



International Federation of Infection Control

IFIC e-News



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

Chair Update



Judith Richards
Chair, 2012
IFIC Board

Welcome to the new edition of this year's Newsletter.

This is a very important year for IFIC, as we celebrate our 25th anniversary. To this end, we are hoping to make our October Conference (Zagreb, Croatia, October 10 to 13) one of the best, and also bring together old friends and acquaintances at this very special celebration.

Once again, thanks to the generous sponsorship of Johnson & Johnson, a call to all our member Societies for nominations for the M Favero award has been announced (see page 10).

To all our readers, please note that the call for abstracts, and for scholarship applications, is now open. As deadlines are getting closer, do not forget to send in your applications, and encourage other colleagues to do the same!

The March Board meeting saw us welcoming newcomers to the Board of Trustees. Three out of the four (Nagwa, Anni and Terrie) were able to join us for their first meeting. They already demonstrated what a valuable asset they will be, with their lively and interested participation in the meeting.

As mentioned in my previous note, our projects are now gathering pace. Led by Walter

(Continued on page 3)

Inside this issue:

Courses	3
Associate Membership	4
25th IFIC Anniversary	4
Teleclasses	4
IFIC Scholarships	5
HKICNA Conference	6
Home SIG	6
IJIC	7
WHO News	8
Strategic Partners	9
Minor Surg Guideline	9
M Favero Award	10
New Basic Concepts	11
Safe Injection SIG Award	11

NEXT IFIC CONFERENCE

The Twelfth Congress of the International Federation of Infection Control (IFIC2012) will run from Wednesday 10 October 2012 until Saturday 13 October 2012 and will be held in collaboration with the Croatian Society for Medical Microbiology and Parasitology in Zagreb, Croatia.

The official language of the Congress shall be English, however simultaneous translation into Croatian will also be available in selected sessions. Further information on the Congress can be accessed from the website:

www.ific2012.com

CONGRESS VENUE

Sheraton Zagreb Hotel
Address: Borne 2, Zagreb 10000, Croatia
Website: www.hotel-sheratonzagreb.com

CONFERENCE COORDINATOR

Máté Lukácsi
CONFidence Event Ltd.
Landline: +36 1 395 3929
Cell phone: +36 30 450 7665
Fax: +36 1 395 3929
E-mail: info@ific2012.com



(Continued on page 2)

NEXT IFIC CONFERENCE

(Continued from page 1)

REGISTRATION

Conference registration has commenced. Early bird reduced fees will be applicable until 31 July 2012. Registration can be performed online or by downloading the registration form from the Congress website and mailing or faxing it to the organisers.

All applications should be accompanied by payment of the full registration fee, using either credit card or bank transfer.

	Until 31 July 2012	After 31 July 2012	On site registration
Developing countries	€300	€350	€400
IFIC Associate members	€300	€350	€400
Other delegates	€375	€450	€500
Accompanying persons	€100	€125	€150

Registration fee for participants includes:

- access to scientific sessions and exhibition areas
- Congress bag, abstract CD, and scientific programme
- welcome reception
- all coffee breaks plus light lunches during full days

Registration fee for accompanying persons includes:

- welcome reception
- two half-day city tours

ACCOMMODATION

A range of hotel accommodations will be available in various categories and price ranges. Hotel bookings are possible via the Congress website. An interesting social programme, including half and full day tours and excursions, will also be available.

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME

As with previous conferences, IFIC2012 will guarantee an outstanding educational experience for a multi-disciplinary delegate mix from medical, nursing, and other backgrounds. This shall be achieved through a combination of state-of-the-art lectures, symposia, pro-and-con debates, and industry organised sessions. The academic programme will be regularly updated on the congress website.

In addition, IFIC conferences are recognised as venues for effective networking and experience sharing between the participating delegates. This will be enhanced through numerous small group workshops and buzz groups as well as the general organisation of the event.

Delegates will also have an extensive opportunity to share their research and experience through oral as well as poster presentations.

(Continued on page 5)

Chair Update continued *(Continued from page 1)*

Popp, from Essen, Germany, the questionnaire to assess how we handle human waste (mainly faeces and urine), is now taking shape, and will be shortly distributed on a pilot basis, to be followed by the final version. Partnership is always key, and we are pleased to announce that this project is actively supported by one of our Strategic Partners, MEIKO.

The project that will assess existing international and national guidelines for the prevention and management of catheter-related urinary tract infections is also marching on. Partnership work is now under discussion with National Resource for Infection Control (www.nric.org.uk), the Infection Prevention Society (IPS,UK), and the Health Protection Agency (HPA). An international panel of experts, with colleagues from Thailand, USA, Canada, Chile, and Northern Ireland, has already agreed to conduct the review, and funding is currently being sought from our industrial partners.

The translation of the Basic Concepts IFIC book into Spanish is now virtually completed, and we are again indebted to BD for their support and help in achieving this milestone. Translation into Italian is being undertaken by our colleagues from SIMPIOS, and we are starting the translation into Portuguese, and, with the support of Meiko, into French too!

A careful scrutiny of the activities of the Special Interest Groups confirmed the usefulness of the Construction one. The Safe injections/Sharps SIG has now completed its assessment of grant applications, and its first award is announced further in this Newsletter (see page 11).

Regarding the Hand Hygiene SIG, we know that Hand Hygiene continues to be one of the key elements of infection prevention and control and has now become embedded in most people's every day practice. IFIC continues to support the principles established through the efforts of the WHO Patient Safety: **(Clean Care is Safer Care) Save Lives and Clean your Hands** campaign, but we believe that HH no longer requires the activities of a Special Interest Group (SIG). Please note that this Group will therefore be disbanded.

The HH SIG Chair, co-chair and (Secretary) Board liaison would like to thank all those that contributed to its efforts, and remind everyone of the importance of continuing with their efforts in ensuring the success of this initiative.

So, a busy year ahead for all of us. A year we hope will continue to reflect the importance of Infection Prevention & Control across the globe, and highlight the effectiveness of working in close partnership with our colleagues from industry.

I look forward to seeing you all in Zagreb.

Judith Richards, Chair, 2012 IFIC Board

COURSES IN INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL

IFIC will begin providing information on courses sponsored by its Member Societies in both the newsletter and IFIC web site. The main topic of the course must be infection prevention and control and aimed at health care professionals. IFIC is pleased to offer this service to Member Societies, however publishing this information does not in any way imply IFIC endorses the course.

Please send course information to publications@theifc.org. Include a brief description and information on how an individual may receive additional details on the course.

CHICA sponsored: Centennial College Online Infection Control Course

This three-month **online** course, which duplicates an on-site course, is offered twice per year (December - March and May - August) and is designed for newly-appointed infection control personnel. You will learn the planning, implementation, management, and evaluation of an infection prevention and control program. For additional information go to <http://www.centennialcollege.ca/> and search Course code = PI-100

IFIC CELEBRATES ITS 25th ANNIVERSARY!



In this 25th year since the founding of IFIC, the Board of Trustees would like to recognise all those who were the initiators of what is currently IFIC and those who contributed to its Board activities.

To express our thanks for their efforts, all past Board of Trustees members will be awarded life-time free Associate Membership (our Associate membership administrator will be in touch shortly to ensure all details are correct). We once again express our thanks for their contributions and hard work.

WHO free teleclasses

Teleclasses recordings from 2011 can still be accessed and a new schedule for 2012 is available, courtesy of Webber Training. Teleclasses will be held monthly and will 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>.

07/05/12, 2:30 pm CET: Special lecture for 5 May 2012 - Keeping the hand hygiene agenda alive: acting on data and the influence of global surveys (**D. Pittet**, Geneva, Switzerland)

06/06/12, 2:30 pm (CET): Economic impact of healthcare-associated infection in low- and middle-income countries (**A.N. Yalcin**, Antalya, Turkey)

11/07/12, 2:30 pm (CET): Patient empowerment in infection control (**C. Kilpatrick**, Glasgow, United Kingdom)

08/08/12, 2:30 pm (CET): Processing medical devices in settings with limited resources: a neglected priority for infection prevention (**N. Damani**, Portadown, United Kingdom)

05/09/12, 12:30 pm (NYT): Successes and challenges in developing and implementing bundles in infection prevention (**D. Goldmann**, Boston, USA)

02/10/12, 2:30 pm (CET): The role of education in infection control in low- and middle-income countries (**S. Mehtar**, Cape Town, South Africa)

7/11/12, 2:30 pm (CET): Measuring impact: key to infection control scaling up and sustainability (**J. Reilly**, Glasgow, United Kingdom)

05/12/12, 1:30 pm (Sydney time): New developments in infection control for renal dialysis – an update (**W.H. Seto**, Hong Kong, China)

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 an **Associate 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, etc. We hope you will all enjoy it!

NEXT IFIC CONFERENCE

(Continued from page 2)

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

All abstracts for oral and poster presentations should be submitted in English. Only online submissions will be accepted. Application forms are available from the website. The deadline for abstract submission is **30 May 2012**. The decision of the adjudicating committee will be communicated by **30 June 2012**.

IFIC SCHOLARSHIPS

As in previous years, IFIC will facilitate Congress attendance through a number of scholarships. At least one main award will be awarded, consisting of:

- free conference registration
- travel (based on the cheapest economy itinerary, until a maximum of €1000)
- accommodation for the conference duration on a bed and breakfast basis

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

- free conference registration
- accommodation for the duration of the conference on a bed and breakfast basis

In addition, all scholarship recipients will be invited to present a write-up in English of their conference presentation for publication in the International Journal of Infection Control (www.ijic.info). The submission should be at least 1000 words and can be presented as soon as notification of acceptance has been received. An additional award of €200 will be made once the paper has been accepted.

Applicants must be active in the practice of infection control. Preference will be given to participants living in countries with limited resources and to young infection control practitioners/trainees.

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: www.theific.org. The deadline for scholarship applications is **now**. <http://www.theific.org/scholarship2012.asp>

CONTACTS

Academic & scholarship information

Michael A. Borg
IFIC Conferences Committee
Coordinator
michael.a.borg@theific.org

International Federation of Infection
Control (IFIC)
Judith Richards, IFIC Chair
judith.richards@theific.org

Croatian Society for Medical Micro-
biology and Parasitology
Arjana Tambic Andrasevic, President
arjana.tambic@bfm.hr

The International Federation of Infection Control (IFIC) has been associated with eleven past Conferences, held in countries ranging from Turkey to Chile, Lithuania to South Africa. IFIC conferences are international in scope, with lecturers and participants from all over the world. They provide an opportunity to meet internationally renowned experts and opinion leaders, hear state of the art presentations, and participate in workshops and seminars. The generous amount of time allotted to discussions and workshops, with considerable interaction between the audience and invited experts, also provides a unique forum to network with colleagues from all over the world.

Meeting of an IFIC SIG on “Infection Control in home and everyday life settings”

The inaugural meeting of this new Special Interest Group took place at the IFIC conference in Venice on Friday 14 October 2011. The need for a special interest group on this issue stems from the increasing amount of health care and care of other vulnerable groups (e.g., the elderly and the very young) taking place in the home. Healthcare workers are also now recognising that reducing healthcare-associated infections in hospitals cannot be achieved without also reducing circulation of pathogens in the community. These factors are prompting increased demand for support materials on hygiene in the community from healthcare workers.

The mission of the SIG is to establish a partnership between IFIC and the International Scientific Forum on Home Hygiene in order to provide IFIC members with a resource through which they can obtain information, identify support needs, and exchange practical knowledge and views on infection prevention and control in home and everyday life settings. The main goals of the group are:

- To raise awareness of the importance of infection in home and everyday life settings
- To support the development and promotion of infection prevention in home and everyday life, both in developed and developing countries
- To ensure that infection control practices carried out in these settings are based on sound scientific evidence

Our immediate planned actions are:

- To assemble a database of IFIC members with special interest in infection prevention in home and everyday life settings and gaining an understanding of their needs
- To develop the SIG webpage on the IFIC website to give IFIC members access to currently available materials (guidelines, training resources, public advice sheets, etc.) on infection prevention in home and everyday life settings.

Please contact the SIG Chairman, Professor Sally Bloomfield (sallybloomfield@aol.com) to register your interest and join the SIG. If you are interested, have a look at our IFH training resources on hygiene/infection control at home. There are two, one aimed at developed countries, the other for lower income groups in developing countries. The resource is available in English, Russian, Urdu – and is being translated into Bengali. For more details go to: http://www.ifh-homehygiene.org/IntegratedCRD.nsf/IFH_Training?OpenForm.

Please also let us know your ideas and needs and share with us any guidelines, training resource, or fact sheets which you use on infection prevention in home and everyday life settings. Sally is also Chairman of the International Scientific Forum which can be found at www.ifh-homehygiene.org.

Hong Kong Infection Control Nurses' Association 5th international infection control conference

HKICNA runs an infection control conference every 2 years — the 5th one is coming up
24-26 August 2012.

Hong Kong
<http://www.mvdm.com/hkicna/>

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 (Ulrika Ransjö, Steve Barrett, and Bill Newsom). Thank you to all those who submit their papers to IJIC and please keep them coming! <http://www.ijic.info/>

International Journal of Infection Control has just 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, Ms Elizabeth Anne Scicluna elizabeth.scicluna@theific.org

International Journal of Infection Control Vol 8, No 1 (2012) Table of Contents

<http://www.ijic.info/issue/view/832>

Editorial Commentary

Editorial, Ulrika Ransjö

Original Articles

Needle sticks and sharps injuries experienced by staff nurses and nursing students and their prevention, Ruta Lukianskyte

Perceptions of hand hygiene amongst health care workers in Sibul, East Malaysia, MJ Birks, M Coyle, J Porter, J Mills

Healthcare-associated infection in Cho Ray hospital: An analysis of the current situation, KG To

H1N1 outbreak in a medical college of Pakistan: Implications of control in a resource poor setting, SF Mahmood, R Kumar, K Jamal

SARS and Kiribati: Eyes wide open, Peta-Anne Zimmerman, H Yeatman, M Jones, H Murdoch

Practice Forum

Infection control awareness amongst illiterate workers in an Indian intensive care unit: Impact of an unconventional educational intervention, P Singh, A Baronia, KN Prasad, TN Dhole, SK Singh

Sustained increase in the use of alcohol-based hand rubs in Finnish long-term care facilities, M-L Rummukainen, Å Jakobsson, M Matsinen, P Karppi, S Järvenpää, O Lyytikäinen

Contaminated air conditioners as potential source for contaminating operation theater environment, US Kelkar, SS Kulkarni

For Discussion

'Bare below the elbows' what's all the fuss about?, T C Biggs

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.

World Health Organization

Another 5 May is almost upon us! Building on the call to action for 5 May 2012, '5 Steps to 5 May: What's YOUR Plan?' WHO are asking that societies around the globe feature WHO SAVE LIVES: Clean Your Hands on their web pages. WHO will then feature these at http://www.who.int/gpsc/5may/PSP_GPSC1_HH_5May2012/en/index.html

Suggestion wording for web pages to make them relevant to 5 May 2012:

WHO SAVE LIVES: Clean Your Hands - celebrate on 5 or 7 May or choose your own day around this time to maintain the profile on the importance of hand hygiene in health care to reduce health care-associated infections. Join WHO in marking this important annual event and find more information on WHO activities and tools available to support you at <http://www.who.int/gpsc/5may/en/>

WHO Call to Action:

Health-care facilities registered with WHO SAVE LIVES: Clean Your Hands - Prepare your action plans for improved hand hygiene and involve all staff and health-care facility leaders; WHO template actions plans are available http://www.who.int/gpsc/5may/EN_PSP_GPSC1_5May_2012/en/index.html. If you have already implemented your hand hygiene action plan, report the results. Share your plan and results! Sharing is part of global learning. Send WHO your web link and it will be featured to encourage others; email: savelives@who.int

Local Call to Action

(add your own information on 5 May activities if you have planned anything)

Those new to SAVE LIVES: Clean Your Hands - Show your health-care facility's commitment to improving hand hygiene by joining WHO in this global campaign. WHO are very close to achieving a goal of having over 155 countries participating in this campaign! Help WHO to continue increasing health-care facility registrations in every country, especially those who currently have no facilities registered http://www.who.int/gpsc/5may/registration_update/en/index.html. New registrations are welcome now at <http://www.who.int/gpsc/5may/register/en/index.html>

If you are taking action in support of SAVE LIVES: Clean Your Hands you are already helping to save lives!

What will WHO do to promote 5 May 2012?

- ⇒ An advocacy video as well as a podcast by Professor Didier Pittet (WHO Collaborating Center, University of Geneva Hospitals) will be available on our web site. These can be used during local events
- ⇒ Hand Hygiene in Outpatient Care guidance & tools – This new document will be made available and will be accompanied by supporting implementation tools
- ⇒ Hand Hygiene Self-Assessment Framework Global Survey Results – on 5 May 2012 WHO will issue a summary report including the results by WHO region and by country where possible
- ⇒ WHO free teleclass on 7 May 2012 by Professor Didier Pittet at 2.30 pm CET - this presentation entitled "Keeping the hand hygiene agenda alive: acting on data and the influence of global surveys" can be attended through the Webber Training system (www.webbertraining.com) or listen afterwards via a recorded version
- ⇒ And WHO SAVE LIVES: Clean Your Hands will announce the new number of registered health-care facilities around the globe - if your facility hasn't registered yet, you can do it anytime at <http://www.who.int/gpsc/5may/register/en/index.html>

WHO thanks you for your support and action.

8th International Healthcare Infection Society (HIS) Conference and Federation of Infection Societies (FIS) annual conference

19-21 November 2012

BT Convention Centre, Liverpool

<http://www.fis-infection.org.uk/>

New Guidelines to Prevent Infection in Minor Surgery

New guidelines from the Healthcare Infection Society (HIS) aimed at minimising surgical infection in day centres and primary care are now published in *The Journal of Hospital Infection*.

Recent changes in health care include the provision of more surgical services in primary care and day centres where it may be cheaper and easier for patients to access them, rather than admit patients to an acute hospital. In addition, developments in certain areas of medicine, such as interventional radiology and cardiology, have expanded the range and complexity of procedures now undertaken outside an acute hospital setting. However, not all of these new settings are suitably equipped to prevent and control infection when undertaking minor surgery.

To address this issue, HIS convened a multi-disciplinary group tasked with producing the first ever UK guidelines to minimise infection occurring outside conventional operating theatres. The guidelines, published in the February 2012 issue of *The Journal of Hospital Infection*, cover topics such as appropriate ventilation, use of instruments, flooring/ceiling requirements, etc.

The guidelines are published as: "Guidelines on the facilities required for minor surgical procedures and minimal access interventions" by H. Humphreys, J.E. Coia, A. Stacey, M. Thomas, A.-M. Belli, P. Hoffman, P. Jenks, C.A. Mackintosh (doi:10.1016/j.jhin.2011.11.010). The article appears in *Journal of Hospital Infection* Volume 80, Issue 2 (February 2012), pages 103-109.

The full journal article is available from the following links (in HTML and PDF format respectively):

[http://www.journalofhospitalinfection.com/article/S0195-6701\(11\)00444-0/fulltext](http://www.journalofhospitalinfection.com/article/S0195-6701(11)00444-0/fulltext)

<http://download.journals.elsevierhealth.com/pdfs/journals/0195-6701/PIIS0195670111004440.pdf>

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



Call for nominations: IFIC Martin S. Favero 2012 Award

The IFIC welcomes nominations from Member Societies, as well as Patron and Associate Members for the:

**IFIC Martin S. Favero 2012 Award
for Active Contribution to Global Infection Prevention & Control**

This award has been created to honour the international contributions of Martin S. Favero, PhD, in the field of infection prevention & control and is kindly sponsored by Advanced Sterilization Products, Irvine, CA. It aims to recognise the achievements of those working in the field of infection prevention and control who have made significant lifetime contributions to global infection prevention. One recipient is selected each year and will receive the award at the annual conference of 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:

- *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.*
- *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.*
 - *Achieved international recognition as an investigator and authority in infection prevention.*
 - *Reputation for giving an excellent presentation.*
 - *Must not have received the award in previous years.*

Application/Nominations

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

Nomination Deadline/Process

Nominations must be submitted on or before **18 May 2012**. Completed applications should be addressed to the Chair, International Federation of Infection Control, through an email sent to awards@theifc.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, and 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 **30 June 2012**, and invited to attend the annual IFIC conference, present the Marty S. Favero keynote lecture, and receive the Award. IFIC will also inform Advanced Sterilization Products of the winner. The person nominating the winner is sent a letter notifying them that their nominee won and thanking them for their efforts. All nominees are sent a letter acknowledging their consideration for the award.

SAFE INJECTIONS/SHARPS SIG GRANT APPLICATION AWARDS

On behalf of the IFIC Safe Injection Special Interest Group, and after careful consideration by a review team and the IFIC Board, a \$3,500 (€2660) grant has been awarded to a team from Australia and Rwanda to test the ability of cheap, stable chemicals to inactivate viral contaminated sharps in the presence of whole blood. Currently in limited resource countries, many sharps are discarded into dumps or pits without any benefit of treatment.

After completion of the inactivation testing, phase II of the study will evaluate the acceptance and ease of use of the additional chemical treatment of sharps in a rural clinic in Rwanda. **Congratulations to A/Professor Karen Vickery (Australia) and Sr. Clare Karibika (Rwanda) for their submission.**

Additional submissions were received from Canada, Cameroon, and Thailand. Another request for grants for the Safe Injection SIG will be posted in the fall of 2012.

A special thanks to the review team of Jane Murphy, Ireland; Sharon Mayhew, Saudi Arabia; and Judith Richards, England. We also would like to thank the IFIC Board for their comments on the results of the review team as well as their input after reviewing the submissions.

We look forward to receiving the report from our colleagues in Australia and Rwanda in the coming months. Thank you again to all participants.

Ed Krisiunas, MT(ASCP), MPH
IFIC Safe Injection SIG Chair

NEW EDITION OF BASIC CONCEPTS

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. 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.



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

