Chair Update

Welcome to the October issue of the IFIC e-Newsletter. As you read through this issue, you will see information about our upcoming annual Congress in March 2016, occurring in Vienna, Austria. You’ll also see a new course offered by IFIC on changing behaviours. Michael Borg and our conference committee have been working hard to bring these learning opportunities to all of us, so please take advantage of them as you are able. There’s also information about the upcoming new edition of our text, Basic Concepts.

At the end of 2015, the IFIC Board will be sad to say goodbye to retiring Board Member Anni Juhl-Jorgensen, from Denmark. Anni was supported by the Danish Society of Infection Control Nurses. She has served on the IFIC Board from 2012-2015, representing western European infection control societies. Most recently, she has been the Chair of the Education Committee; her participation on the IFIC Board will be greatly missed!

The IFIC Board will be meeting at the end of October, and we will have additional items of interest to report to you in the January issue of our newsletter. Until then, we know that many of you continue to address important infections such as Ebola, special types of influenza, and MERS. Through immunisation programs in Nigeria, we know that problems with polio have been controlled.

The ongoing work of infection prevention and control programs will always be needed to improve the health of our patients and communities. Thank you for the work that you and your infection control societies contribute to those global improvements.

Terrie B. Lee
IFIC Chair

NEXT IFIC CONFERENCE

Mark your calendars for the 16th IFIC Congress in Vienna, Austria, 16-19 March 2016. It will be held along with the Austrian Society for Hygiene, Microbiology and Preventive Medicine (Österreichische Gesellschaft für Hygiene, Mikrobiologie und Präventivmedizin).

Go to http://www.ific2016.com/ for information—and see pages 5 and 6.
IFIC Basic Concepts Course in Infection Prevention and Control

A Basic Infection Control training programme has been developed for training professionals with infection prevention and control as a responsibility and also provides materials to teach healthcare workers. The course information is available at [http://theific.org/basic-ic-training-course-outline/](http://theific.org/basic-ic-training-course-outline/)

The course consists of six elements:

1. Background of infection prevention and control
2. Responsibility to adhere to principles and practices of infection prevention and control and to monitor performance
3. Modes and mechanisms of spread of microorganisms in the health care setting and strategies for prevention and control
4. Use of engineering and work practice controls and preventive practices to reduce the opportunity for exposure to potentially contaminated material and infected patients
5. Creation and maintenance of a safe environment through application of infection prevention and control principles and practices
6. Prevention and management of infectious diseases in healthcare workers

Guidelines for instructors can be found at [http://theific.org/basic-ic-training-guidelines-for-instructors/](http://theific.org/basic-ic-training-guidelines-for-instructors/)

Course on Behaviour Change in Infection Prevention & Control

“Traditional attempts to persuade and influence clinicians to change behaviour, such as compliance with a protocol in the interest of improving the quality of patient care, have by and large failed…. The publication of evidence in peer-reviewed journals, does not necessarily lead, in and of itself, to clinicians’ changing their practice.”

World Health Organisation

IFIC’s novel Course on Behaviour Change in Infection Prevention & Control (IPC) has been designed to help you improve your skills and ability to influence better IPC compliance among healthcare professionals within your institution.

- **Use** behaviour theory and social / cultural anthropology to appreciate the reasons why IPC compliance remains often sub-optimal.
- **Learn** how to develop more effective strategies by understanding adult education essentials as well as human factor modification.
- **Recognise** the fundamentals of behaviour change and the multifaceted approach needed to achieve it.
- **Adapt** the already existing knowledge base in other health settings, as well as in industry, to IPC so as to improve the success of your interventions.
- **Discuss** and share your experiences and challenges with fellow IPC professionals in a small group setting.

When: 2nd to 4th November 2015
Where: New Dolmen Hotel, Bugibba, Malta

Further details, including course programme, registration instructions and the online application form can be accessed at: [www.theific.org/changecourse](http://www.theific.org/changecourse)

Any queries can be sent through an email to: changecourse@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 (Walter Popp, Judith Richards, and Kathryn Suh). Dr. Suh, from Canada, will become Journal Editor in 2016.

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.

Editorial Commentary

Editorial Smilja Kalenic

Original Articles

Importance of mechanical action in a terminal disinfection process for decontamination of Clostridium difficile spores on hospital inert contact surfaces. AA Mafu, R Massicotte, G Pichette, D Ahmad

Central line associated bloodstream infections in hospitalized children in Greece before and after implementation of a prevention bundle. K Mougkou, D Gkentzi, G Kourlabà, S Kouni, I Kopsidas, C Nteli, T Zaoutis, S Coffin

Microbial contamination of air and protective wears in the operating theatre and surgical wards of two tertiary hospitals in Kano, Northwestern Nigeria. EO Nwankwo, E Nwachukwu, PO Nwankwo

Seroprevalence of HIV, HBV, HCV and syphilis in obstetrics and gynaecology patients in West Java, Indonesia. SY Irda Sari, A Rachmawati, B Alisjahbana, H Susanto

Faecal carriage of Extended Spectrum Beta-lactamase producing Escherichia coli and Klebsiella Pneumoniae in children from the community of Kwadedangendlae, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. S Mahomed, YM Coovadia

Prevalence of multidrug resistant Acinetobacter baumannii in clinical samples in a tertiary care hospital. S Sudharan, L Vemu, P Kanne

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.
IFIC continues with its aim to provide up-to-date, scientifically sound tools and educational materials that can be used by professionals the world over. Basic Concepts of Infection Control is being updated to incorporate new scientific knowledge since the 2011 edition. Chapters will be reviewed and brought up-to-date by an international panel of experts, and new ones will be added to ensure this new edition provides a sound comprehensive knowledge base.

The current edition of 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.

The 2011 edition of Basic Concepts is available in languages other than English thanks to BD, Meiko, IFIC Board members, and our member societies.

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*: Donna Moralejo
- America 2**: Carolina Giuffré
- Europe: Biljana Carevic/Birgit Ross
- Asia: Jeanne Pfeiffer
- EMRO: Nagwa Khamis
- Africa: Abimbola Sowande

* USA, Canada, Japan, Israel, Australia & New Zealand
** South & Central America, Mexico & West Indies

We would like to acknowledge and thank our Corporate Partners for their support and assistance in the fulfillment of our projects and initiatives.
Sixteenth Congress of the International Federation of Infection Control

CONFERENCE VENUE
Austria Trend Hotel Savoyen
Rennweg 16, Vienna, A-1030, Austria
www.austria-trend.at/Hotel-Savoyen-Vienna/en/

REGISTRATION
Conference registration will commence from 15 September 2015. Early bird reduced fees will remain applicable until 15 January 2016. Registration can be performed online or by downloading the registration form from the congress website and e-mailing/faxing it to the organisers. All applications should be accompanied by payment of the full registration fee.

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION
Abstracts will be accepted through the conference website from 01 September 2015. The deadline for submission of abstract is 15 November 2015. The final decision about abstract acceptance will be communicated by 15 December 2015. Submissions can be either research based or practice oriented.

World Health Organization

The Hand Hygiene Self-Assessment Framework Global Survey deadline has been extended to 31 October 2015.

Submit your survey results on line - find instructions here:
http://www.who.int/gpsc/5may/HHSAF2015_EN.pdf
http://www.who.int/gpsc/5may/HHSAF2015_FR.pdf
http://www.who.int/gpsc/5may/HHSAF2015_ES.pdf

Or you can email WHO if you have any questions at info@whohandhygienesurvey.org

WHO can accept any Hand Hygiene Self-Assessment Frameworks completed in your facility in 2015 for this important global report. You do not have to complete it again now in September or October to be part of the survey.

The Hand Hygiene Self-Assessment Framework (http://www.who.int/gpsc/5may/hhssa_framework/en/) provides a situation analysis of hand hygiene resources, promotion and practices within health-care facilities. After completing the Framework, you can use and adapt the WHO Template Action Plans (http://www.who.int/gpsc/5may/EN_PSP_GPSC1_5May_2012/en/) to implement your plans for local improvement based upon the Framework results.

NEW AFFILIATE MEMBER

The Sankara Nethralaya Academy in India http://www.thesnacademy.ac.in/

Chair Dr. S S Badrinath
Treasurer Mr. Sugal Chand Jain
Registrar Mrs. Akila Ganesan
Deputy Registrar Mr. A Mahalingam
Head - Optometry Dr. Anuja R Singh
Assistant Professor Mr. G Senthil Kumar
Secretary Mr. G Ramachandran
Managing Director Dr. K S Vasan
Principal Prof. S Ramani
Academic Manager Mrs. CG Sreedevi
Infection Control Coordinator Mrs. Renganayaki
IFIC2016 PROGRAMME UPDATES

Keynote lectures:
Semmelweiss: the man behind the myth  
Manfred Rotter
How can we manage the future?  
Christoph Kucklick
Hospital organisation, management, and structure for prevention of health-care-associated infection – what are the essentials?  
Stephan Harbarth
Healthcare-Associated Bacteria: Transmission and Spread  
Hajo Grundmann

Pro-con sessions:
Infection control can only improve with more & better evidence based medical studies
Yes: Gary French; No: Michael Borg
What is the main impact of antibiotic stewardship programmes?
Save money: Andreas Voss; Reduce antibiotic resistance: Agnes Wechsler-Fördös

Symposia:
French/German societies  Vision-Zero: How others do it
HIS  Multi resistant Gram Negative HAIs: still time to bolt the stable doors?
IFIC  Behaviour change in infection prevention & control
      My favourite papers on...
      Gram-positives: still relevant?
OEGHMP  Infection prevention in ERCP and other invasive endoscopic procedures
      Infections in intensive care
APIC/CHICA/CBIC  My top infection control intervention
French/German societies  Vision-Zero: How others do it
HIS  Multi resistant Gram Negative HAIs: still time to bolt the stable doors?

Keypad interactive workshops:
Prevention of infection in haemodialysis units
Outbreak!
### SAVE THE DATES!

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>IFIC Course on Behaviour Change in IP&amp;C</strong></td>
<td>2-4 November 2015</td>
<td>New Dolmen Hotel, Malta</td>
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<td><strong>Sixteenth International Congress of the International Federation of</strong></td>
<td>16-19 March 2016</td>
<td>Vienna, Austria</td>
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<td><strong>Danish Society of Hospital Hygiene and Sterile Supply</strong></td>
<td>4-5 November 2015</td>
<td>Nyborg Strand, Denmark</td>
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<td><strong>Australasian College for Infection Prevention and Control (ACIPC)</strong></td>
<td>22-25 November 2015</td>
<td>Hobart, Tasmania</td>
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<td><strong>1st International Conference on Quality of Care, Risk Management and</strong></td>
<td>8-11 December 2015</td>
<td>Bassam, Ivory Coast</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>17th International Congress on Infectious Diseases (ICID)</strong></td>
<td>2-5 March 2016</td>
<td>Hyderabad, India</td>
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<td><strong>13. Kongress für Krankenhaushygiene</strong></td>
<td>10-13 April 2016</td>
<td>Berlin Mitte, Germany</td>
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<td><strong>IPAC Canada 2016 National Education Conference and 40th Anniversary</strong></td>
<td>15-18 May 2016</td>
<td>Niagara Falls, Ontario</td>
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<td><strong>APIC’s 43rd Annual Conference</strong></td>
<td>11-13 June 2016</td>
<td>Charlotte, North Carolina, USA</td>
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<td><strong>6th Infection Control Africa Network Congress</strong></td>
<td>23-28 September 2016</td>
<td>Johannesburg, South Africa</td>
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<td><strong>November 4-7, 2016</strong></td>
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<td>Vienna, Austria</td>
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INTERNATIONAL ATTENDEE SCHOLARSHIP

IPAC Canada and Sage Products LLC are pleased to announce the launch of the Sage International Attendee Scholarship. The purpose of the Scholarship is to provide financial assistance to eligible infection prevention and control professionals from under-resourced nations to attend an IPAC Canada National Education Conference.

The maximum amount granted to each recipient per award year would be the equivalent of five thousand dollars ($5000.00 CAD). Applicants will not necessarily receive the full amount. The award will include registration for the entire conference, including both pre and post conference education sessions, economy air travel, and a maximum of five (5) nights’ accommodation, and meals. In addition, the applicant will receive one complimentary ticket to the conference special event(s).


Avenues to Access ProMED

ProMED - the Program for Monitoring Emerging Diseases - is an Internet-based reporting system dedicated to rapid global dissemination of information on outbreaks of infectious diseases and acute exposures to toxins that affect human health, including those in animals and in plants grown for food or animal feed. Electronic communications enable ProMED to provide up-to-date and reliable news about threats to human, animal, and food plant health around the world, seven days a week.

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