



International Federation of Infection Control

IFIC e-News

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

Chair Update (Extracts from Annual report)



Judith Richards
Chair, 2011
IFIC Board

The International Federation of Infection Control (IFIC) Board of Trustees would like to take this opportunity to thank the membership for its continuing support during the past year.

The Membership base, both in terms of Societies working in the field of Infection prevention and control, and in its associate membership category, continues to expand.

Our new system of geographical representation on the Board of Trustees will hopefully help us to ensure that all areas of the globe are represented on an equitable basis, thus supporting our aim to be the leaders in global infection prevention & control networking. The importance and relevance of the Federation not only to those working in countries with limited resources but also to those in higher resource settings was evidence this year, when over 10 nominations were received for 5 vacancies.

Some of these vacancies were carried over from the previous year, others have occurred due to the retirement of three long standing colleagues, all of whom had worked unstintingly on behalf of IFIC. Our best wishes and a very fond farewell to Gayle Gilmore, who served as Chair of the Education

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Eleventh Congress of the International Federation of Infection Control



The International Federation of Infection Control and the Società Italiana Multidisciplinare per la Prevenzione delle Infezioni nelle Organizzazioni Sanitarie (SIMPIOS) held its 11th International Conference in Venice. The Congress ran from 12-15 October 2011.



The opening ceremony lecture was presented by Giuseppe Cornaglia on Infection Control in the Middle Ages: a Venetian story of quarantine and lazarettos. Keynote lectures were presented by William Rutala, Silvio Brusaferro, and Gary French.

Symposia sponsored by various professional organizations were provided on MRSA, device-associated infection prevention bundles, structures of hospital hygiene and infection control in Europe, achieving the critical balance in infection prevention, carbapenemase resistant Enterobacteriaceae, infection prevention in a high resource country, WHO Clean Care is Safer Care, and the UK experience to reduce infections. There were also debates on mandatory reporting and hand hygiene compliance.

Hands-on experience was offered during workshops and in viewing exhibits. There were also meet the expert sessions with William Rutala, Smilja Kalenic, Elizabeth Scicluna, Claire Kilpatrick.

The IFIC chair, Judith Richards, ended the conference by reviewing the year in infection control.

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CONFERENCE –
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Chair Update continued *(Continued from page 1)*

Subcommittee, to Jane Murphy, who took on the role of Treasurer, and to Akeau Unahalekhaka who has also completed her term of office .

The Board has continued its work in revising and expanding its aims and objectives, and this has led to an extensive review of the Memorandum and Articles of Association. We hope the key changes, presented at this year's AGM, will meet with the support and approval of all our Members, thus enabling IFIC to move forward with its strategic plans.

A key element of these plans, to ensure even greater networking between members in both high and low resource settings, and the full participation of our Patron members and Strategic Partners, will be the programmed activities that we hope to embark on in the next few months. A list of proposals, which at the moment include the possibility of establishing a scholarship-based twinning programme, the translation of Basic Concepts into several languages, a review of international guidelines, and more, has been compiled.

Discussions will be starting soon to ensure these projects embrace as many members as possible, are financially sound, and offer educational value. Full details will be available shortly in the new "Members Only" section of the web site.

As mentioned in the July E-News, the publication of the updated, expanded, and revised edition of the Basic Concepts book has now happened. IFIC is greatly indebted to all those who contributed to this new edition, either as authors or as reviewers. Our greatest thanks go to the Editors Candy Friedman and Bill Newsom, without whom this fantastic achievement would not have been possible!

We would like to take this opportunity to express our warmest thanks to our Strategic Partners for their continuing support. In this instance, it is a great pleasure to single out not only those who supported our projects and meetings, but also to BD, whose generous contribution helped to print the book, and is now ensuring we meet our target of translating it into Spanish and Portuguese (Brazilian) to ensure even wider distribution and readership.

The annual conference continues to be one of the key eagerly anticipated events of the year, and this year's partnership with SIMPIOS resulted in an outstanding Conference in a beautiful venue. Over 600 delegates met just outside Venice, and participated in fruitful exchanges over 3 days of lively and stimulating scientific sessions. Many thanks go to Michael Borg (conference coordinator) and SIMPIOS for a challenging and well organised conference!!

This was also the first time we presented the Martin S Favero award, generously sponsored by J&J (Ethicon, ASP), and awarded to Professor Gary French in recognition of a lifetime contribution to Infection Prevention and Control in developing and higher resource settings.

After careful deliberations, the Board is delighted to announce that our colleagues in Croatia have been selected to be our partners for the 2012 meeting, to be held on October 10 to 13th in Zagreb.

Our collaborative support for work with the WHO continues, both with the Clean Care is Safe Care programme Team, and with the Global IP&C Network Group, and we were pleased with their active involvement and participation in this year's Conference.

Thank you.

Judith Richards, CHAIR, 2011 IFIC Board

Martin S Favero Award

IFIC is pleased to announce that the 2011 winner of the Martin S. Favero award is Professor G French, from the UK. This award, created to honour the international contributions of Martin S. Favero, Ph.D., in the field of infection prevention & control, is kindly sponsored by Advanced Sterilization Products, Irvine, CA. It aims to recognise and support Infection Prevention and Control Practitioners who have made significant lifetime contributions to global infection prevention.

This year's recipient, selected from an impressively strong international field, received the award at the annual conference of International Federation of Infection Control (IFIC), and delivered one of the Conference's keynote lectures. Our warmest congratulations to Professor French.



Eleventh Congress of the International Federation of Infection Control

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Many thanks to the supporters of the Congress

Sponsors and Exhibitors:

Antimicrobial Copper

CareFusion

Anios Laboratories

Bode Science Center

Meiko

International Scientific Forum on Home Hygiene

Advanced Sterilization Products

Pall Medical

BD

Silentia

HandyMetrics

Institutional and Individual Supporters

Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (APIC)

Community and Hospital Infection Control Association (CHICA)–Canada

European network to promote infection prevention for patient safety

German Society for Hospital Hygiene (GSHH)

French Society for Hospital Hygiene (SFHH)

Hospital Infection Society (HIS)

Infection Prevention Society

Norwegian Forum for Infection Control and Norwegian Association for Infection Control Nurses

World Health Organization (WHO)



NEW IFIC MEMBERS

CYPRUS NURSES & MIDWIVES ASSOCIATION (CY.N.M.A)- BRANCH OF INFECTION CONTROL NURSES

<http://www.cyna.org>

Chairperson/President: Stavroula Michael

Vice-President: Costas Koulas

Secretary: Theodora Aristidou

Treasurer: Georgios Efstathiou

Members: Chryso Panagiotou, Margarita Toumasi, Eleni Phedonos, Maria Pavlou, Cosmas Theoklitou, Koula Trisokka, Maria Chadjichristodoulou, Kristina Trimithiotou, Elena Nathanael

INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC FORUM ON HOME HYGIENE (IFH)

www.ifh-homehygiene.org

Chairperson/President: Prof. Sally Bloomfield

Secretary: Silvia Pellegrini

Treasurer: John Pickup

SOCIEDAD ESPAÑOLA DE MEDICINA PREVENTIVA, SALUD PÚBLICA E HIGIENE (SEMPSPH)

http://www.sempsph.com/sempsph/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=10&Itemid=34

Chairperson/President: Vicente Pastor

Secretary: Cristina Sanz Sebastian

Treasurer: Manuel Carnero

Vice-president: Joaquín Fernandez-Crehuet

Infection Control WG chair: Angel Asensio

WELCOME!

International Journal of Infection Control

Prof. Smilja Kalenic, from Croatia, is the Journal Editor. She is supported by Elizabeth Scilcuna 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/>

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SHORT REPORTS

[Abstracts of the 11th Congress of the International Federation of Infection Control \(IFIC2011\)](#) by various authors

Congress of the German Society for Hospital Hygiene

Berlin, Russisches Haus (very near to Gendarmenmarkt)
March 25-28, 2012



Abstracts due December 2, 2012

For information go to www.krankenhaushygiene.de/2012

Framework Themes

- Prevention and control of sepsis
- Prevention and control of pneumonia
- Prevention and control of urinary tract infections
- Prevention and control of wound infections
- Prevention and control of gastro-intestinal infections
- Surveillance of nosocomial infections
- Antibiotic guidelines
- MRE networks and the experience gained
- Metrics in hospital hygiene
- Newly recognized infectious reservoirs and their significance
- Hygienic microbiological investigations as an instrument of quality assurance
- Cleaning, Disinfection, Sterilization
- Structurally-functional concepts duties and qualifications of professional staff hygiene
- Political and regulatory aspects of hospital hygiene
- Hospital hygiene in education, training and education
- Water Hygiene Plan Commission and Water Hygiene
- Outbreak Management - Learning for the Future
- Outpatient care
- The immunosuppressed patient
- The inclusion of patients in Infection Prevention campaigns
- TV spots for hygiene

IFIC- Grant Application

Making Safe Injection and Disposal a Reality

Special Interest Group - Safe Injection Practices

In many parts of the world safe injection practices, as well as proper disposal of sharps remain a challenge. Infection prevention is integral to solving many of these problems. A number of initiatives have been put forth to address these issues; however, the success of these interventions is not well documented and in some locations problems still persist. In order to address this gap, IFIC is launching a Grant Proposal Competition aimed at infection prevention in low-resource settings. This initiative is made possible through the generous support of several companies: Stericycle, AP Medical, Smiths Medical, and WNNW International.

This call for applications is being coordinated by the IFIC Safe Injection and Disposal Special Interest Group, which seeks proposals for projects to assess current injection practices and/ or disposal methods in any health care setting and methods that can or have been implemented to improve them. The grant will be awarded so that the investigators can implement their proposal and measure results.

This project must result in an English language manuscript for publication or a presentable abstract. **Two (2) Grant requests will be awarded, limited to US \$3500 each..** This request for proposals is for a one-time, one-year project.

The deadline for applications is November 15, 2011.

More information regarding this grant and the grant application form can be found at:

<http://www.theific.org/sigs2a.asp>

Questions can be emailed to the Ed Krisiunas, Chair of the SIG at ekrisiunas@aol.com. Good luck to all applicants!!

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



IFIC Election 2011

For the next 4 year term (beginning Jan 2012) there was one vacancy from each of regions A, B, D, F & G and nominations were received from all except Group D where a vacancy exists. An electronic ballot was held and the results are:

Group A:

Mrs. Anni Juhl-Jorgensen; Nominated by the Danish Society for Infection Control Nurses

Group B:

Ms. Teresa (Terrie) Bird Lee; Nominated by the Certification Board of Infection and Epidemiology, Inc. (CBIC)

Group G:

Dr. Nagwa Khamis; Nominated by the Society for Practitioners of Infection Control of Egypt (SPIC-EGYPT)

Group F:

Ms. Patricia Ching Tai-Yin; Nominated by the Hong Kong Infection Control Nurses Association

The IFIC Board congratulates all the successful candidates and thanks all those candidates who allowed their names to stand and encourages continued support and interest in IFIC and the Board.

World Health Organization

WHO SAVE LIVES: Clean Your Hands is now aiming to galvanise action for 5 May 2012; the 4th year for this global campaign in celebrating the move towards clean hands in health care, every day; everywhere.

The call to action for 5 May 2011 was to track your progress with hand hygiene improvement. As part of this, health-care facilities were asked to use the WHO Hand Hygiene Self Assessment Framework. This tool has been downloaded almost 55,000 times and many are using it to demonstrate their status; trying to ensure good hand hygiene practices are sustained in their settings. It is clear that health-care facilities in many countries understand that results from this tool can help them present the case for support/resources to improve hand hygiene. Some settings have been surprised at their scores and how much still needs to improve. At this year's IFIC Congress, a poster submission from the Netherlands on use of the WHO Hand Hygiene Self Assessment Framework won the 2nd place award in recognition of poster quality and educational merit.

As part of supporting hand hygiene improvement progress, in 2012 WHO will present data on completed Frameworks, based on a global survey which is under way until December 2011. Find out more on the Framework and submit results at http://www.who.int/gpsc/5may/hhsa_framework/en/index.html

For 5 May 2012, go to <http://www.who.int/gpsc/5may/en/> for details on what WHO would like you to do to continue your progress with hand hygiene improvement; your local actions and activities are what really make a difference. So far, WHO have stated that those working on 5 May, particularly our colleagues in countries where Saturday is a regular working weekday as in the WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region and other parts of the world, promote activities on that day, while the celebrations around the world will also continue on until 7 May. For now, WHO would like to see:

- More health-care facilities registering for SAVE LIVES: Clean Your Hands; the numbers are still going up!
- Links to web sites that you have or are creating which will feature 5 May SAVE LIVES: Clean Your Hands information. Send links to these sites to savelives@who.int and WHO will feature these on their web pages; this activity is critical in keeping the hand hygiene agenda alive in every country.

Remember, WHO provides a number of tools for you to download and use locally in support of improving hand hygiene, in English, French and Spanish so far <http://www.who.int/gpsc/5may/tools/en/index.html>. Additionally, a number have been translated locally and approved by WHO and are now featured on our web pages http://www.who.int/gpsc/5may/tools/local_adaptation/en/index.html

Thank you, sincerely, for your on-going commitment and support to WHO for SAVE LIVES: Clean Your Hands.

Eleventh Congress of the International Federation of Infection Control—Awards and Scholarships

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS:

Miriam de Lourdes Dueñas de Chicas, San Salvador, El Salvador.

Impact on Savings and reduction of HCAI with the Implementation of Multimodal Hand Hygiene Improvement Strategy in a Pediatric Hospital in El Salvador.

Ermira Tartari Bonnici, Msida, Malta

Prevention of catheter associated bloodstream infections: the road to safer patient care.

Ruta Lukianskyte, Kaunas, Lithuania

Needlestick and sharps injuries experienced by present and future nurses and their prevention

Sergejs Kuznecovs, Riga, Latvia

Hand-washing behavior: survey analysis and insiders view

Dr Kelkar Uday, Pune, India

Air conditioning units as potential source for contaminating operation theater environment – Need to educate Healthcare establishments.

POSTER AWARDS:

This year's IFIC poster awards are given in memory of Moira Walker, a former IFIC board member.

1st PLACE

Lucia Settesoldi, Anna Poli, Roberto Galli. Survey of infectious complications and management of CVC in Hemodialysis Units of Florence Health Company.

2nd PLACE

T. de Ruiter, A. Voss, G. van Knippenberg-Gordebeke, M. Vos. Use of the WHO Hand Hygiene Self-Assessment Framework Tool in Dutch Hospitals

3rd PLACE

Ruta Lukianskyte, Gatajeva, Radziunaite. Needlestick and sharps injuries experienced by present and future nurses and their prevention

HONOURABLE MENTION

Wiklund S, Kahlmeter G, Hallberg U. Living with ESBL - a qualitative study

IFIC AGM 2011

The 2011 Annual General Meeting was held on Friday Oct 14th with 22 member society delegates present. The most important issue that was addressed and ratified was the change to the 2008 Memorandum and Articles of IFIC. The draft 2011 document has been forwarded to the UK Charity Commission for final approval. The Objective of IFIC now reads:

“The relief of sickness and the preservation and protection of public health in all parts of the world by **fostering best practice in the prevention and control of healthcare associated infections through global networking**, in particular but not exclusively amongst people working in medical, educational and residential care institutions”.

The minutes of the meeting will be sent to all Members and will be found on IFIC's web site (www.theific.org).

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

The FIS/HIS Conference is a unique collaboration between all organisations who have an interest in infection in its broadest sense in the UK (FIS), combined with the biannual HIS International Conference. HIS is returning to Liverpool, one of Britain's most vibrant and cosmopolitan cities, after the very successful 2010 HIS International Conference. The 2012 event will again be located in the BT Convention Centre, a purpose built, state of the art facility situated in the heart of Liverpool along the historic, world heritage waterfront.



The HIS conference takes place every two years and is the major international conference focusing on infection control attracting leading world experts in healthcare associated infections as speakers and delegates. As well as attracting accreditation from both the ACCME and the Royal College of Pathologists, it will provide a unique opportunity for everyone involved to learn the latest developments in this rapidly expanding and changing field.

The meeting is driven by an excellent scientific programme covering topics such as infection prevention and control, epidemiology and surveillance, decontamination, new technologies, infectious diseases, laboratory microbiology and antimicrobial agents to name a few. There will also be an opportunity for delegates to exchange views and ideas about the latest developments in nosocomial and hospital acquired / healthcare associated infections - always such an important part of this meeting for all parties.

Inaugural meeting of an IFIC Special Interest Group 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 as well as 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 group, as agreed at the inaugural meeting, is to establish a partnership between IFIC and the International Scientific Forum on Home Hygiene (IFH, www.ifh-homehygiene.org) 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 setting. 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 establish a webpage on the IFIC website, and developing it 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. 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.

NEXT IFIC CONFERENCE



Twelfth Congress of the International Federation of Infection Control (IFIC)

10-13 October 2012
Zagreb, Croatia