



ACIPC

Australasian College
for Infection Prevention and Control

IPC News

JANUARY 2023

ACIPC President Kristie Popkiss



Welcome to the January issue of Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) News.

As we started a new year, I took some time to reflect on not just 2022 but the years leading into it for our profession. We have achieved so much. Both the achievements and your role in them should be celebrated.

What plans do you have for 2023? I have found some of mine changing already as we enter the 'busy' working landscape. Our best-laid plans have had some scope creep, sometimes overcome by other priorities pushed upon us.

I recently read a short paragraph about mindset which I'd like to share. This has helped me reset my thoughts and focus:

It's easy to spot a yellow car when you are always thinking about a yellow car.

It's easy to spot an opportunity when you are always thinking of an opportunity.

It's easy to spot reasons to be mad when you are always thinking of being mad.

You become what you constantly think about.

(From Mindset Therapy)

We can all be overwhelmed at times by the increasing number of priorities and 'busy' work. I encourage you to maintain a balance, focus on your goals and adjust your expectations. Take time to enjoy the positives in your life.

Thanks for reading this month's IPC News.

Until next month, warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "K Popkiss".

Kristie Popkiss



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MEET THE BOARD

**Kylie Robb – Board Director
and Chair of the Membership
Communication and
Engagement Committee**



Kylie is a Fellow and Board Director of ACIPC with post-graduate qualifications in IPC and Health Services Management. Kylie holds the award of Credentialed Infection Control Professional - Advanced (CICP-A) and routinely presents on IPC leadership, quality improvement, clinical governance, and healthcare sustainability for the dental profession. Kylie has been recognised by the World Health Organisation's Western Pacific Regional Office for her dental IPC expertise and the Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America through her appointment onto their International Ambassadors Program.

As a current board director and Fellow of ACIPC, Kylie is committed to the long-term sustainability of ACIPC and to continue exploring approaches to diversify and adapt our College to meet the expanding needs of our diverse membership and their communities.



NCET WRITES TO MINISTER BUTLER

As you may be aware that it was recently announced that funding for the National Clinical Evidence Taskforce (NCET) group has ceased. The Commonwealth Department of Health and Aged Care will not be continuing the contract to develop clinical guidelines for COVID-19 beyond 31 December 2022.

**YOU CAN READ
A COPY OF THE
LETTER HERE**

As a collaboration of 35 member organisations (including ACIPC) this shared work over the last 33 months has been invaluable. All 35 organisations wrote a letter of support which was sent to Minister Butler today.

The letter highlights:

- It is essential that Australian healthcare professionals have access to regularly updated guidance to ensure they can provide the best possible care for Australians with COVID-19
- The COVID-19 guidance produced by the National Clinical Evidence Taskforce is the principal source of clinical advice for Australian healthcare professionals
- There is no viable alternative to the Taskforce guidance
- Evidence-based guidance will be particularly important for healthcare professionals caring for Australians with long COVID
- The Taskforce has recently demonstrated the potential to respond to other urgent and emerging diseases

INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL IN AGED CARE SETTINGS

BOOK NOW FOR 21ST FEB 2023

Short Course in Infection Prevention and Control in Aged Care Settings

This course is designed to provide staff with the fundamental principles and concepts of infection prevention and control practice as they apply to various Aged Care settings, particularly Residential and Community Aged Care settings.

Learning outcomes:

- Increased quality and safety in care delivery
- Improved supervision and education of care workers
- Implementation of AMS and other IPC strategies
- Support for the IPC Clinical Leads and Facility/Clinical managers

Cost: \$500

Book here: <https://www.acipc.org.au/education/short-course/>



[Blood Borne Virus TESTING COURSE]



BOOK NOW FOR 24TH FEB 2023

Blood Borne Virus Testing Course

This course is suitable for healthcare practitioners involved in undertaking HIV and Hepatitis testing in all healthcare settings including midwifery, acute care, community health, women's health, correctional health, rural and remote health, refugee health, sexual health, and infection prevention and control practitioners.

Cost: \$350

Book here: <https://www.acipc.org.au/.../blood-borne-virus-testing.../>

Optimising Ventilation for Infection Prevention and Control in Healthcare Settings

The Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (the Commission) has recently published Optimising ventilation for infection prevention and control in healthcare settings. This guidance for health service organisations explains the importance of effective ventilation systems and how ventilation risks can be mitigated to improve patient and workforce safety.

**CLICK HERE
FOR THE
PUBLICATION**

This resource was informed by state and territory resources as well as consultation with the Healthcare-Associated Infections Advisory Committee. The Commission thanks Members for their contribution and feedback.

Please contact **HAI@safetyandquality.gov.au** if you have any questions about this resource.

POSITIONS VACANT

Senior Advisor, Infection Prevention and Control and Healthcare Associated Infection

The Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care is seeking a Senior Advisor, IPC, and HAI through secondment or contract (via recruitment agency) for up to 13 months (May 2024)

Information on this vacancy and how to apply can be found in the link. **Applications for this role will close at midnight, Wednesday 8 February 2023.**

Questions about the role can be directed to Kim Stewart on (02) 9126 3660.

MORE INFO

Senior Advisor
- HAI and IPC
(secondment or contract)



SAVE THE DATE!

IPC Tour – Infection Prevention and Control Seminar

Brisbane: Monday 12 June 2023

Sydney: Wednesday 14 June 2023

Melbourne: Friday 16 June 2023

Perth: Monday 19 June 2023

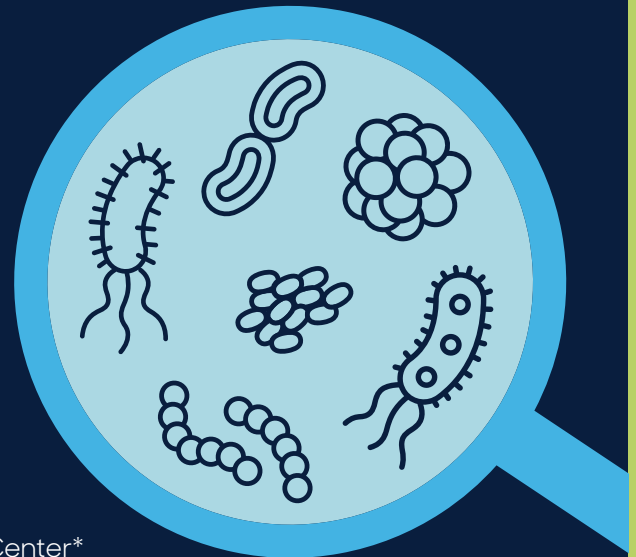
Keynote Speakers:

Professor David Weber – University of North Carolina Medical Center*

Visiting Professor Martin Kiernan – Richard Wells Centre, University of West London

More information to come. If you have any questions, please email eventsaustralia@gamahealthcare.com.

*David Weber is attending Brisbane, Melbourne and Sydney only.



HELP SHAPE AUSTRALIA'S FRAMEWORK FOR CLINICAL QUALITY REGISTRIES

Clinical quality registries support the delivery of better value care and improve patient outcomes, recognising the need for strengthened guidance on registry operations, the Commission has developed a second edition of the Framework for Australian clinical quality registries.

The updated Framework provides national best practice principles and detailed guidance for establishing and operating Australian national clinical quality registries. These include guidance on governance, infrastructure, security and privacy compliance, technical standards, reporting, and more.

Greater clarity around local governance arrangements will help clinical registries increase efficiency, strengthen partnerships and collaboration, deliver better patient outcomes and reduce healthcare variation.

HAVE YOUR SAY

Visit the ACSQ website:

<https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/our-work/health-and-human-research/national-arrangements-clinical-quality-registries>

to review the draft Framework Second Edition and provide your feedback by responding to a short online survey and providing a written submission via the link

<https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/our-work/health-and-human-research/national-arrangements-clinical-quality-registries>

THE
CONSULTATION
WILL CLOSE ON
31 MAR 2023

UPDATES

To stay updated on the progress of the clinical quality registries Framework, visit **[safetyandquality.gov.au/cqr](https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/cqr)** and join the CQR mailing list by emailing your contact details to **CQR@safetyandquality.gov.au**

CANCELLATION OF FACEMASK ARTG ENTRIES

The Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has recently updated the report for entries for facemasks on the Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods.

This information is available on the TGA website here:

Post-market review of face masks:

Outcomes and actions | Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) .



STANDARDS AUSTRALIA – CHANGES TO STANDARDISATION GUIDES

As Standards Australia looks towards its next 100 years, they are excited to be looking at new ways of developing and adopting Australian Standards.

To complement the model that's already in place and working well in many areas, they are looking to expand their development models to allow new and emerging industries to work within the standards environment, as well as helping them work better in cross-sectoral areas of activity.

To make this happen, they are proposing changes to various Standardisation Guides to introduce:

- An alternative path for the development of Australian Standards (including International Adoptions)
- A streamlined process for the adoption of International Standards (opt-in process); and
- The inclusion of a new publication type to help with the timeliness of publications and developments in particular circumstances

CLICK HERE
TO REGISTER
TO ATTEND A
STAKEHOLDER
CONSULTATION
FORUM ON
STANDARDISATION
GUIDES

Information about the proposed changes is available:

- *Read the consultation paper*
- *Listen to the podcast*
- *Watch this video on why and how we are making the changes*
- *View the changes and provide comment*

They are also holding stakeholder consultation forums so you can hear from Standards Australia leaders and team members on the why, what, and how, and contribute to this exciting change – a choice of dates and times are available:

- Tuesday 21st February: 9:30-10:30am
- Thursday 23rd February: 1:00-2:00pm
- Wednesday 1st March: 2:00pm-3:00pm
- Tuesday 7th March: 9:30-10:30am
- Monday 13th March: 11:00am-12:00pm

Featured Article:

Infection, Disease & Health

Infection prevention and control in medical imaging surveys: The need to map to guidelines to address systemic issues?

Yobelli A. Jimenex, Suzanne Hill, Sarah J Lewis

Abstract

Background

Infection prevention and control (IPC) in the medical imaging (MI) setting is recognised as an important factor in providing high-quality patient care and safe working conditions. Surveys are commonly used and have advantages for IPC research. The aim of this study was to identify the core concepts in surveys published in the literature that examined IPC in MI environments.

Methods

A literature review was conducted to identify studies that employed a survey relating to IPC in the MI setting. For each included study, descriptive study information and survey information were extracted. For IPC-specific survey items, directed content analysis was undertaken, using eleven pre-determined codes based on the 'Australian Guidelines for the Prevention and Control of Infection in Healthcare'. Content that related to 'Knowledge', 'Attitudes' and 'Practice' were also identified.

Results

A total of 23 studies and 21 unique surveys were included in this review. IPC-specific survey items assessed diverse dimensions of IPC, most commonly relating to 'transmission-based precautions' and 'applying standard and transmission-based precautions during procedures'. 'Practice' and 'Knowledge' related survey items were most frequent, compared to 'Attitudes'.

Conclusion

MI research using survey methods have focused on the 'entry' points of IPC, rather than systemic IPC matters around policy, education, and stewardship. The concepts of 'Knowledge', 'Attitudes' and 'Practice' are integrated in IPC surveys in the MI context, with a greater focus evident on staff knowledge and practice. Existing topics within IPC surveys in MI are tailored to individual studies and locales, with lack of consistency to national frameworks.

Access the full article here:

[https://www.idhjournal.com.au/article/S2468-0451\(23\)00006-8/fulltext#%20](https://www.idhjournal.com.au/article/S2468-0451(23)00006-8/fulltext#%20)



Latest Articles from Infection, Disease & Health

Infection prevention and control in medical imaging surveys: The need to map to guidelines to address systemic issues?

Yobelli A. Jimenez, Suzanne Hill, Sarah J Lewis

Cystic fibrosis: Infection prevention & control recommendations for universities, colleges and institutes of further and higher education – A practical guide

Beverley C. Millar, Margaret McCafferty, Ciara McCann, Damian O'Neill, Jacqueline C. Rendall, John E. Moore

Leptospirosis outbreak in Southern Tanzania: Should we be concerned?

Goodluck Nchasi, Innocent Kitandu Paul, Daniel Masunga, Kevin Zangira, Ashraf Mahmoud

Selected Publications of Interest

Jones, B. (2022). Development and evaluation of an interoperable natural language processing system for identifying pneumonia across clinical settings of care and institutions. *JAMIA Open*, 5(4), ooac114. <https://doi.org/10.1093/jamiaopen/ooac114>

Melnyk, B. M., Hsieh, A. P., Mu, J., Jopp, D. A., & Miller, S. (2023). Associations among infection prevention professionals' mental/physical health, lifestyle behaviors, shift length, race, and workplace wellness support during COVID-19. *Am J Infect Control*, 51(1), 62-69. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ajic.2022.04.004>

Nguyen, C., Lampen, R., Grooms, A., Polega, J., Donkin, J., & Bhugra, M. (2022). Impact of an inclusive COVID-19 visitation policy on patient satisfaction and visitor safety. *Am J Infect Control*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ajic.2022.11.020>

Piewngam, P., Khongthong, S., Roekngam, N., Theapparatt, Y., Sunpaweravong, S., Faroongsarng, D., & Otto, M. (2023). Probiotic for pathogen-specific *Staphylococcus aureus* decolonisation in Thailand: a phase 2, double-blind, randomised, placebo-controlled trial. *Lancet Microbe*. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S2666-5247\(22\)00322-6](https://doi.org/10.1016/S2666-5247(22)00322-6)

Rickard, C. M., Larsen, E., Walker, R. M., Mihala, G., Byrnes, J., Saiyed, M., Cooke, M., Finucane, J., Carr, P. J., & Marsh, N. (2023). Integrated versus nonintegrated peripheral intravenous catheter in hospitalized adults (OPTIMUM): A randomized controlled trial. *J Hosp Med*, 18(1), 21-32. <https://doi.org/10.1002/jhm.12995>

World Health Organization. (2022a). A global analysis of COVID-19 intra-action reviews: reflecting on, adjusting and improving country emergency preparedness and response during a pandemic. <https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/365488>

World Health Organization. (2022b). The WHO AWaRe (Access, Watch, Reserve) antibiotic book. <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240062382>

Have you been involved with a recent publication that would be of interest to the wider ACIPC community?

If so, we'd love to hear from you. Please contact the office at office@acipc.org.au



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