Chair Update

To all our readers, welcome to 2013, and to a new issue of the e-Newsletter!

2012 was a busy year, and one in which we hope we managed to increase our impact in helping our members establish closer links with each other. The uniqueness of the multi organization infrastructure of IFIC is probably its major strength, as it allows continuous opportunities for networking and collaboration. Some years ago, we invited all IFIC members to ensure their voices were heard, and requested they sent in their suggestions as to how IFIC could continue growing, and becoming stronger and more effective. Some Societies responded vigorously, others less so.

We are now offering all our members (Societies and Associates) this opportunity once again. The IFIC Member Survey will shortly be available, and we encourage all our readers to take a small amount of time to let us on the Board know what you think of the Organization, how best it can serve you, what needs to be done to improve our effectiveness, and how we can further help to enhance your opportunities to network within your region, and beyond.

Thank you,

Judith Richards, MD, Chair, 2013 IFIC Board

NEXT IFIC CONFERENCE

The Thirteenth International Congress of the International Federation of Infection Control will run from Wednesday 2 October 2013 until Friday 4 October 2013 and will be held in collaboration with the XIII Argentine Congress on Epidemiology, Infection Control, and Patient Safety, ADECI in Buenos Aires, Argentina at the Panamerican Hotel & resort.

Registration and free paper abstract submission opens March 15. Keynote lectures will cover Infection control: the other side of the moon and Environment and infection prevention. Session titles include: Infections in the ICU; Education models; Disinfection; Use of antimicrobials; Governmental regulation; Reuse of single-use devices; Admission screening; Bundles and checklists; and Surgical site infections. The full program will be available by July 15.
**NEW MEMBER SOCIETY**

Saudi Society of Medical Microbiology & Infectious Diseases (SSMMID)

Dr. Huda Bukhari, Chairperson  
Ms. Tiseer Shathan, Secretary  
Dr. Amer AlOmar, Treasurer  
Contacts:  
Dr. Mohammed Garot  
Dr. Mshera Enani  
Dr. Batool Ali  
Dr. Muhamed Qotab  
Dr. Ahmad Al-Barrag  
Dr. Reem Al-Jindan

**MEMBER FEES**

As per resolution at the 2012 AGM, please note there has been an increase in the fees: £120 for Societies annually, £75 for Associate Members for a three year membership, and £15/three years or £5/year fee for Associate Membership for infection control practitioners working in low resource countries.

In certain circumstance, the IFIC Board will consider exemption from low resource countries. All requests should be sent to registration@theific.org for consideration. The exemption will be awarded on yearly basis. See the Membership web site for further details. [http://www.theific.org/membersocieties.asp](http://www.theific.org/membersocieties.asp).

**European Hand Hygiene Excellence Award & Innovation Award 2013**

The University of Geneva Hospitals WHO Collaborating Centre on Patient Safety in conjunction with the European Infection Control Societies and Aesculap Academy would like to invite you to participate in the European Hand Hygiene Excellence Award. The Award is conceived as a platform to recognize, honour, and celebrate those hospitals and healthcare-worker groups who have used their enthusiasm and knowledge to improve patient safety through the successful implementation of the WHO multimodal strategy in their healthcare facility. A second prize, the European Hand Hygiene Innovation Award, has now been created to stimulate creativity and novel solutions to promote improved compliance and sustainability in hand hygiene practices.

Applicants must fill out the two questionnaires and may add additional supporting documents. Here is the link to the website. [http://www.handhygieneexcellenceaward.com/](http://www.handhygieneexcellenceaward.com/)

**ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP—NEW WEB SITE**

The associate membership category was created in 2009. Associate members are defined as individuals professionally involved or interested in infection prevention and control as well as non-commercial organisations which do not fulfil the criteria of full members. They are entitled to receive all published materials as well as any other benefits open to members. However they are not entitled to vote or hold office.

We have now incorporated a Members only section on our web page*. All Associate members will receive a password when their membership is accepted. This will provide them access to this special site, which we will continue building with information about IFIC, lectures, resources, etc. We hope you will all enjoy it!

*Member Societies will also be issued a password on confirmation of annual membership renewal. This password will give their members access to the web site.

**WANT TO JOIN IFIC AS AN ASSOCIATE MEMBER? GO TO** [http://www.theific.org/reg1b.asp](http://www.theific.org/reg1b.asp)—75£ for a 3-year membership  
(£15/three years or £5/year fee for individuals from low resource settings)
Free teleclasses

Teleclasses are held monthly and focus on emerging key topics in infection prevention and control, including the perspective of settings with limited resources. Take advantage of this excellent virtual training opportunity to keep up-to-date alongside colleagues from around the globe! In order to participate, visit [http://webbertraining.com/schedulep1.php](http://webbertraining.com/schedulep1.php).

YOU CAN PAY FOR A FULL YEAR SUBSCRIPTION

To save approximately 40% on teleclass registration fees, to access ALL of the 2013 teleclasses (including those added through the year), ALL of the slides and handouts, and access to ALL of the on-line recordings, consider registering for a Full Year Subscription - [https://webbertraining.com/subscriptioninfoc50.php](https://webbertraining.com/subscriptioninfoc50.php). Members in low-resource nations are automatically registered for a Full Year Subscription at no cost.

February 6: Dr. Benedetta Allegranzi, WHO
**IMPROVING THE PATIENT SAFETY CULTURE AS A SUCCESSFUL COMPONENT OF INFECTION CONTROL STRATEGIES**

February 12: Debbie King, NHS Solihull Clinical Commissioning Group, UK
**COMMISSIONING IPS SERVICES IN THE NEW NHS**

March 6: Prof. Yves Longtin, University of Laval, Canada
**PATIENT PARTICIPATION IN HAND HYGIENE PROMOTION AND IMPROVEMENT**

April 9: Prof. John Boyce, Yale University, Connecticut
**INNOVATION AND NEW INDICATORS IN HAND HYGIENE MONITORING**

April 25: Prof. Bill Rutala, University of North Carolina, USA
**ROLE OF SURFACES IN DISEASE TRANSMISSION: DOES ENHANCED DISINFECTION REDUCE TRANSMISSION?**

May 2: Dr. M. Rashad Massoud, Quality & Performance Institute, Maryland, USA
**IMPROVING HEALTHCARE QUALITY**

### AFFILIATE MEMBERSHIP

IFIC has created a new category of AFFILIATE MEMBERSHIP, available to educational and other bodies or societies, associations and organizations that provide primarily training, education and/or research in infection prevention & control, but whose members do not also offer day to day delivery of Infection Prevention & Control in healthcare facilities. Affiliate membership offers all benefits (except voting rights) of membership such as regular communications and updates and access to the “membership only” site of the IFIC web site. The current fee is UK £ 75 per annum.

IFIC’s first affiliate member is Griffith University.

Dr Ramon Shaban, Chairperson
Contacts: Dr Cathryn Murphy  
Dr Deborough MacBeth

Ms Cathy Roberts, Secretary
Ms Claire Boardman
Ms Peta Anne-Zimmerman

Dr Claire Rickard

### IFIC BOARD REGIONAL COORDINATORS

IFIC Board members are appointed as regional coordinators to channel regional queries and to have that person a liaison between member societies in that region and the board. The membership secretary is the link and coordinator for these regional coordinators. The regional coordinators are as follows:

America 1*: Terrie Lee
America 2**: Carolina Giuffré
Europe: Emese Szilagyi/Anni Juhl-Jørgensen
Asia: Patricia Ching Tai-Yin
EMRO: Nagwa Khamis
Africa: Abimbola Sowande

*USA, Canada, Japan, Australia & New Zealand  ** South & Central America, Mexico & West Indies
IFIC Martin S. Favero 2013 Award
for Active Contribution to Global Infection Prevention & Control

The International Federation of Infection Control welcomes nominations from Member Societies, as well as Patron and Associate Members for the: IFIC Martin S. Favero 2013 Award for Active Contribution to Global Infection Prevention & Control. This award has been created to honour the international contributions of Martin S. Favero, Ph.D. in the field of infection prevention & control and is kindly sponsored by Advanced Sterilization Products, Irvine, CA.

It aims to recognize the lifetime achievements of those working in the field of infection prevention and control, who have made significant contributions to global infection prevention. One recipient will be selected each year and will receive the award at the annual conference of International Federation of Infection Control (IFIC).

Eligibility
Persons eligible for the Martin S. Favero Award should be professionals practicing infection prevention and control within a health care setting for at least three years. They should additionally meet the following criteria:

1. Be a recognized expert who has made significant contributions to the field of infection prevention and control at an international level, especially in developing countries and/or limited resource regions.
2. Have evidence of outstanding and significant contributions to the fields of infection prevention as evident by publications (e.g., peer-reviewed scientific publications, chapters in professional texts, etc) and/or presentations at national and international professional conferences.
3. Achieved international recognition as an investigator and authority in infection prevention.
4. Have a reputation for giving an excellent presentation.
5. Must not have received the award in previous years.

Application/Nominations
- Nominations are solicited from IFIC member societies as well as Patron & Associate Members.
- Nominees will be judged by an appointed selection committee which will examine the curriculum vitae, a nomination letter and at least one letter of support.

Nomination Deadline
Nominations must be submitted on or before 15th March 2013.

Nomination Process
- Completed applications should be addressed to the Chair, International Federation of Infection Control through an email sent to awards@theific.org. Applications received after the deadline will not be considered.
- The email should include:
  - Full details of the nominating member.
  - A nominator's written explanation for choosing the candidate
  - A current curriculum vitae that includes research activities, publications, international activities relevant to the subject of infection prevention.
  - One letter of support and two professional references; each professional reference must include name, title, address, phone number and email address, if available.

Selection Process
- The IFIC Chair will assemble a team of at least three (3) persons to serve as the selection committee for this award.
- The selection committee will review the applications using a scoring grid based on pre-established criteria and scoring guidelines. The winning nominee will then be submitted to the Chair for approval.

Award Process
- The winner will be notified of the decision by end April 2013, and invited to attend the annual IFIC conference, present the Marty S. Favero keynote lecture and receive the Award.
- IFIC will also inform Martin S. Favero (or his designee) and Advanced Sterilization Products of the winner.
- The organizations/persons submitting a nomination will be sent a letter notifying them of the name of the winner, and thanking them for their efforts.
APPLICATIONS FOR IFIC SCHOLARSHIPS

INSTRUCTIONS TO APPLICANTS:

• IFIC invites applications from professionals working in Infection Control for scholarships to attend the 13th Congress of the International Federation of Infection Control.

• At least one main award will be granted, consisting of:
  ◊ free registration to the conference
  ◊ travel expenses (against receipts), based on the cheapest economy itinerary to Buenos Aires (up till a maximum of $1200)
  ◊ subsistence allowance of $500.
  ◊ A number of smaller bursaries are also usually awarded, covering:
    ◊ free conference registration
    ◊ subsistence allowance of $500

Following their congress participation, all scholarship recipients will be invited to present a write-up in English of their paper/poster to be considered for publication in the International Journal of Infection Control (www.ijic.info). If deemed acceptable, an additional award of $200, will be made once the paper has been published in the journal.

• ONLY WRITE IN THE GREY SPACES. In order to fill in, place cursor on the section, click the left mouse button once to highlight and then type in the information.

• Once complete, click the SUBMIT button to forward your abstract.

• CLOSING DATE FOR SUBMISSION IS 31 MARCH 2013. Submissions after this date will not be accepted.

Sponsorship applicants will be informed of the decision of the IFIC Committee at the email address given for correspondence and the decision will be final.

To complete the application place cursor in the appropriate section/box, click the mouse button on it and then type in the information required. Once completed, click the SUBMIT button to forward your abstract.

An automatic acknowledgement of your application will be received after submission; if you do not receive this acknowledgement, please inform the organisers on scholarships@theific.org.
International Journal of Infection Control

Prof. Smilja Kalenic, from Croatia, is the Journal Editor. She is supported by Elizabeth Scicluna as Journal Administrator and an excellent Board of Assistant Editors (Steve Barrett, and Bill Newsom). Thank you to all those who submit their papers to IJIC and please keep them coming! Contact Ms Elizabeth Anne Scicluna at elizabeth.scicluna@theific.org

International Journal of Infection Control recently published its latest issue at http://www.ijic.info/. We invite you to review the Table of Contents here and then visit our web site to review articles and items of interest. Thanks for the continuing interest in our work.

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Editorial Commentary
Surveillance of health care-associated infections around the world, Petra Gastmeier

Original Articles
Surveillance of health care associated infections in low to middle resource countries, Nizam Damani

What are these results telling me?, Elizabeth Anne Scicluna

From Around the Globe
Incidence and risk factors of surgical site infection in a tertiary health institution in Kano, Northwestern Nigeria, Emmanuel Onwubiko Nwankwo, Isaiah Ibeh, O I Enabulele

Prevalence and predictors of wound infection in elective clean and clean/contaminated surgery in Khartoum Teaching Hospital, Sudan, Abubaker Ibrahim Elbur, Miraghami Yousif, Ahmed ElSayed, Manar AbdelRahman

Surveillance of healthcare-associated infections in Hungary, Emese Szialgyi, Karolina Böröcz, Andrea Kurcz

Shaping the future for quality: Initiating active surveillance as foundation to drive improvement for health care-associated infections, Ng Wai Khuan, Helge Springhorn

Surveillance of multi-drug resistant pathogens in two Romanian university hospitals, Monica Licker, Luminita Baditoiu, Delia Muntean, Liliana Dragomirescu, Florin Horhat, Ciprian Piluș, Elena Hogea, Petru Deutsch, Angela Adam, Roxana Moldovan

INVITATION TO SUBMIT MANUSCRIPTS

We invite you to submit your manuscripts to be considered for publication in the International Journal of Infection Control (IJIC). The aim of the journal is to provide a forum for infection control (IC) professionals to disseminate research and practice information and encourage IC initiatives on an international level.

The journal is fully electronic and can be accessed at http://www.ijic.info. The submission is performed online and you can keep track of the whole process in the authors’ section of the IJIC website. Submissions can be:

- Review articles: 5000 words maximum; comprehensive references; 5-10 key words; unstructured abstract up to 250 words.

- Original articles: 5000 words maximum; comprehensive references; 5-10 key words; unstructured abstract up to 250 words.

- Short reports: Case reports can be submitted if they illustrate some exceptional point in the field of infection prevention and control. 1000 words maximum; up to 10 references.

- Practice Forum: Submissions of a more descriptive account of how IC practitioners or teams tackled a specific challenge or brought about improvement in the prevention or control of healthcare-associated infections in their institution or country. 2000 words maximum; unstructured format.

- Letters to the editor: Correspondence to the Editor may refer to material published recently in IJIC or alternatively describe brief accounts of new observations or on other matters of interest. 500 words maximum; unstructured format.

Looking forward to your submissions.
**BASIC CONCEPTS**

IFIC continues with its aim to provide up-to-date, scientifically sound tools and educational materials that can be used by professionals worldwide. This new edition of IFIC Basic Concepts of Infection Control builds on its predecessors, enhancing and updating in a scientific way the knowledge required as a foundation on which local policies and procedures can be developed. Most chapters have been reviewed and brought up-to-date by an international panel of experts, and new ones have been added to ensure this new edition provides a sound comprehensive knowledge base. IFIC Basic Concepts of Infection Control is available at [http://www.theific.org/basic_concepts/index.htm](http://www.theific.org/basic_concepts/index.htm).

The publication and dissemination of this book in English was made possible through an unrestricted educational grant from BD. The International Federation of Infection Control is extremely grateful for their support.

Basic Concepts is available in languages other than English thanks to BD, Meiko, Board members, and our member societies. Check the web site for updates during 2013 as chapters are added!

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**Information Resources in Infection Control**

The 7th edition (2013) of the Information Resources in Infection Control is now available on IFIC’s web site. The aim of the IFIC Information Resources in Infection Control is to provide key references, publications and website addresses to infection prevention and control practitioners worldwide. The booklet is updated on an annual basis. Many thanks to Dr Nizam Damani for updating this valuable resource.

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Want these infection prevention and control resources on your smartphone, tablet or e-reader? It’s easy to do—just download the PDF file from IFIC’s web site & save it to your book app—it will be available whenever you want to view it!
IFIC Survey – disposal of waste (faeces and urine)

IFIC’s survey about disposal of faeces and urine was announced in IFIC’s newsletter in July. The survey has been extended, and will be open until the end of March 2013. Please bring it to the attention of your colleagues!

Associations—please make a link on your website. The survey is available now in 6 languages:

- English: http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/IFICwaste
- German: http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/JDNW7H
- Spanish: http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/BMZHMVD
- Thai: http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/YZC7QR2

If the survey does not open automatically, you can copy the link and paste it in the address bar of your internet browser.

Please fill in the survey. It should take no longer than a couple of minutes to complete.

We would like to acknowledge and thank our corporate Strategic Partners for their support and assistance in the fulfillment of our projects and initiatives.
Meet the Newest IFIC Board Members

**Group D: Abimbola Sowande, MD**
Abimbola is a public health physician who has been practicing for over 36 years with the last three decades in public health. She is currently the Country Director of Injection Safety project in Nigeria and also a founding Board member/Treasurer of Infection Control African Network (ICAN). She has facilitated the spread infection control best practices lessons to more sites across Nigeria hence promoting IS (injection safety) education of healthcare workers in African's most populous country with a very weak health system.

**Group E: Paula Carolina Giuffré**
Carolina is past President of the Argentine Association of Infection Control Nurses. She has been very active in various professional societies and public agencies. She is a nurse in hospital-acquired infection control at the Hospital Británico de Buenos Aires (HBBA).

World Health Organization

The coming months will see our next steps towards 5 May 2013! Remember the WHO call to action this year is about hand hygiene monitoring and feedback as well as patient participation in hand hygiene promotion! Our team will progressively deliver support to help you focus on these topics and support your plans for 5 May celebrations and activities!

Heading towards 5 May, please continue to encourage other facilities to register for SAVE LIVES: Clean Your Hands to be part of this global initiative and to celebrate 5 May 2013! We aim to gather new health-care settings joining especially from countries that have LOW or NO registrations.

Patient participation in hand hygiene promotion is one of the focuses that we propose for 5 May 2013! To support your activities in this field, we launched a new web page on this topic where you will find general information, our tools and an inventory of videos of existing patient stories on health care-associated infection and patient participation in hand hygiene! Many health-care settings around the world have implemented patient participation programmes and experienced the great added value as well as the challenges. We will also compile a document summarizing the evidence about patient participation/empowerment in hand hygiene promotion and provide a list of interesting publications.

http://www.who.int/gpsc/5may/en/

SAVE THE DATES!

**IFIC 2013**
Buenos Aires, Argentina
2-4 October

**CHICA 2013 National Scientific Conference**
Le congrès national de 2013
Ottawa (Ontario, Canada)
1-5 June/juin 2013

**APIC 2013 Annual Conference (40th)**
Ft. Lauderdale, Florida
8-10 June

**Infection Prevention 2013 (IPS)**
Excel London.
30 September - 2 October

See http://www.chica.org/ific/ific.php for more information.
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