



International Federation of Infection Control

IFIC e-News

<http://www.theifc.org/>

2009 IFIC CONGRESS

LITHUANIA
6-11 October 2009
10th IFIC Congress
Vilnius
Lithuania

Chair Update

Dear IFIC members,

The International Federation of Infection Control has long supported the continuing education of infection prevention and control professionals throughout the world. One key element in this programme of activities is the provision of several scholarships to allow delegates to attend the annual international conference that IFIC holds in conjunction with a member society. These scholarships are rendered possible only through the generous donations of some of our member societies as well as individuals and companies. These contributions vary in their size but are each a manifestation of a dedication to infection control education. Some of these donations are the end product of imaginative initiatives. To quote just one example amongst many, CHICA-Canada organises an early morning sponsored run for delegates attending their annual meeting called "Run for IFIC". Enthusiastic participants get up at 6 o'clock in the morning, come rain or shine, to do their bit for IFIC.



Michael Borg
Chair, 2009
IFIC Board

It is therefore critical that such initiative and commitment is reflected in abundant good quality applications by deserving infection control practitioners. We are indeed encouraged to see that the number and the quality of scholarship applications

continues to increase year after year. I strongly invite you, especially if you live in a low resource setting, to submit your experiences or your research for the scholarships available for IFIC 2009 which

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IFIC Scholarships for the Tenth Congress of the International Federation of Infection Control



Vilnius, Lithuania
8 – 11 October 2009

As in previous years, IFIC will facilitate attendance at its annual conference through a number of 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 €1000)
- * Subsistence allowance of €400 to cover 4 nights board and lodging.

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Chair Update continued (Continued from page 1)

will be held next October in Vilnius, Lithuania. The closing date for scholarship applications is 15 May and further information is included in this newsletter.

Thank you,

Michael Borg
Chair, 2009 IFIC Board

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@thefic.org

NEW WEBSITE WITH RESOURCES FOR DIARRHEAL DISEASE CONTROL

PATH (Program for Appropriate Technology in Health) is pleased to announce the launch of a new website, Resources for Diarrheal Disease Control at <http://www.eddcontrol.org/>. This resource-rich site provides tools that advocates and practitioners alike can use in spreading the word about the deadly toll of diarrheal disease and the solutions to stop it.

In addition to established interventions that include oral rehydration therapy, breastfeeding, clean water, and hygiene, new tools like zinc and diarrhea vaccines bring new opportunities to re-invigorate interest and investments toward addressing the 2nd-leading cause of child death.

Presented in partnership with UNICEF [United Nations Children Fund], the website includes key documents and links to information on these simple, lifesaving interventions, as well as highlights of in-country programs that are putting them in the hands of mothers and caregivers.

Deborah Phillips, PATH
USA
dphillips@path.org

Basic Concepts of Infection Control

You can download chapters from this valuable resource at <http://www.thefic.org/basicconcepts/default.htm>



WHO Update

WHO Publishes Infection Prevention Document Online

The report of the Second Meeting of the Informal Network on Infection Prevention and Control in Health Care entitled "Core components for infection prevention and control programs" has just been published on the WHO website. This document was developed at the request of many countries and WHO Regional Offices and is meant to strengthen the framework for infection prevention programs at national and hospital levels.

Core components for infection prevention and control programmes

Report of the Second Meeting Informal Network on Infection Prevention and Control in Health Care
Geneva, Switzerland
26–27 June 2008

http://www.who.int/csr/resources/publications/WHO_HS_E_EPR_2009_1r.pdf

The Infection Prevention Society launches the IPS IV Forum

Aim of the forum

- The group will serve as a network for practitioners working in IV Therapy
- Develop competencies in line with those produced for Infection Control Nurses (ICNA 2004)
- Agree a standardised role specification
- Review current education and training opportunities currently available for such post holders within the UK
- Explore and subsequently seek to support and inform the development of suitable academic modules
- To consider career pathways for staff working in IV Therapy
- To consider best practice in relation to IV Therapy and share practical experiences
- Representation on IV Therapy issues within the IPS and externally as required
- Develop an IV Conference to run in parallel with the IPS National Conference
- Respond and comment on national guidance on behalf of the IPS

Register your interest by emailing
andrew.jackson@rothgen.nhs.uk

We would like to acknowledge and thank our corporate Strategic Partners for their support and assistance in the fulfillment of our projects and initiatives

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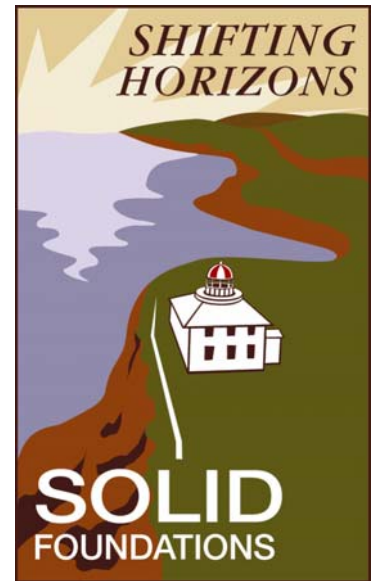
 **BD**
Helping all people
live healthy lives

National Education Conference on Infection Prevention and Control Community and Hospital Infection Control Association - Canada (CHICA-Canada)

DATE OF EVENT: May 9-14, 2009
 Novice ICP Day – May 10, 2009
 Advanced Practitioner Day – May 10, 2009
 PreConference Day – May 11, 2009

TITLE OF EVENT: “Solid Foundations...Shifting Horizons”
 2009 National Education Conference on Infection Prevention and Control

ADDRESS OF CONTACT: **Ms. Gerry Hansen BA**
 Conference Planner
 Community and Hospital Infection Control Association (CHICA-Canada)
 PO Box 46125 RPO Westdale
 Winnipeg MB
 Canada R3R 3S3
 Tel: (204) 897-5990/866-999-7111
 Fax: (204) 895-9595
 Email: chicacanada@mts.net
<http://www.chica.org>



FIELDS OF INTEREST OF EVENT: Hospital, community and long term care infection control professionals; clinical and medical microbiologists; infectious disease specialists

LOCATION OF EVENT: St. John's, Newfoundland Labrador (CANADA)
VENUE/SITE: Delta St. John's/St. John's Convention Centre

Featuring International Session:
 Thursday, May 14, 2009

Michael Borg, President, International Federation of Infection Control

Overcoming Limited IP&C Resources: How IP&C is established and sustained when resources are limited – a global view

SEE 2009 SESSION PRESENTERS AND SESSION OBJECTIVES AT www.chica.org



CHICA - CANADA

Register online (www.chica.org) – OR –
 Download Registration Form (www.chica.org)

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IFIC Scholarships—2009

A number of smaller bursaries will also be awarded, covering:

- * Free conference registration
- * A subsistence allowance of €400 to cover board and lodging

In addition, all scholarship recipients will be invited to present a write-up in English of their conference presentation, of not less than 1000 words, to be considered for publication in the International Journal of Infection Control (<http://www.ijic.info>). If deemed acceptable, an additional award of €200 will be made once the paper has been published in the journal.

Applicants must be active in the practice of infection control. Preference will be given to participants living in countries with limited resources, particularly in the case of delegates from members societies affiliated with IFIC.

Two types of submissions are accepted:

- * Research-based: describing a formal study on a specific aspect of infection prevention and control
- * "How we did it": providing a more descriptive account of how infection control practitioners or teams tackled a specific challenge or brought improvement in healthcare associated infections within their institution or country.

Scholarship application forms are now available from the website at: <http://www.ific2009.com/scholarship.asp>.

The deadline for scholarship applications is **15 May 2009**.

Further information about the Congress will become available on the website www.ific2009.com in the coming months.

IFIC'09 Abstract Submission

Abstracts can only be submitted online and in English, using the appropriate template.

Applicants should complete all the required information fields and copy the abstract body into the designated space. The maximum word count for the abstract body is 250 words. Applicants should also indicate whether they only wish to submit their paper in a poster format or would alternatively be willing to present it as a short 10 minute oral lecture.

The deadline for abstract submission is **15 May 2009**. Due to strict printing deadlines, we are unable to consider abstracts arriving after this date.

All abstracts will be judged by an appointed adjudication scientific panel. The decision of the panel will be communicated to all applicants via email by **30 June 2009**. This communication will also indicate the mode of presentation for accepted submissions. The decisions of the panel will be final and uncontestable.

Acceptance of the abstracts will be confirmed in writing by **30 June, 2009** when instructions on the designated mode of presentation will be provided. **The abstract submission form can be downloaded from:**
http://www.ific2009.com/abstract_submit.asp

PATRON MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: Virox Technologies Inc.

Accelerated Hydrogen Peroxide® (AHP®) products have been registered with Health Canada for use against *C.difficile* spores on environmental surfaces. They are part of a *C.difficile* intervention program developed by Virox Technologies Inc. The products include liquids, gels and wipes. Accelerated Hydrogen Peroxide chemistry is known for its ability to have an excellent balance between efficacy and safety and is an excellent alternative to legacy disinfectants.

For more information, please visit www.virox.com.



Infection Prevention 09

21-23 September 2009
Harrogate International Centre, Harrogate, North Yorkshire
www.ips.uk.net

Celebrating the past, looking to the future - 50 years of infection prevention

Early Bird booking deadline: 5 June 2009
Deadline for Abstracts: 5 June 2009

It is the largest Infection Prevention Conference and Exhibition in the UK with over 50 presenters, 12 of whom are sharing their overseas expertise and knowledge. The large exhibition (over 100 stands) of infection prevention and control products will provide a comprehensive array of products and services.

In addition there is a specialist IV Conference running concurrently on 22 September.

For more information visit www.ips.uk.net or call the IPS events team on 01506 811077 or email ips@fitwise.co.uk



Infection Prevention Society

Incorporating the ICNA

WHO Update: SAVE LIVES: Clean Your Hands

As part of WHO's First Global Patient Safety Challenge, the patient safety initiative SAVE LIVES: Clean Your Hands is gathering momentum across the world. The aim of re-galvanizing action to ensure clean, safe hands at the point of patient care has been embraced by a wide range of health-care facilities, which reconfirms that the enthusiasm for achieving the highest standards of hand hygiene.

As of end March, 1,344 health-care facilities had registered their support, from 86 different countries. This means that a combined staff of over 1.5 million should be actively ensuring clean, safe hands with the support of their health-care facility and WHO. You can see the countries listed by WHO region on the website at http://www.who.int/gpsc/5may/registration_update/en/index.html

Registering for **Save Lives: Clean Your Hands** can be done online at <http://www.who.int/gpsc/5may/en/index.html>. Countries that do not have immediate or ready access to the internet can receive information by postal mail. savelives@who.int

WHO aim to support efforts by launching the finalized WHO Guidelines on Hand Hygiene in Health Care alongside a revised implementation toolkit on 5 May 2009. The new microsite that will host these supporting documents will also feature further background information and an area for countries and health-care facilities to share their successes and challenges.

Your role - 2009:

If you haven't yet: register for **Save Lives: Clean Your Hands** develop national and local activities in your country. Promote and use WHO's 'My 5 Moments for hand hygiene' in your health-care facility.

2009 and Beyond

Hand hygiene improvement is not a one-off endeavour, as those who are already on the journey of improvement are well aware. Behaviour change, culture change, and training take many years and require ongoing action across all organizational levels.

Be a part of a growing global network of health-care providers committed to improving and sustaining hand hygiene. WHO will continue to support countries that have fully developed and developing campaigns to share ideas and to discuss how to encourage others towards success with cleaner, safer care.

First ever Global Handwashing Day, celebrated in more than 70 countries!

In an effort to mobilize and motivate millions around the world to wash their hands with soap, October 15 2008, took a significant place in hygiene history as it became the first ever Global Handwashing Day, celebrated in more than 70 countries across five continents. <http://www.globalhandwashingday.org/Country.asp>

The inaugural Global Handwashing Day focused on children and schools. From Kenya to Peru, India to South Africa, Ethiopia and Burkina Faso to Indonesia, playgrounds and classrooms, local communities and big cities held high profile, awareness-raising and educational activities to accelerate handwashing behavior change on a scale never seen before.

IFIC Construction, Design and Renovation Interest Group

A template for the format of our recommendations has been developed. It can be obtained on request from ulrika.ransjo@telia.com.

We have had two recommendations posted on the IFIC website since last summer, one of them focuses on the design of a general ward.

The recommendations need to be kept current and revised according to the needs of the users. For this reason, a workshop on Design of a Ward will be held during the forthcoming IFIC conference in Vilnius. The participants will be divided into groups, each reviewing a ward plan and discussing the pros and cons of the plan.

For the workshop we will need pdf files of ward plans. These plans may have basic, standard or ideal requirements in them.

Members of the SIG have contributed several plans already, however we will need more.

If you have a ward plan, good or bad, that you feel you can share, please e-mail it to ulrika.ransjo@telia.com. Akeau Unahalekaka and Ulrika Ransjö will be chairing the workshop. Please come and participate in the workshop too if you can!



APIC 2009 Annual Conference

The Fort Lauderdale Convention Center
Fort Lauderdale, Florida
June 5-11, 2009

We are pleased to make you aware that IFIC will be sponsoring the following session at the 2009 Annual Conference of the Association of Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology, which is an IFIC member society :

Tuesday, June 9, 2009, 2:45 pm - 3:45 pm

IFIC Avian Influenza in Egypt-Epidemic & Pandemic Awareness and Response by Ossama Rasslan, Board Member, IFIC

See all 2009 APIC Sessions and Presenters at APIC's Annual Meeting Website: <http://conference.apic.org>

Register Online or Download a Registration Form
<http://conference.apic.org>

The Association of Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology
Phone: (202) 789-1890
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Email: education@apic.org
www.apic.org

Report IFIC SIG-Hand Hygiene

The IFIC SIG-Hand Hygiene morning session held 17 October 2008 during the 9th IFIC congress in Santiago de Chili was a great success. About 48 delegates from 17 countries, mostly from Latin America, attended the session. (There are now 106 members from around the world.)

The objective of this SIG-HH is to develop and maintain a network for sharing information, and, thus, learn from each other about issues and problems. It is also to discuss best practices related to Hand Hygiene in health-care worldwide.

We were honored that Pr Dr Didier Pittet and Mrs. Julie Storr from the WHO attended the session. They were very supportive for the future of the SIG-HH.

We are very pleased to welcome new members to make the forum a helpful tool for those who are struggling with implementation of the WHO hand hygiene program in their healthcare settings! An overview of the SIG-Hand Hygiene activities, over the past year (October 2007 to October 2008) was provided by Mrs Gertie van Knippenberg-Gordebeke (co-chair and board liaison).

A small survey (using the WHO 1st level evaluation questionnaire) was developed and conducted by three IFIC SIG-HH board members (Pr Dr Nagwa Khamis, Gertie van Knippenberg-Gordebeke and Dr Laura Martinez-Solano). The survey was sent to 16 participants from 10 different countries. An illustration of the entire study (in a PowerPoint presentation and poster) was provided by Pr Dr Nagwa Khamis, the chair.

Dr Laura Martinez-Solano, the secretary, with help from Ms. Teresa Pi-Sunyer Canellas, translated the whole session into Spanish. This was in contrast with the 1st session last year in Budapest, where everyone spoke English. It is clear that we have to translate every discussion and results of activities into at least Spanish as well as English.

Results demonstrated many similar and divergent points in the different sections of the survey elements. **87.5%** already implemented the system of hand hygiene with alcohol-based hand rub at the point of care. On the other hand, an average of only **18%** have downloaded the WHO tools, a fact pointing to the obvious lack of information to properly conduct and continuously implement hand hygiene in health care settings.

Difficulties encountered during conducting the survey were discussed. They included the complexity of the questionnaire, a communication barrier due to difference in languages, and diversity of shared countries. Therefore the need for an electronic Forum to help with communication among the participants was one of the important recommendations.

Aaron Cauchi, the IFIC IT coordinator helped us by explaining the use of the IFIC forum as a safe site created especially for the members of the SIG.

Pr Dr Nagwa Khamis
Chair IFIC SIG-Hand Hygiene



NEW IFIC MEMBER

Iranian Society for Infection Control
noso@sums.ac.ir

Dr Mehrdad Askarian, M.D, M.P.H.
Ass. Professor of Community Medicine,
Shiraz University of Medical Sciences,
Nosocomial Infection Control of Fars Province
P.O.Box: 71345 - 1737
Shiraz - IRAN

18th annual conference of the Egyptian Society for Infection Control (ESIC) and 3rd Regional Congress of the Eastern Mediterranean Regional Network for Infection Control (EMRNIC)

An IFIC Supported Congress - In Collaboration with EMRO / WHO
November 6th – 9th, 2009, Cairo – Egypt (Venue: To Be Announced)

Main Theme: “No For Never Events”

Objective: To provide the knowledge and skills everyone needs to deliver safe health care. It is a wonderful opportunity to share thoughts, suggestions and experiences as to how patient safety should be the highest priority.

Attendees: A great variety of healthcare professionals: infection preventionists, doctors, nurses, technicians and administrators, from the 22 countries in the Eastern Mediterranean region.

Main topics:

- To err is human
- Event Reporting
- Patient Safety Solutions
- Patients for patient safety
- Measurement for improvement in the key areas of patient safety
- Role of infection control professionals in patient safety
- Targeting a just culture of safety
- Clinical practice....step by step towards safety
- Superbugs vs. Infection control....who wins the fight?
- Knowledge is Infectious: What can we learn from others?
- Technology for patient safety (Industrial symposium)

Workshops

Patient safety friendly hospital initiative (PSFHI) / EMRO Workshop

How to develop a patient safety program (workshop)

Construction and renovation in healthcare facilities (workshop)

Correspondence:

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