



International Federation of Infection Control

IFIC e-News



IFIC CONFERENCES

HUNGARY

18-21 October 2007
IFIC 8th Annual Conference
Budapest
<http://www.ific2007.com/>

CHILE

14-17 October 2008
IFIC 9th Annual Conference
Santiago
www.sociedad-iih.cl

Chair Update

Dear IFIC members,

Happy Birthday! Two words which, more often than not, signify a major achievement in any person's life. Some birthdays, however, are more special than others. None more so than the 20th! It is a time when a young adolescent matures into an adult utilizing the experiences learnt in the growing years to increase the active contribution to the community to which he or she belongs.

It is therefore with no little pride that we celebrate this year, IFIC's twentieth birthday. Like every adolescent reaching this milestone, the Federation has grown through a massive learning curve both in its ability to outreach to societies and individuals in the four corners of the globe as well as to provide output that is relevant, suitable and utilizable. Thanks to the support and contribution from our members, we been able to establish a unique world-wide network that brings together countries of varying levels of resources and development in infection prevention and control. We have also symbiosed our patron members from industry with healthcare professionals working in the field, for ultimate benefit of the patients and clients we serve. All these achievements would not have been possible without the dedication and work of all the previous IFIC Boards, who I would like to acknowledge and thank.—See

(Continued on page 2)



Michael Borg
Chair, 2007
IFIC Board

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IFIC's 20th ANNIVERSARY

IFIC had its inaugural meeting on 31 August, 1987. This issue of IFIC e-News will look back at IFIC's beginnings.

The early description of the function of the organization was: To promote the international exchange of knowledge, information, and ideas and to support the control of infection in hospitals and other healthcare facilities throughout the world. Societies, associations, and other organisations of healthcare professionals active in infection control were eligible for membership.

The current mission of IFIC is: To provide the essential tools, education materials and communication that unite the existing infection control societies and foster development of infection control organisations where they are needed. IFIC currently has 70 members.

(Continued on page 3)

Chair Update continued

page 8 for a history of Board members.

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: pmaallen@aol.com

This is a time to look forward and strive to increase our efforts to address the challenge of healthcare infections which become ever more acute and complex. Nevertheless it is also a time to toast our achievements over these past twenty years. So come and join our birthday party during the opening ceremony of IFIC2007 in Budapest, Hungary on the 18th October. We look forward to seeing you there.



Joint Commission International

Joint Commission International (JCI) recently published their revised International Accreditation Standards for Hospitals. As of January 1, 2008, these standards will be used for hospital surveys. The goal of JCI, since accreditation began in 1999, is to provide a framework for hospitals to use to deliver safe, high-quality care.

The current revisions were based on recommendations from advisory councils around the world and notable changes include:

- Emphasis on hospital leaders in overseeing all areas of performance for organizational improvement.
- Separate chapters related to Anesthesia and Surgical Care, Medication Management, and Use and Management of Communication and Information.
- Six International Patient Safety Goals, with intent statements and measurable elements.

For more information about the new JCI standards, visit www.jcrinc.com/25300/.

THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF INFECTION CONTROL: THE FIRST TWENTY YEARS

The need for hospital infection control became apparent around 1960 when surgical methods became more advanced and cancer therapy emerged; at the same time the first organisms that were resistant to antibiotics appeared. Infection Control nurses and doctors began working and felt the need for exchange of information and views. From the late 1960's, Infection Control Nurses and doctors organized themselves into associations, both in Northern Europe and in North America. At the meetings of these associations, a handful of people formed a Planning Committee for the International Federation of Infection Control. Graham Ayliffe, Shirley Bradley, Mary Castle, Kirsten Engler, Birgitta Fryklund, Coby Pardekooper and Margaret Worsley were members of the committee, with Julia Garner of CDC as an honorary member. The first meetings of the Planning Committee were hosted by the World Health Organization's Regional Office for Europe. Some of these early enthusiasts later formed the first Board of IFIC.

In early 1985 an announcement was published in the Journal of Hospital Infection and other professional journals about the proposed formation of a multidisciplinary international federation for infection control. The aim of IFIC was proposed to be:

- To promote international exchange of knowledge, information, ideas and support in the control of hospital-associated infections by:
 - ◇ gathering and disseminating resource information among the associations, societies and other groups forming the Federation
 - ◇ arranging regular international multidisciplinary congresses
 - ◇ providing individuals, in countries without infection control organisations, with information and assistance to form such organisations.

In response to the announcement, letters came from interested professionals and also from many companies working with hospitals around the world. Among countries represented in the IFIC archives were Australia, Belgium, Brazil, China, Denmark, England, Germany, Hungary, India, Israel, Italy, Kuwait, Luxembourg, Mexico, Nepal, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Thailand, West Indies, Yugoslavia, and Zambia.

The inaugural meeting of the International Federation of Infection Control was held 31 August 1987 in London, at the International Conference of the Hospital Infection Society. Bylaws were accepted and the first Board was elected. (See page 8)

Individuals attending the meeting consisted of members of the interim IFIC Board, official delegates of infection control organisations, invited observers, and others interested in the Federation. The chair, Shirley Bradley, welcomed all present, introduced the Board, and presented the history of IFIC. The annual fee was set at \$100 US for active members and \$500 US for patron members. Organisations that could not afford the dues were subsidised through a fund.

At the inaugural meeting, 18 member organizations were represented with delegates. In 1991 there were 19 member societies from 14 countries and 12 patron members. Since then the number of member societies has grown substantially, and we now have members from all continents. We are now forming new relationships with strategic partners in order to focus better on the needs of IFIC and its members. IFIC was registered under the UK Companies Act 18 October 1994 as a company and in 2000 as a Charity.

PUBLICATIONS

In the production of information materials, IFIC attempts to provide infection prevention and control professionals of all disciplines with sound advice and arguments for change when needed.

FIRST NEWSLETTER - 1989

The **IFIC Newsletter** has been printed in 1-2 issues per year since 1989 and was kindly distributed to more than 500 member representatives by Mölnlycke Health Care, Sweden.

The newsletter began in order to communicate on a regular basis with member organisations, to provide a forum for member organisations to share information and activities, and to provide articles on infection prevention and control practice. Original editors were Coby Paardekooper, MT, ICP and Professor Graham Ayliffe.



The newsletter is distributed free of charge to member organizations and to a large number of observers. It can be freely copied and distributed. In 2006 it was turned into an electronic edition.

FIRST JOURNAL - 2005

The **International Journal of Infection Control** was founded in 2005 but has only appeared in two issues as yet.

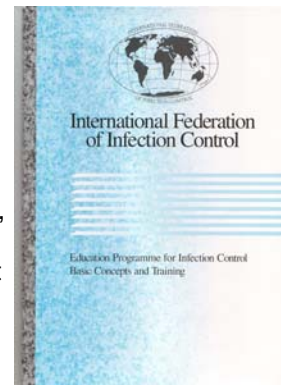


ORGANISATIONAL HANDBOOK - 2006

Our new Organisational Handbook: "How to form a successful infection control society" can be found on our website, www.theifc.org

BASIC CONCEPTS - 1999

The first edition of the **Basic Concepts in Infection Control** was produced in 1999 and edited by Graham Ayliffe, Anna Hambraeus and Shaheen Mehtar. It covered organization, decontamination, hand washing, occupational health, isolation precautions, post-operative wound infection, intravenous infusions, respiratory tract infection, urinary tract infection, and antibiotic policies, all in 35 folio pages. It was printed with the aid of Johnson & Johnson Medical Products Canada.



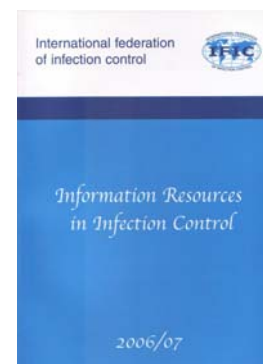
The second edition appeared in 2003, with 73 pages, printed with support from 3M Medical Division, USA. Translation of the 2nd Edition was soon completed, by volunteers, into Russian, French, Spanish, Arabic and many other languages.

The third edition, now re-named **IFIC Basic Concepts of Infection Control** and edited by Candace Friedman and William Newsom will appear in 2007. It contains 23 chapters, 208 pages, and is now a full text book which will be available both in print and on line at the IFIC website.

The intent of the manual is to provide a foundation of scientifically basic infection control principles and requirements. The advantage of this document is that it is not connected to any country's legal regulations or traditions and therefore it transcends national boundaries.

INFORMATION RESOURCES - 2002

The booklet **IFIC Information Resources in Infection Control**, which has been produced annually since 2002 by Nizam Damani, is a goldmine of information about key references, publications and website addresses for infection control practitioners worldwide. The booklet is printed with support by Gilead.



CONFERENCES

The IFIC congresses are always a joint venture between IFIC and a member society in the country where the congress is held.

The IFIC conference in Cambridge, 5-7 September, 1997, was the first IFIC conference that was not held in conjunction with another meeting. It was a consensus conference, quite different from other infection prevention and control meetings. A foundation was laid by persons in various regions of the world presenting baseline information on infections and infection control. Four issues were introduced and discussed by known experts and by member associations: hand hygiene, reducing the load of microorganisms, working together as a multidisciplinary and a multinational team, and antibiotic use. The background was presented by experts, with much time allotted for general discussion.

IFIC CONGRESSES

- 8th IFIC Congress, Budapest, Hungary, October 2007**
- 7th IFIC Congress, Spier Estate, South Africa, July 2006**
- 6th IFIC Congress, Istanbul, Turkey, October 2005**
- 5th IFIC Congress, Porec, Croatia, October 2004**
- 4th IFIC Congress, St. Julians, Malta, November 2003**
- 3rd IFIC Congress, Cairo, Egypt, October 2001**
- 2nd IFIC Congress, George, South Africa, September 1999**
- 1st IFIC Congress, Cambridge, England, September 1997**

Quite a few joint meetings and workshops on Infection Control have been held in cooperation with member societies in many countries. Several national and regional conferences around the world have been IFIC supported with speakers and other input.

CHICA and APIC have been particularly supportive of IFIC right from the start, both professionally and financially. Without them, we could not have made the progress that we have. We now have a scholarship fund to facilitate participation in IFIC congresses for professionals who produce a poster or an oral presentation at that congress.

MESSAGE FROM THE FIRST CHAIR:

*Shirley Bradley, USA
First Chair IFIC*

“ As the first Chair of IFIC, I can only say we did not take many pictures or have 'recordable' stories that I can remember. Most of what we did in the beginning was 'hammer" out the bylaws and policies, etc. to develop the organization. There were just a handful of us volunteering to gather and put our heads together to accomplish the task. When we did meet with the working group as a whole decisions were agreed upon and we went forward. Believe me it was great determination by this group that finally made it happen. The process took several years.

It is difficult for me to realize this is now the 20th year anniversary. I was at the 10th in Cambridge which was a wonderful experience. It is a great joy for me to read the IFIC News on line and know how it has grown in the world. All best wishes for a very successful conference in Budapest.”



Infection Prevention Society
Incorporating the ICNA

September 2007

Launch of the Infection Prevention Society – a new era, a new outlook.

September 2007 sees a significant development in the field of infection prevention and control, with the launch of the Infection Prevention Society (IPS). This exciting development completes the transformation of the Infection Control Nurses Association (ICNA) into an organisation that welcomes as full members all professionals working in the field of infection prevention and control. Whilst full membership is open to those who live or work in the UK and Eire, associate membership is available for anyone who wishes to join, from anywhere in the world. All members will continue to receive the British Journal of Infection Control as a membership benefit at no additional cost.

Information on the IPS can be found at www.ips.uk.net

Delegates at the first IFIC meeting included the following individuals:

DELEGATE, ORGANISATION, COUNTRY

Ozdem Ang, TMS, Turkey
L. Buurman, SSSHH, Sweden
Birgitta Fryklund, SAIC, Sweden
J. P. Gachie, SFHH, France
M. Grehn, SSHH, Switzerland
P. Gronroos, Finland
A. Hambræus, SAIC, Sweden
L. Messinger Harkavy, APIC, USA
J.J. Haxhe, ABHN, Belgium
I. Jensen, DSICN, Denmark
P. Makola, Finland

Annual General Meeting

The Board of the International Federation of Infection Control invites IFIC delegates and other representatives of member societies participating at the conference to attend the Annual General Meeting (AGM) which will take place on:

Saturday, 20 October, 1230-1400 hours at the 8th Congress of the International Federation of Infection Control, Budapest, Hungary in the room indicated in the final Conference programme.

The agenda will be distributed at the start of the meeting. Each member society, which is paid up for the year 2007, is entitled to nominate one voting delegate to represent it at the AGM.

All delegates at IFIC2007 are welcome to attend the AGM and participate in fruitful discussions on the future of the Federation and the ways it can assist the member societies as well as the global development of infection prevention and control.

C. O'Keefe, VICA, Australia
A. Palmu, Finland
J. Sander, NFHH, Norway
D.C. Shanson, HIS, UK
G. Sills, HIS, UK
G. Sondinaa, NAICN, Norway
M. Stormark, NAICN, Norway
L.J. Taylor, ICNA, UK
M. Veerman, Brenzikofer, The Netherlands
P. Williams, CHICA, Canada
J. Zimakoff, DSSM, Denmark

Twenty Facts through 20 Years

DID you know that...

1. The first membership meeting was held 5 September 1990 in London.
2. Shirley R. Bradley (USA) was the first chairman, followed by Graham Ayliffe (UK) Anna Hambræus (Sweden) Patricia Lynch (USA) and Michael Borg (Malta).
3. Kirsten Engler (Denmark) started talking with Dr. Moore and Dr. Ayliffe about having an international meeting and she became the first secretary.
4. Coby Paardekooper (the Netherlands) and Prof Graham Ayliffe (UK) and Mary C. White (USA) started the first Newsletter in 1989.
5. The first logo was designed in Rome and the 2nd logo in Malta.
6. In 2003 the Board started to have bi-annual Board meetings.
7. In 1987 IFIC had 6 Members; in 1997 there were 37 Member organizations and in 2007 we welcomed the 70th Member.
8. The first edition of Basic Concepts was translated into more than 10 languages.
9. CHICA hosts the IFIC Calendar for all (international) infection prevention events.
10. The first IFIC conference was held in Cambridge in 1997 and the second conference was in collaboration with the WHO in South-Africa in 1999.
11. IFIC will start in October 2007 in Budapest having Special Interest Groups.
12. Some member associations contribute regularly to the scholarship fund.
13. Prof. Shaheen Mehtar organised in 1998 charity status for IFIC in the UK.
14. IFIC works together with the WHO for the patient safety challenge campaign.
15. Prof Sergey Eremin (Russia) developed the IFIC website and Aaron Cauchi (Malta) is the current webmaster.
16. Pamela Allen (UK) keeps the mailing list updated.
17. IFIC launched a quarterly electronic newsletter in 2006 organized by Candace Friedman.
18. IFIC started a pilot training 'Basic Concepts in Infection Prevention' for nurses in Malta in 2007.
19. Every resource on the IFIC website is free downloadable at www.theIFIC.org.
20. All the work is done by volunteers!

HISTORY OF IFIC Board Members

Year	Chair	Secretary	Treasurer	Board	Board	Board	Board	Board	Board	Board	
1988-1992	Shirley Bradley, USA	Margaret Worsley, UK	Donato Greco, Italy	Bertil Nyström, Sweden	Graham Ayliffe, UK	Kirsten Engler, Denmark	Heike Langmaak, Germany	William Schaffner, USA	Editor	Jan Sander, Norway	
1993-1996	Graham Ayliffe, UK	Margaret Worsley, UK	Shaheen Mehtar, Pakistan	Anna Hambraeus, Sweden	Ozdem Ang, Turkey	Jette Zamakoff, Denmark	Wang Shu Qun, China	Ana Zlata Dragas, Slovenia	Coby Pardekooper, Netherlands	Mary Castle White, US	
1997	Anna Hambraeus, Sweden	Moir Walker, Canada	Shaheen Mehtar, Pakistan		Ozdem Ang, Turkey	Hans Jörn Kolmos, Denmark	Peter Heeg, Germany	Ana Zlata Dragas, Slovenia	Mary Castle White, US	Wang Shu Qun, China	
1998	Anna Hambraeus, Sweden	Moir Walker, Canada	Shaheen Mehtar, Pakistan		Ozdem Ang, Turkey	Hans Jörn Kolmos, Denmark	Peter Heeg, Germany	Ana Zlata Dragas, Slovenia	Mary Castle White, US	Wang Shu Qun, China	
1999	Anna Hambraeus, Sweden	Moir Walker, Canada	Shaheen Mehtar, Pakistan		Ozdem Ang, Turkey	Hans Jörn Kolmos, Denmark	Peter Heeg, Germany	Patricia Lynch, USA	Mary Castle White, US	Geeta Mehta, India	
2000	Anna Hambraeus, Sweden	Moir Walker, Canada	Shaheen Mehtar, Pakistan		Ozdem Ang, Turkey	Hans Jörn Kolmos, Denmark	Peter Heeg, Germany	Patricia Lynch, USA	Mary Castle White, US	Geeta Mehta, India	
2001	Anna Hambraeus, Sweden	Moir Walker, Canada	Shaheen Mehtar, Pakistan		Gary French, UK	Hans Jörn Kolmos, Denmark	Peter Heeg, Germany	Patricia Lynch, USA	Gertie van Knippenberg-Gordebeke, Netherlands	Geeta Mehta, India	
2002	Anna Hambraeus, Sweden	Moir Walker, Canada	Nizam Damani, Pakistan		Gary French, UK	Smilja Kalenic, Croatia	Peter Heeg, Germany	Patricia Lynch, USA	Gertie van Knippenberg-Gordebeke, Netherlands	Geeta Mehta, India	
2003	Patricia Lynch, USA	Moir Walker, Canada	Nizam Damani, Pakistan	Michael A Borg, Malta	Gary French, UK	Smilja Kalenic, Croatia	Peter Heeg, Germany	Ossama Raslan, Egypt	Gertie van Knippenberg-Gordebeke, Netherlands	Ulrika Ransjö, Sweden	
2004	Patricia Lynch, USA	Moir Walker, Canada	Nizam Damani, Pakistan	Michael A Borg, Malta	Gary French, UK	Smilja Kalenic, Croatia	Peter Heeg, Germany	Ossama Raslan, Egypt	Gertie van Knippenberg-Gordebeke, Netherlands	Ulrika Ransjö, Sweden	
2005	Patricia Lynch, USA	Ulrika Ransjö, Sweden	Nizam Damani, Pakistan	Michael A Borg, Malta	Gary French, UK	Smilja Kalenic, Croatia	Weiling Iu, China	Ossama Raslan, Egypt	Gertie van Knippenberg-Gordebeke, Netherlands	Pola Brenner, Chile	
2006	Patricia Lynch, USA	Ulrika Ransjö, Sweden	Nizam Damani, Pakistan	Michael A Borg, Malta	Gary French, UK	Smilja Kalenic, Croatia	Walter Popp, Germany	Ossama Raslan, Egypt	Gertie van Knippenberg-Gordebeke, Netherlands	Pola Brenner, Chile	
2007	Michael A Borg	Ulrika Ransjö, Sweden	Nizam Damani, Pakistan	Gayle Gilmore, USA	Carol Goldman, Canada	Smilja Kalenic, Croatia	Walter Popp, Germany	Ossama Raslan, Egypt	Gertie van Knippenberg-Gordebeke, Netherlands	Pola Brenner, Chile	Jane Murphy, Ireland

International Infection
Prevention Week
October 14-20, 2007



International Infection Prevention Week (IIPW) 14-20 October 2007

In their 20th anniversary year, IFIC embraces Infection Prevention Week. This year the theme is "Infection Prevention--it's in your hands" -- a perfect supplement to the WHO project: - Global Patient Safety Challenge: Clean care is safe care. The 8th International IFIC conference will be held in Budapest, birth city of Ignác Semmelweis, the famous founder of hand hygiene practice in 1847.

Since the 'Eighties', worldwide infection prevention professionals have organized extra activities in healthcare settings around the 3rd week of October. These activities include special educational activities to emphasize adherence to practices that can prevent infections and highlight the problems of healthcare-associated infections.

In 1986, President Ronald Reagan proclaimed the third week in October as National Infection Control Week in the USA and called on all 'federal, state, and local government agencies, health organizations, communications, media, and people' to take part in educational activities and programs during this designated week. The week is now acclaimed by many organizations throughout the world.