



International Federation of Infection Control

# IFIC e-News

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

## Chair Update



Judith Richards  
Chair, 2014  
IFIC Board

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to another edition of the IFIC Newsletter. Having just returned fresh from our 2014 meeting held in Malta from 12 to 15 March, it gives me great pleasure to report on its success. Coming so close to our previous Conference only 6 months earlier, it was a feat of organization and planning. It was well attended, with over 450 representatives from 48 countries and feed-back received on the scientific content was extremely positive. Thanks and recognition are due to Michael Borg, and his excellent team of helpers, as well as to our Conference Organiser.

Our Congratulations to the recipient of the MS Favero award, Dr Richard ("Dick") Wenzel, who delivered a superbly interesting key note lecture, thus setting the tone for the excellent sessions that followed.

The presence of one of our Funding members, Prof. Graham Ayliffe, as a special guest, was also a great honour, and it set the scene for the introduction of a new IFIC Certificate of Lifetime Achievement. The first recipient, Tina Bradley, from the UK, is a worthy winner, and our congratulations to her too!

In addition to the Conference, we also held one of the two customary Board meetings just prior to the Conference. We welcomed one new Member this year. Biljana Carevic, representing Group C, replaces Emese Szilagy, who completed her term of office at the end of 2013. A big thanks to Emese for all her effort on behalf of her geographical region, and all her work in support of IFIC activities.

Current projects and the programme for the previous year were also reviewed and new ideas discussed.

The membership survey is now being analysed and results will be published shortly. The development of the new web site is moving ahead, and we hope to go live by the middle of this year- not too long to go now!!

A new Special Interest Group (SIG Ambulatory Care) was launched during the Malta Conference. If you feel this to be an important topic, please give it your support by participating in its programme and deliberations.

Very productive discussions were also held with our Corporate Partners, and some novel ideas and suggestions regarding the use of modern communications to further disseminate our views and activities are currently being considered.

Continued on page 2

### Inside this issue:

Message—IPAC-Canada	2
WHO	3
Regional Coordinators	3
IJIC	4
Mentor Scholarships	4
Basic Concepts	5
Resources	5
Nominations	6
IFIC 2014 Update	6-7
Save the dates	8
Graham Ayliffe Award	9
Home Healthcare SIG	9
PanAmerican Conference	9
Africa/Argentina updates	10
Safe childbirth SIG	10
CLICSS	11
IFIC'16 Interest Call	12
Construction SIG	13
Corporate Partners	13

## NEXT IFIC CONFERENCE

Mark your calendars for the 15th IFIC Congress in New Delhi, India, 21-24 March 2015. It will be held along with the 13th HISICON as a joint event in the field of infection prevention and control in India.

The Hospital Infection Society - India is an association of medical professionals with a special interest in the prevention and control of hospital infections. Founded in 1991, the society presently has more than 700 members.



<http://www.facebook.com/theifc>



@theifc

## Chair Update continued

Major changes to the Executive Committee were announced at the AGM. Nagwa Khamis takes over as Secretary, as Carol Goldman, after over 8 years of unstinting support to 2 Chairs, now retires from this post. Nagwa has had the opportunity to shadow Carol for the last 8 months, and we are sure this will enable her to “hit the decks running”. My personal thanks to Carol for her help, for all her hard work before, during and in between Committee meetings, and for her friendship! A very special thanks also to her husband, David Douglas, who has **volunteered to man the IFIC** booth at so many meetings, and has always done so with charm, grace and patience, working so hard on our behalf, and to IPAC-Canada (previously CHICA) for supporting Carol during her tenure with IFIC.

On a much sadder note, our colleague Bruce Gamage, President of IPAC-Canada (previously CHICA Canada) has lost his wife suddenly (see announcement below). Our thoughts are with Bruce, his family, and his colleagues, at this very difficult time.

Wishing you all a peaceful time,

Thank you.

Judith Richards

Chair, IFIC, April 2014

### MESSAGE FROM IPAC-CANADA

It is with great sadness that we inform you of the passing of Diana Nesbitt, the wife of IPAC Canada's President, Bruce Gamage. Diana died in a traffic accident on Monday April 14th. Diana was a devoted wife and mother, and cared for others in her job at the Delta Hospice Society.

There will be a celebration of Diana's life in approximately three weeks; date and time have yet to be arranged. If you would like to attend, please contact the Provincial Infection Control Network of British Columbia at [picnet@phsa.ca](mailto:picnet@phsa.ca) to be put on the notification list, and they will send you the announcement once the details are finalized.

If anyone wishes to make a contribution in Diana's memory, the family would appreciate donations to the Delta Hospice Society or the Rotary Foundation International. Again, you can contact PICNet for details on how to send any donations.

Any letters of condolence should be sent to Bruce Gamage and Family through the offices of PICNet  
Suite 504-1001 West Broadway  
Vancouver BC V6H 4B1

IPAC Canada President-elect Suzanne Rhodenizer Rose will be Acting President during Bruce's absence. We know that our members will join us in keeping Bruce and his family in their thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

Sincerely,  
Gerry Hansen  
Executive Director

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

## World Health Organization

### LAUNCHES OF HIGH LEVEL DOCUMENTS:

- 22 April 2012 – The Transatlantic Taskforce on Antimicrobial Resistance (TATFAR) report will be published at <http://www.cdc.gov/drugresistance/tatfar/index.html>
- 30 April 2014 – The WHO “Antimicrobial resistance: Global report on surveillance 2014” will be launched and published at <http://who.int/drugresistance/en/>
- 5 May 2014 – The ECDC “Healthcare-associated infection and antibiotic use in European long-term care facilities” report and the Healthcare-Associated Infections in Long-Term Care Facilities (HALT) protocol will be published at [http://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/healthtopics/Healthcare-associated\\_infections/Pages/index.aspx](http://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/healthtopics/Healthcare-associated_infections/Pages/index.aspx)

### WHO–5 May 2014–Global Surveys

WHO has now launched the global surveys that are part of the 5 May 2014 call to action:

- **The WHO Global Laboratory-based Survey on MULTIDRUG-RESISTANT ORGANISMS (MDROs) in Health Care** - focused on the burden of five selected key MDROs isolated from blood and urine (MSU & CSU) culture specimens routinely submitted to participating laboratories for in-patients.
- **The WHO Global Prevalence Survey on use of SURGICAL ANTIBIOTIC PROPHYLAXIS** - aimed at obtaining a snapshot of antibiotic prophylaxis used, from patient records in surgical wards in a wide range of acute health-care facilities, which can participate with an option of choosing any number of general surgery, and/or orthopaedic, and/or gynaecology and obstetrics and/or urology wards.

WHO is also now launching its first new promotional poster that we hope will be used all around the world to promote the role of hand hygiene in preventing the spread of AMR organisms - you will find this here [http://www.who.int/gpsc/5may/EN\\_PSP\\_GPSC1\\_5May\\_2014/en/](http://www.who.int/gpsc/5may/EN_PSP_GPSC1_5May_2014/en/).

The WHO survey information can be found here:

English <http://www.who.int/gpsc/5may/global-surveys/en/> French <http://www.who.int/gpsc/5may/global-surveys/fr/>

Spanish <http://www.who.int/gpsc/5may/global-surveys/es/>

The goals for 2014:

- To highlight the role of hand hygiene in combatting AMR by making sure the WHO 5 Moments are core to protecting patients from resistant pathogens.
- To emphasize the problem of AMR that can arise from patient care interventions.
- Promote the WHO 5 May prompt list that has been developed to help everyone plan their activities.
- Promote the new surveys, posters, etc., and suggested activities made available by WHO in support of 5 May 2014
- Promote registrations to hospitals not yet registered.

### 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:	Biljana Carevic/Anni Juhl-Jørgensen
Asia:	Patricia Ching Tai-Yin
EMRO:	Nagwa Khamis
Africa:	Abimbola Sowande

\*USA, Canada, Japan, Israel, Australia & New Zealand

\*\* South & Central America, Mexico & West Indies

## 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, Elizabeth Gillespie, Bill Newsom, Walter Popp, and Judith Richards). 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](mailto: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,

**International Journal of Infection Control Vol 10, Suppl 1 (2014) Table of** <http://www.ijic.info/issue/view/1089>

Abstracts of the 14th Congress of the International Federation of Infection Control (IFIC 2014)

Various Authors

### 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.

### Important Announcement Concerning IFIC Mentorship Scholarship Grants

In 2013, IFIC announced mentorship scholarship grants, developed to facilitate an exchange between someone with expertise in infection prevention and control and someone in need of that expertise. The deadline for applications was 31<sup>st</sup> December 2013. Due to technological difficulties, some applications were submitted, but never received. If you or your Society submitted an application, but did not receive an acknowledgment of receipt, please forward the application to this email address: [tleewv@msn.com](mailto:tleewv@msn.com).

The new deadline for submission is 30 May, 2014. If you submitted an application and received an email of acknowledgement, there is no need to submit again. We apologize for this delay, and will process all applications once this new deadline has passed.



## BASIC CONCEPTS

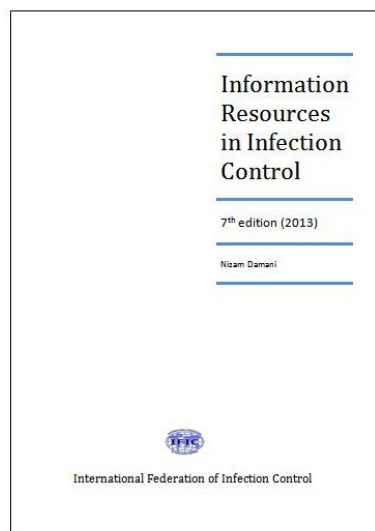
IFIC continues with its aim to provide up-to-date, scientifically sound tools and educational materials that can be used by professionals the world over. This new edition of IFIC Basic Concepts of Infection Control builds on its predecessors, enhancing and updating in a scientific way the knowledge required 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](http://www.theific.org/basic_concepts/index.htm).



Helping all people  
live healthy lives

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.** A 2012-3 addition is the Spanish translation—with thanks to BD. Chapters 1—6, 10 and 12 of the French version are also available—with thanks to Meiko. Hungarian chapters 1-3, 20, 22 and 28 thanks to the Hungarian Society of Infection Control Practitioners [Magyar Infekciókontroll Társaság]. Chapters translated into Arabic include 1-6. **Check the web site for updates as chapters are added!**



## Information Resources in Infection Control

The 7th edition (2013) of the Information Resources in Infection Control is 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.

**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!**

## 14<sup>TH</sup> IFIC CONFERENCE UPDATE



The Fourteenth International Congress of the International Federation of Infection Control was held 12 March - 15 March 2014 in St. Julian's, Malta. There were 474 delegates, 21 exhibiting companies, 56 invited lectures, 6 workshops, 5 industry symposia, 12 free delegate papers, 5 scholarship presentations and 55 posters!

Scholarships awardees were:

- \* **Moustafa Abdelnasser**, Al-Azhar University, Cairo, Egypt
- \* **Nabiha Bouafia**, University Hospital Farhat Hached, Sousse, Tunisia
- \* **Anja Haenen**, Netherlands National Institute for Public Health and the Environment, Bilthoven, the Netherlands
- \* **Boniface Hakizimana**, Stellenbosch University, Tygerberg, South Africa
- \* **Ridha Hamza**, Regional Hygienic Service of Bizerte, Tunisia
- \* **Namita Jaggi**, Artemis Health Institute, Gurgaon, India
- \* **Sergejs Kuznecovs**, Preventive Medicine Institute, Riga, Latvia



Congratulations to all and many thanks to all scholarship fund donors, including these societies:

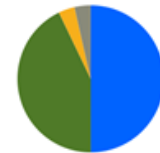
Infection Prevention and Control—Canada  
Norwegian Forum for Infection Control  
German Society for Hospital Hygiene

Three poster awards were also presented.

1. **Philip Pugh**, Gateshead Health NHS Foundation Trust, UK. Investigation of *Aspergillus fumigatus* in a critical care department.
2. **Irma Burjanadze**, National Center for Disease Control and Public Health. South Caucasus and Laboratory Training Program, Tbilisi, Georgia.
3. **Aaron R. Casha**, Mater Dei Hospital, Msida, Malta. A novel method of personal cooling in an operating theatre environment.

Feedback received after the conference included the following:

- I'll be delighted and surprised if this can be improved on. In my long career I've been to many, many meetings but I can honestly say that none has been as good as this one.
- We need more of the same. I think that behavioural science is the way forward for our specialty, but we need a lot of guidance on implementing the theory.
- I was there from start to finish and would have attended everything if they hadn't been running concurrently.
- There weren't any presentations that I attended that I thought were poor.



■ Much better than expected ■ Somewhat better than expected ■ Slightly better than expected  
■ About what was expected than expected

### Reminder for Nominations to the IFIC Board

The Board of Trustees of the International Federation of Infection Control is calling for nominations to the Board from member societies in **Regions A (Europe 1), B and F**. The term of office for this position requires a 4 year commitment from January 1st 2015 - December 31st, 2018.







We encourage and invite society members to nominate **“One” candidate from Group A and F** and **“Two” candidates from Group B** who, you believe, will effectively represent your membership and the profession of Infection Prevention and Control. Please note that each Society can offer only one nomination.

Nominations will only be accepted from IFIC Member societies/organisations, **which have paid their IFIC membership fee for the current year**. Participation on the Board of Directors is a leadership experience that provides rich opportunity to grow at the personal and professional level.

Nomination forms will be sent to all contact persons from Groups **A, B and F**. If another form is needed, or if you need to identify the region you represent, please contact Nagwa Khamis, IFIC Secretary, at [nagwa.khamis@thefic.org](mailto:nagwa.khamis@thefic.org)



**SAVE THE DATES!**

<p><b>Fifteenth International Congress of the International Federation of Infection Control</b> New Delhi, India 21-24 March, 2015</p> 	<p><b>APIC Annual Conference 2014</b> Anaheim, California 7-9 June</p> 
<p><b>6th International Infection Control Conference of HKICNA</b> Hong Kong 1-3 August, 2014</p> 	<p><b>ADECI 2014 Congress</b> Buenos Aires, Argentina 17-19 September</p> 
<p><b>IPS</b> Glasgow, Scotland 29 September - 1 October, 2014</p> 	<p><b>ID Week</b> Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 8-12 October, 2014</p> 
<p><b>European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases</b> Vienna, Austria 22-24 October, 2014</p> 	<p><b>5th ICAN Conference</b> Harare, Zimbabwe 3-7 November, 2014</p> 
<p><b>9th Healthcare Infection Society International Conference (with French Society for Hospital Hygiene)</b> Lyon, France 16-18 November 2014</p> 	<p><b>7th International Congress of the Asia Pacific Society of Infection Control</b> Taipei, Taiwan 26-29 March, 2015</p> 

See <http://www.ipac-canada.org/ific/ific.php> for more information.



## New web resource - Infection Prevention and Control in Home Healthcare

The IFIC Special Interest Group, "Infection Control in Home and Everyday Life Settings", in collaboration with the International Scientific Forum on Home Hygiene (IFH), has launched a new and unique web area where IFIC members and others can browse, find information, and exchange knowledge on infection prevention and control issues related to the increasing amount of healthcare delivered at home.

The resource brings together guidelines, training resources and other materials for healthcare workers together with materials which can be used to provide support to patients. It ranges from general hygiene, hand washing, food hygiene, clinical waste disposal, laundering and home water quality, to protection of specific groups such as those with HIV/AIDS or undergoing immunosuppressive treatments.

Please provide your support with any relevant materials (reviews, fact sheets, teaching/self learning resources, patient support materials) which you would be willing to share with the global IPC community. Send them to [secretariat@ifh-homehygiene.org](mailto:secretariat@ifh-homehygiene.org). The resource can be accessed from [www.ifh-homehygiene.org](http://www.ifh-homehygiene.org). Sign up to receive further updates and news from the IFIC SIG at <http://www.ifh-homehygiene.org/infection-prevention-and-control-home-healthcare>

### Professor Graham Ayliffe Certificate of Excellence

The IFIC Board established a new, unique prize, recognising the achievements of key individuals around the globe. This will be known as the "Professor Graham Ayliffe Certificate of Excellence". Professor Ayliffe, a guest at the conference, presented this prize to the first awardee: **Dr Christina Bradley**, from the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Birmingham, United Kingdom.

Our warmest congratulations to her!

Professor Ayliffe was a member of IFIC's first board of trustees. He has a long and distinguished career in medical microbiology and hospital infection control.



### IX Congreso Panamericano

Infecciones  
Intrahospitalarias

### I Congreso Internacional

Infecciones asociadas  
a cuidados de la Salud

30 de Julio al 2 de Agosto del 2014

Hotel Sheraton Guayaquil-Ecuador

[www.asociacioncontroldeinfecciones.com](http://www.asociacioncontroldeinfecciones.com)



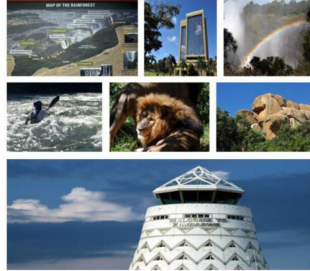
**ICAN/ ICAZ invite you to**

## 5<sup>th</sup> ICAN Conference 2014

Meikles Hotel, Harare, Zimbabwe



3<sup>rd</sup> -7<sup>th</sup> November 2014



An excellent Scientific Programme awaits you

### Keynote Speakers

**Prof Didier Pittet**

**Prof Syed Sattar**

**Prof James Hakim**

### Important Dates for your diary

Early registration by 31st August, 2014 \$300

Late Registration \$350

**Closing date for submission of abstracts  
31st July, 2014**

**Bursaries and scholarships available!**

ICAN Conference Chair; Prof. Shaheen Mehtar  
ICAZ Chair: & Scientific Chair Prof. Val Robertson

Contact : Neriser Sibhanda: e-mail. lucidevents0@gmail.com

For more information on obtaining a bursary, abstract submission, registration or accommodation, please visit the website on <http://www.icanetwork.co.za/>

## News from Argentina!

We are still enjoying the good memories from last year's Conference in Buenos Aires. So for all of those who want a new chance to visit Argentina, ADECI invites them to attend their **2014 Congress**, to be held in **Buenos Aires, September 17th through 19th**. The official Congress language is Spanish, free delegates papers will be received until July 30th.

**Free registration is offered to Latin American Delegates!**

For more information, please visit [www.adeci.org.ar](http://www.adeci.org.ar)

ADECI is also proud to announce the courses and special trainings offered by its affiliated organizations [CO-DEINEP](#) and [ECIE](#). Both leading educational institutions in Argentina offer **e-learning courses** opened to all Spanish speaking health care professionals interested in continued education infection control, as well as those who wish to become Specialists in the field.

Courses are opened throughout the year at ECIE (Director: Elena Andion) and at specific dates at CODEINEP (Director: Stella Maimone). For more information, visit [www.codeinep.org](http://www.codeinep.org) and [www.ecie.com.ar](http://www.ecie.com.ar).

ADECI

## SAFE CHILDBIRTH SIG

The Safe Childbirth Interest Group invites infection control preventionists to join a worldwide effort to address Millennium Development Goals 4 and 5: Reduce Child Mortality and Improve Maternal Health. A SIG meeting was held on Friday 14 March in Malta. Linda Tietjen presented herself as the new chair (replacing Mary Catlin).

Approximately 10 people were at the meeting and discussed these goals. Linda had some thoughts about creating a network; she will contact members with e-mail addresses. Linda will develop an overview of important links for the group, contact members on the list, and send out a newsletter.

Linda Tietjen

Chair, Safe Childbirth Special Interest Group

[lindatietjen@yahoo.com](mailto:lindatietjen@yahoo.com)

## Quality Improvement and Safety and its “Adiós Bacteriemias” (“Goodbye Bacteremia) Initiative Task Force



This initiative joins together organizations; hospitals, scientific societies and experts to demonstrate that it is possible to prevent central line-associated blood stream infections (CLABSI) by implementing evidence-based interventions, and standardizing a strategy of multi-country collaborative work.

**The first phase of this campaign, launched in September 2012, aimed to reduce the incidence of CLABSI in Latin American Intensive Care Units by 50%.**

The Task Force provided 18 virtual learning sessions about the implementation of every component of the bundle, baseline and process measures, and data management. 40 ICUs participated in this first phase, of which 31 reported data on a monthly basis. The results show an overall reduction of 56% in the rate on CLABSI. This reduction represents an estimated impact of 336 CLABSI episodes prevented, a reduction of a total of 2352 hospital inpatient days, 3.4 million dollars saved and 84 lives saved<sup>1</sup>.

Based on these results and with the aim of scaling up the intervention to other Latin American ICUs, the CLICSS will be launching the second phase of the initiative ‘Goodbye Bacteremias: Increasing the Impact’ on April 22<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at 10.30Hs Mexico-Colombia, 11.00Hs Caracas, 11.30Hs Boston, 13.30Hs Buenos Aires via Webex.

We are pleased to invite you to join the initiative as our strategic partner. We would like to have your support during the second phase of the initiative to reach more institutions and build local capacity within your networks and your country.

We envision your role in this strategic alliance as one of endorsement and support. The support could consist of outreach and dissemination on the initiative through webpages and social media, participation in learning sessions, harvesting ‘stories from the field’ (from participating institutions), providing access to your platforms and networks to enhance reach and visibility, and offering technical expertise.

The Task Force would disseminate your work through the [CLICSS](http://www.clicss.org) webpage and social media, and would recognize your support in the learning sessions.

We deeply appreciate the opportunity to continue to explore avenues of collaboration as the effort unfolds. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require any further information.

Sincerely,

**‘Goodbye Bacteremia: Increasing the Impact’ Task Force**

**Consortio Latinoamericano de Innovación, Calidad y Seguridad en Salud - CLICSS**

(Latin American Consortium for Innovation, Quality Improvement and Safety)

[www.clicss.org](http://www.clicss.org) | [adiosbacteriemias@gmail.com](mailto:adiosbacteriemias@gmail.com)

\*Las organizaciones miembro del CLICSS son el [Instituto de Efectividad Clínica y Sanitaria](#), el [Instituto Universitario Avedis Donabedian](#), el [Institute for Healthcare Improvement](#), la [Organización para la Excelencia en Salud](#) y la [University Research Co.](#)

<sup>1</sup> Pittet D, Tarara D, Wenzel RP. Nosocomial bloodstream infection in critically ill patients. Excess length of stay, extra costs, and attributable mortality. JAMA. 1994;271:1598-1601.

## Call for expressions of interest to collaborate with IFIC in the scientific organisation of its International Conference in 2016

IFIC invites expressions of interest from European Member Societies, who are interested in having the 16<sup>th</sup> international IFIC conference, scheduled for 2016, held within their country and to collaborate with IFIC in its organisation.

IFIC European conferences are normally held between February and April of every year. Nevertheless, exceptions and compromises may be possible, especially related to weather and clashes with other major conferences in the region/globally.

### IFIC will:

- \* Organise the conference in collaboration with the chosen Member Society.
- \* Own the full rights of the event.
- \* Entrust its Congress Organiser to act as the core conference organizing agency and to undertake all organisation issues relevant to the running of this event. These include all aspects related to:
  - ◇ registration of delegates
  - ◇ venue arrangements (including catering, etc.) except where explicitly agreed beforehand
  - ◇ hotel coordination
  - ◇ sponsor contracting and invoicing, allocation of booth locations and all other logistic issues related to the exhibition
  - ◇ preparatory and administrative activities normally related to the organisation and running of an international conference
- \* Extensively disseminate information about the conference among all our members and use IFIC's channels to attract international attendees.
- \* Advertise and pay for a number of scholarships to the conference. These will be open to all IFIC member societies and adjudicated by the IFIC scholarships committee.
- \* Be ultimately responsible for the collation of the academic programme, allocation of scholarships and choice of posters and delegate free papers.

### The collaborating Member Society will:

- \* Suggest to the IFIC Congress Organiser potential venues where the conference could be held and be consulted in the process of deciding on the final choice.
- \* Participate actively in preparations for the Scientific Programme of the Conference. To this end, it will nominate a member/s to the Academic Committee as well as reviewers for scholarship and free paper abstract submissions.
- \* Promote the meeting amongst the local members and within the region through regular announcements by mail and/or e-mail dissemination.
- \* Send out the conference sponsorship manual to its own company mailing list and use its personal contacts to invite exhibitors to the congress.
- \* Undertake translation of the conference web page and the website registration pages into the local language, if it deems this to be necessary

### Benefits for the collaborating member society:

Society members have the option of benefiting from a reduced preferential registration fee. This reduced fee should be given only to the paid up members of the Society and, if taken up, will be collected directly by the Society and then transferred to the Organiser.

The Society may organise a pre- Conference one day course or meeting for its members. IFIC will cover costs related to venue and audio visual equipment but all other costs for this pre-event including those related to its organisation, speaker expenses, catering, etc., must be borne by the Society, which will take full responsibility for the local logistics related to the running of this event.

The Society may appoint a local organizer to organise this pre-conference event. In all cases, full communication and agreement with the IFIC Conference Organiser must be undertaken in all preparations for this event. Furthermore, in order to ensure a smooth running and to avoid confusion at the Congress site, the Conference Organiser shall be informed of all plans, numbers, catering needs, speakers and audio visual needs at least 2 weeks prior to the event.

The Society will receive 100% of net revenues generated from companies exhibiting only for the pre-Congress course day.

Continued on page 13

## Expressions of Interest continued

The Society is also free to source additional sponsorship revenues from local or international companies. In such cases, profit sharing arrangements will take into account expenses incurred by both parties, and will be agreed beforehand.

Expressions of interest should contain:

- \* Suggestions about the city/cities where the conference could be held as well as possible conference venues and dates (preferably March).
- \* Information about recent infection prevention and control conferences held by the Member Society; including: when were they held? How many attendees were present? Were these only doctors or was the audience multi-disciplinary? What was the registration fee?
- \* An estimate of the number of delegates from the region, including neighbouring countries that can be confidently expected to participate in the IFIC2016 conference.
- \* Information about visa requirements for delegates, especially for those outside Europe.

Expressions of interest should be sent to [conferences@theifc.org](mailto:conferences@theifc.org) by **no later than 30 June 2014**.

The Conferences Committee will make a recommendation to the Executive, and the Board, based on the expressions of interest received, and an assessment of the adequacy of suggested facilities, etc. The final decision will be communicated by the IFIC Board by end November 2014 and will be final.

A Memorandum of Understanding will be signed by IFIC and the Member Society, formalising and clarifying their respective tasks in the organization of the congress, and the benefits each party will be entitled to, based on this planned collaboration.

### CONSTRUCTION SIG UPDATE

After several active years Walter Popp has retired as chair of this SIG. **Many thanks for all his contributions.** Leif Percival Andersen, Denmark, and Birgitta Lytsy, Sweden, are the new chair and secretary of the special interest group on construction. Their contact information is:

**Leif Percival Andersen** (lpa@dadlnet.dk)

**Birgitta Lytsy** (birgitta.lytsy@akademiska.se)

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

