in Antalya Turkey.

Patient Safety is an area of particular significance that is not limited solely to a certain professional groups or institutions of health. Various organizations are sources for the same set of information. The objective of this Congress was to achieve exchange of knowledge and experience on a global scale at the highest extent possible. There were delegates from ministries of health, attorneys, inspectorates of health and all disciplines of healthcare workers from 63 countries.

There was a mixture of Supporting Organizations including the following:

WHO World Alliance for Patient Safety (WAPS), delivers programmes covering systemic and technical aspects to improve patient safety around the world.

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2008 WORLD WATER DAY

WATER, SANITATION AND THE MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOAL

From **Mr. Nkwana Jacob**, a student of the Faculty of Health Science of the University of Buea, on the occasion of the 2008 world water celebration by the University of Buea Health Club, Saturday March 22, 2008

The Millennium Development Goal (MDG) is to reduce by half the proportion of people living without access to improved sanitation by 2015. MDG was supposed to be at least 50% realized by 2008. It is difficult to estimate whether this goal has been achieved, however there is evidence that the goal will not be achieved by 2015.

Most partners and funding agencies focus on potable water projects, however sanitation promotion is usually neglected. Providing a clean source of water does not guarantee that every cup of water someone drinks is clean. Human activities, for example, may lead to contamination of the water at the source or at home.

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NEW MEMBERS

L'Association des Infirmières en Prévention des Infections

(AIPI)

aipi@aipi.qc.ca

President: Danielle Goulet

Vice-President: Lyne St-Martin

Treasurer: Luce Chrétien

Secretary: Julie Vigneault

Counselors: Lucie Bellehumeur
Luce Landry



Hasta Güvenligi Dernegi

(Turkish Patient Safety Association)

mbulun@hastaguenligi.org

President: Mustafa Bulun, MD, PhD

Secretary General: Bilge Aydın

Accountant: Muhammed Bayram

Board Members: Süleyman Can Numanoğlu
Ünal Hülür
Serdar Güler
Fatih Demirbaş

Special Interest Group (SIG) Hand hygiene

Prof. dr. Nagwa Khamis, Egypt

The SIG has been very active promoting hand hygiene worldwide. We sent out a survey, *"Implementation of the WHO Guidelines on Hand Hygiene in Health Care (Advanced Draft) and the WHO Multimodal Hand Hygiene Improvement Strategy and Tools - 1st level evaluation survey"*, to all SIG members. The intent was to evaluate the stage of hand hygiene activities of each IFIC SIG member. We wanted to know whether this survey reflected the questions that the SIG members wanted to ask to each other. If it was not the case, we asked the SIG members to send extra questions upon replying. The results will be analyzed and presented at the SIG meeting during the 9th IFIC conference in Chile.

We welcome everyone who wants to participate in this SIG group. Please contact Laura Martinez-Solano, secretary SIG Hand Hygiene at MARTIN_L@WMGMAIL.wmq.warwick.ac.uk

**SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS FOR THE
NINTH CONGRESS OF THE INTERNATIONAL
FEDERATION OF INFECTION
SANTIAGO, CHILE
14 – 17 OCTOBER 2008**

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: 15 MAY 2008

The International Federation of Infection Control places great emphasis on the participation of delegates from developing countries at its annual Congress. In order to facilitate this attendance, the Federation in conjunction with the Local Organising Committee is making available a number of scholarships.

Scholarships:

At least one main award will be granted, consisting of:

- ◇ **free registration** to the conference
- ◇ refund - against receipts - of travel expenses, based on the cheapest economy itinerary (up till a **maximum of US\$1200**)
- ◇ a subsistence allowance of **\$450** to cover 4 nights accommodation.

A number of smaller bursaries are also usually awarded, covering:

- ◇ free conference registration
- ◇ a subsistence allowance of **\$450** to cover 4 nights accommodation.

In addition, all scholarship recipients will be invited to present a write-up of their conference presentation, of not less than 1000 words, to be considered for publication in the International Journal of Infection Control. If deemed acceptable, an **additional award** of **\$250** will be made once the paper has been published in the journal.

Applicants

Applicants must be active in the practice of infection control.

- ◇ Preference will be given to participant(s) living in countries with limited resources, particularly in the case of delegates from members societies affiliated with IFIC.
- ◇ Participants must present a paper, if possible in oral format, in the English or Spanish language. However poster presentations will be accepted from scholarship winning delegates who are not sufficiently proficient in the English language.

Submissions:

Two types of submissions are accepted:

Research style paper – these types of submissions study a specific aspect of infection control. Abstract should be formally structured into Introduction; Methods; Results; Conclusions. Preference will be given to submissions from low resource countries or regions where published information is currently lacking

"How we did it" – these submissions would be a more descriptive account of how infection control practitioners or teams tackled a specific I.C. challenge or brought about improvement in the prevention or control of health-care associated infections in their institution or country. Abstracts can be presented in a descriptive non-structured style.

Application forms together with submission instructions and deadlines can be downloaded from the IFIC website www.theific.org as well as from the conference webpage www.ific2008.cl/. These forms can be submitted either in English or alternatively in Spanish.

Awards:

Applications will be reviewed by a committee established by the IFIC Board, whose decision will be final. Applicants will be informed of the success or otherwise of the application by email reply to the address indicated on the application form. A list of awardees will also be published on the IFIC website.

The scholarship grant will be given in the form of a **cash refund** to the delegate at an award ceremony during the Congress. The cash refund will be given only on the production of appropriate receipts which must be submitted to the treasurer before the ceremony at the IFIC booth.

Scholarship recipients are to make and pay for their own travel and accommodation arrangements; it is also their full responsibility to ascertain whether a visa is required for travel and obtain it well in advance of the conference. In addition, all scholarship recipients are required to confirm acceptance of their award and proof of travel arrangements (purchased air ticket and/or confirmed accommodation arrangements) by not less than 2 months from the date of the conference. Failure to do so may result in the scholarship being withdrawn and offered to another candidate.

Completed scholarship applications as well as queries on the scholarship process should be emailed to: scholarships@theific.org

Requests for information on conference registration, accommodation, social events or the scientific programme should not be sent to the above address but forwarded **directly** to the local organizing committee.

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2nd International Patient Safety Congress Continued

Joint Commission International (JCI), dedicated to improving the quality and safety of health care services.

Global Standards (GS1), the leading organisation in the healthcare industry.

Health technology assessment (HTA), plays a role in health care by supporting evidence based decision making in health care policy and practice.

International Hospital Federation (IHF), worldwide body for hospitals and health care organisations with the primary goal of improving patient safety and of promoting health in underserved communities.

Other organizations included the International Federation of Infection Control (IFIC).

Gertie van Knippenberg Gordebeke, Board member of the IFIC, provided two presentations titled The Roles of the Nurses in Patient Safety and IFIC and its role in Prevention of Healthcare Associated Infections.

Every participant found the WHO Guidelines on Hand Hygiene in Health Care (advanced draft.) in their conference bag. At the closing ceremony the conclusion was that these recommendations will lead to better and safer healthcare.



Left to Right:

Dr. Paulo Dornelles Picon (Brazil), Advisor of Brazilian Ministry of Health; Gertie van Knippenberg-Gordebeke (the Netherlands), IFIC Board member; Dr. Rabia Kahveci (Turkey), Congress Scientific Secretary, President of the Evidence Based Medicine Association; Helen Hughes, (UK), Head of the WHO Office for Patient Safety, London; Dr. Joseph L. Mathew (India).

IFIC Patron Members 2008



Sweden—Basic Hygiene

New regulations by the National Board of Health and Welfare were introduced in December 2007 in Sweden regarding basic hygiene. The regulations apply when staff are in contact with patients.

Rules include:

- ◇ Working clothes—only short sleeves, change when dirty
- ◇ No jewellery or watches
- ◇ Use alcohol hand rub before and after every contact
- ◇ Wash hands when visibly soiled
- ◇ Use apron/gloves when in close contact with patient's body fluids

For more information go to :

http://www.socialstyrelsen.se/Publicerat/2007/9835/eng_comp.htm

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**Ninth IFIC Congress, VII Panamerican Control Congress, XIV Chilean Infection Control Congress
14 to October 17, 2008 - Santiago de Chile**

IMPORTANT DATES

Deadline for scholarship submission: **May 15, 2008**

Deadline for abstract submission: **July 11, 2008**

ABSTRACT and SCHOLARSHIP FORM CAN BE DOWNLOADED FROM: <http://www.ific2008.cl>

Confirmation of acceptance of abstracts: **August 15, 2008**

Early registration fee deadline: **June 30, 2008**

Student registration: **June 30, 2008**

**Palais des Congrès
Montréal, Québec
May 29 - June 5, 2008**

CHICA 2008 Education Conference

Conference Planning Office:

Gerry Hansen BA, Conference Planner

Kelli Wagner, Conference Assistant

Community and Hospital Infection Control Association – Canada

Association pour la prévention des infections à l'hôpital et dans la communauté – Canada

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<http://www.chica.org>

<http://www.aipi.qc.ca>



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INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES 2008

May 15-16

10th Annual Patient Safety Congress
National Patient Safety Foundation
Gaylord Opryland Resort & Convention Center
Nashville, Tennessee
www.npsf.org/npsfac/

June 15-19

2008 APIC Annual Conference
Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology
Colorado Convention Center
Denver, Colorado
<http://conference.apic.org//AM/Template.cfm?Section=Home3>

August 4-5

6th Annual World Congress Leadership Summit on Healthcare Quality
Boston, Massachusetts
www.worldcongress.com/events/HL08025/index.cfm?confCode=HL08025

October 19-22

25th International Conference
The International Society for Quality in Health Care
Copenhagen, Denmark
www.isqua.org

November 20-21

National Conference on Patient Safety and Quality
The Joint Commission
Chicago, Illinois
www.jcrinc.com/26580/

December 8-11

20th Annual National Forum
Institute for Healthcare Improvement
Nashville, Tennessee
www.ihl.org/IHI/Programs/ConferencesAndSeminars/20thNationalForumonQualityImprovement.htm

International Journal of Infection Control

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**The latest edition of the International Journal of Infection Control
is now online at www.ijic.info**

The journal is freely and fully accessible to registered users

Contents:

- First Global Patient Safety Challenge: Clean Care is Safer Care
- A Global Approach to Control Nosocomial Infections in a Large General Teaching Hospital
- Implementation of an Infection Control Programme in Kano, Northern Nigeria
- Improving patient care and reducing the hospital acquired infection rate in ageing facilities
- Reducing hospital acquired *Clostridium difficile* associated diarrhoea in an acute care facility
- Reducing hospital acquired infections and professional exposures to blood borne infections through training, surveillance and intervention
- *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* infection in an intensive care unit
- Incidence of surgical site infections and accompanying risk factors in Algerian patients

The **Oxoid Infection Control Seminar** will take place, held under the auspices of IFIC, on Tuesday **13 May 2008** at the Walton Hall & Hotel, UK.

Dr Kevin Towner, of Nottingham's Queen's Medical Centre, begins the morning session with a presentation on "Acinetobacter - old friend or new foe", followed by Dr Mike Cooper, of the Royal Wolverhampton Hospital NHS Trust, presenting on "Turning the tide on healthcare associated infection". The morning ends with Dr Andrew Pearson, of the Health Protection Agency, Colindale, UK, talking about, "Outbreaks and the role of the laboratory in controlling incidence of *Clostridium difficile*".

Dr Paul Giannasca, vice president for development at Acambis, kicks off the afternoon session with a presentation entitled, "A vaccine for the management of *C. difficile*-associated disease (CDAD)". Prof Alasdair MacGowan, of North Bristol NHS Trust, will talk on changing prescribing habits before Professor Brian Duerden, of Cardiff University, closes the meeting with a lecture on "Tackling healthcare associated infections in the NHS; biology, behaviour and performance management".

Further details of this event can be downloaded Infection Control Awards at www.oxoid.com. To reserve a place at this event, please send your full contact details by email to the event manager, Fiona Macrae at oxoid.awards@thermofisher.com.

Reducing HAIs through better hand hygiene - what's new in Clean Care is Safer Care?

Global Awareness Raising moves to a new level

With overwhelming support for establishing a global day of action on hand hygiene improvement in health care, we are now planning to have the first global hand hygiene day in 2009. On this day, professionals in health care facilities from all over the world will be invited to raise awareness and improve hand hygiene compliance. We hope that this day will become an annual event, planting a flag on the calendar of every health care facility, everywhere in the world.

If you want to comment on this global awareness day or have any ideas to help us shape it, we want to hear from you. Please email patientsafety@who.int and in the subject line please include: global hand hygiene day.

Field Testing - evaluation

The Complementary Testing of the Hand Hygiene Implementation Strategy is currently the subject of evaluation and all participating centres are being contacted and requested to complete a number of evaluation surveys. If you have been sent a survey we look forward to your response. If you are interested in learning more about the field testing visit http://www.who.int/gpsc/country_work/en/

Network of National Campaigns:

Costa Rica joins the network on May 29th when its Minister of Health launches the official scale up of Clean Care is Safer Care.

Do let us know if you are considering, or about to launch a national campaign/strategy on hand hygiene improvement - we are establishing a special web platform for all national level campaigners/strategists to maintain ongoing contact and share learning.

For further information visit:

http://www.who.int/gpsc/national_campaigns/en/

IFIC Congress 2008

My Five Moments for Hand Hygiene is at the heart of the WHO Strategy and will be the focus of a special workshop at the IFIC Congress in Chile in October. The workshop will provide an opportunity for all infection control leaders to hear first hand the background behind the concept and how its application is revolutionizing infection control training and understanding across the world. Look out for more details in the newsletter.

General Feedback:

If you have any feedback relating to the First Global Patient Safety Challenge, or if you would like to share your approach towards cleaner and safer health care, please share it with us at patientsafety@who.int

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WORLD WATER DAY

These activities include:

1. waste/sewage disposal at the water source
2. dirty surroundings of the water source
3. quarrelling or fighting over buckets
4. using the same cup to drink and to get water from the drinking pail
5. dirty pail or lid
6. prolonged storage
7. failure to cover the drinking pail

Sharing one cup may also lead to transmission of infections from one person to another.

The theme for this year's World Water Day, "water and sanitation" is very vital. Lack of access to potable water and poor sanitation in sub-Saharan Africa is a reflection of global human poverty.

WHO estimates that about 62% of people in sub-Saharan Africa do not have access to good drinking water and 55% of the urban population lack access to toilets and other sanitation facilities (per UN-Habitat's Executive Director Anna Tibaijuka).

Recommendations and Way Forward

1. Sanitation should be recognized as a national development priority that needs to be supported by adequate policies and budgetary allocations.
2. The mobilization of investment capital is critical so that water and sewerage utilities are able to upgrade and extend infrastructure and services to meet un-served populations.
3. Greater community involvement, particularly of women, in water and sanitation management combined with simple technology for easy maintenance can greatly facilitate cost recovery and help ensure equitable access to good water. Hygiene promotion and toilets should be included in the minimum package for schools.

IMED 2009 (International Meeting on Emerging Diseases & Surveillance)

The next IMED meeting will be held in Vienna, Austria, from February 13 to 16, 2009. You can sign up for the mailing list and follow updates at the IMED website: <http://imed.isid.org/>