



ACIPC

Australasian College  
for Infection Prevention and Control

LEADING WITH  
INTEGRITY

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**STRATEGY &  
IMPLEMENTATION  
PLAN 2023-28**



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# ABOUT US

**The Australasian College for Infection Prevention and Control (ACIPC) is the peak body for infection prevention and control professionals (ICPs) in the region. The College was established to promote the profession and support its members.**

ACIPC advocates for ICPs and infection prevention and control (IPC), focusing on leadership, education, and evidence-based practice for a healthy community.

The College has a foundation of strong collegial relationships with members, key stakeholders and organisational partners. The strength of these relationships has enabled the development of high quality educational activities which support the professional standards and credentialing frameworks.

Since the COVID-19 pandemic, ACIPC has secured positional leadership as the peak body for ICPs in Australasia. The College currently has a solid financial position to support our members, our vision, and the further development of our strategic direction.



# ABOUT THIS PLAN

**The Australasian College for Infection Prevention and Control's Strategic Plan 2023-28 sets the direction and priorities for the College's next five years. It outlines the work we will do to support infection prevention and control professionals and advance infection prevention and control across Australasia.**

**The plan identifies five strategic goals and objectives:**

## **Governance**

Ensure ongoing contemporary governance and sustainability of ACIPC

## **Advocacy**

Advocate the value and importance of our members' work to provide quality IPC in healthcare and the community

## **Supporting Members**

Provide membership services to our members that are responsive to their needs

## **Education, professional development and research**

Provide evidence-based education and professional development that is relevant to IPC

## **Sustainability**

Introduce evidence based sustainable initiatives that are relevant to infection prevention and control

The development of this plan was informed by the College's stated values of integrity, ethics, openness, and collegiality.



# MISSION, VISION & VALUES

## MISSION

*Advancing infection prevention and control  
across Australasia*

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## VISION

*To reduce the burden of infection*

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## VALUES

- Integrity
- Ethics
- Openness
- Collegiality



# KEY STRATEGIC OPPORTUNITIES

## Governance

**Ongoing contemporary governance of ACIPC ensures the long-term sustainability and effectiveness of the organisation. Good governance promotes a healthy organisational culture and gives our members confidence that our organisation is meeting its legal and charitable obligations.**

### **ACIPC's governance development will include:**

- Strategic planning
- Reviewing membership services
- Risk management
- Diversifying revenue streams
- Key performance indicators (KPIs) and reporting to track performance
- Development of policies, procedures, rules, and guidelines

The ACIPC Board is responsible for setting the organisational tone, influencing and overseeing organisational culture, espousing core values, and ensuring the right governance framework and controls are in place.

The board oversees the appointment of our technical and working committees to support the College, members, and IPC outcomes.



# KEY STRATEGIC OPPORTUNITIES

## Advocacy

**ACIPC must continue to advocate for the importance of our members' work to the community.**

### **Effective advocacy will require:**

- A communications strategy involving increased media and community presence promoting the work of ICPs, for example, in reducing healthcare associated infections (HAIs)
- Targeted, timely and regular communication so that members have confidence their peak body is advocating for the important work they do
- Developing existing and new partnerships and stakeholder relationships. Strong relationships with government agencies and professional bodies will increase our profile as the leading voice for IPC in Australasia
- Engaging with government on strategies and policies related to IPC, including reducing HAIs and the establishment of the new Australian Centre for Disease Control
- Rapid responses to emerging IPC to bolster our credibility and confirm our position as the peak body for IPC



# KEY STRATEGIC OPPORTUNITIES

## Supporting members

**Providing membership services that are responsive to the needs of our members is a priority for ACIPC. Currently, a range of services are offered, including professional development opportunities through education, credentialling pathways, access to member-only resources, Infexion Connexion, our journal *Infection, Disease and Health*, and facilitation of our annual conference.**

We can do more, and a focus for this strategic opportunity is to improve our understanding of our members and their needs to assess existing services and guide the development of new services.

### **Key strategies in this plan include:**

- Prioritising the timely delivery of sector-relevant insights, information, and resources
- Developing a professional mentoring program
- Continuing to improve engagement with our various membership cohorts





# KEY STRATEGIC OPPORTUNITIES

## Education, professional development, and research

**ACIPC is recognised for the provision of evidence-based education through high level courses, webinars, and our annual conference. Fellowship and credentialling provide pathways for professional recognition.**

There is an opportunity to offer additional high-quality education courses and shorter professional development and practice-focused courses.

By broadening our educational offerings in evidence-based IPC education and professional development, we will improve IPC and diversify income streams.

Partnering with universities, academics and researchers is vital in developing timely evidence-based resources, ensuring members have access to contemporary IPC information, trends, and literature. The ability to be agile and responsive to local and global trends is an important way to support our members.

The opportunity for members to be recognised for their professional achievements will remain robust and transparent. Reinforcing the professional value of credentialling among our members and healthcare organisations will support the framework and bolster its reputation as a successful, recognised career pathway.



# KEY STRATEGIC OPPORTUNITIES

## Sustainability

**By integrating this strategic opportunity, ACIPC can effectively balance its commitment to preventing infections with its responsibility to promote environmental sustainability. This approach not only enhances patient safety but also contributes to a healthier planet for current and future generations.**

**ACIPC's sustainability policy will include:**

- **Research and collaboration**

By fostering partnerships with research institutions, universities, and other organisations, we can advance knowledge in sustainable infection prevention practices. We will also collaborate on studies, share best practices, and contribute to the development of innovative solutions.

- **Regulatory compliance**

We will stay informed about evolving regulations and standards related to both infection prevention and sustainability, ensuring that the organisation not only meets legal requirements but also goes beyond compliance to set industry-leading benchmarks.

- **Leadership and advocacy**

We will work to position the organisation as a thought leader in sustainable infection prevention and control. We will participate in industry conferences, seminars, and workshops to share experiences, insights, and success stories, driving wider adoption of sustainable practices across the healthcare sector.

Implementing sustainable work practices within ACIPC operations.



# STRATEGIC GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

## **A – Ensure ongoing contemporary governance and sustainability of ACIPC**

1. Implement best-practice governance policies and procedures for not-for-profit organisations
2. Ensure the constitution and the board meet contemporary governance standards and obligations
3. Develop a budget to operationalise the strategic plan
4. Maintain membership retention rates
5. Diversify revenue streams and develop an investment plan
6. Organise structured reporting systems for all programs and projects
7. Establish KPIs to monitor performance and track progress on the strategic plan

## **B – Advocating the value and importance of our members' work to provide quality IPC in healthcare and the community**

1. Increase ACIPC brand awareness and progress advocacy for IPC by identifying and developing partnerships and stakeholder relationships
2. Increase media and community awareness of the importance of IPC in health and the community
3. Enhance stakeholder relationships with organisations, government and other member employers to develop and refine policy and position statements
4. Create IPC policy and position statements for stakeholders and member employers to use
5. Increase opportunities to provide timely review and feedback on matters that are related to IPC in Australasia
6. Partner with universities, academics and researchers to develop resources that provide best-practice evidence for our members and stakeholders



# STRATEGIC GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

## **C - Provide membership services to our members that are responsive to their needs**

1. Provide opportunities for members to develop professionally through mentoring, education and credentialling pathways
2. Promote awareness and utilisation of ACIPC resources, including the *Infection, Disease and Health* journal
3. Provide regulatory and associated sector-relevant information to members in a timely manner
4. Support committees to add value to the organisation and our members
5. Improve the relevance of information being sent to members
6. Conduct research and surveys to improve understanding of our members and their needs, supporting the development of new products and services
7. Encourage engagement in members' benefits and opportunities

## **D - To be a provider of evidence-based education and professional development that is relevant to IPC**

1. Identify and develop relationships with relevant stakeholders to understand education opportunities that could be provided by ACIPC
2. Conduct professional reviews of existing course offerings to ensure they are evidence-based and relevant to the intended audience
3. Expand continuing professional development (CPD) offerings to meet the needs of our members and stakeholders
4. Offer members, stakeholders, and industry a suite of relevant, evidence-based, high-quality CPD, shorter courses, and high-level IPC education
5. Enhance the credentialling and fellowship frameworks to be sustainable and scalable
6. Promote the value of credentialling externally by advocating for the credentialling and fellowship programs, and demonstrating that they meet our members' needs



# STRATEGIC GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

## **E – Introduce evidence based sustainable initiatives that are relevant to infection prevention and control**

1. Promote sustainability concepts to members by including relevant content in our communication
2. Monitor developments on evidence-based sustainable healthcare initiatives and resources and provide input as required
3. Implement work practices within ACIPC operations



# ACTIONS, PROJECTS & KPIs

## Key result area 1 - Governance

ACTIONS		STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES
1.1	<b>ACIPC GOVERNANCE REVIEW</b> To review the governance of ACIPC to ensure it is representative of the entire ACIPC membership and is fit for purpose and consistent with contemporary governance practice	A6
1.2	<b>NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE</b> To ensure that there is a steady stream of skills and experience in leadership positions and that the leadership is regularly renewed	A7
1.3	<b>REVIEW THE COMMITTEE SYSTEM</b> To ensure the committee structure aligns with the strategic mission and vision of the College	C4
1.4	<b>INVESTMENT PLAN</b> To ensure that our funds are used to implement the strategy and secure the future of ACIPC	A1, A3



# ACTIONS, PROJECTS & KPIs

## Key result area 2 – Advocacy

ACTIONS		STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES
2.1	<b>MEDIA POLICY</b> To support spokespeople with policies and procedures for handling proactive and responsive media relations	B1, B4
2.2	<b>COMMUNICATIONS PLAN</b> To communicate the role and focus of ACIPC	B1, B2, E1, E2
2.3	<b>STAKEHOLDER CONTACT PLAN</b> To advance the education and advocacy goals of the organisation	B3
2.4	<b>REPRESENTATION POLICY</b> To review the governance and framework for representation	C7
2.5	<b>PROACTIVE ADVOCACY</b> To position ACIPC as a proactive voice on key policy issues in IPC	B1, B3, B5, E1
2.6	<b>ADVANCE ACIPC AS A PARTNER FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF IPC-RELATED GROUPS AND ORGANISATIONS</b> To ensure that ACIPC has an influential role in IPC-related bodies such as the proposed Australian Centre for Communicable Diseases	B1, B2, B3



# ACTIONS, PROJECTS & KPIs

## Key result area 3 – Supporting members

ACTIONS		STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES
3.1	<b>AGED CARE IPC LEADS</b> To maintain our connection to develop a community of practice and support their roles	C1, C4, C7
3.2	<b>MEMBERSHIP ANALYSIS</b> To understand the perceptions, needs and preferences of members	C6
3.3	<b>DRIVE THE MEMBERSHIP VALUE PROPOSITION</b> To attract and retain members working in settings where IPC is needed	A2, C3, C2
3.4	<b>FOSTER MEMBERSHIP ENGAGEMENT</b> To retain and recruit members	A2, C2





# ACTIONS, PROJECTS & KPIs

## Key result area 4 – Education, professional development and research

ACTIONS		STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES
4.1	<b>SCOPING STUDY OF CREDENTIALLING</b> To ensure credentialling meets the needs of the College, of members, and of employers	D5, D6
4.2	<b>PROMOTE CREDENTIALLING</b> To ensure external organisations, including regulatory and governing bodies see the value of our credentialling program	D3
4.3	<b>SCOPING STUDY OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING NEEDS</b> To ensure ACIPC continues to be recognised as a valued source of expertise and training needed to limit the spread of infectious diseases	D2, D3, D4, D6
4.4	<b>EDUCATION STRATEGY</b> To inform the development of educational pathways, tools, and resources for people working where infection prevention and control is needed	D1, D3, D4
4.5	<b>COMMISSION RESEARCH TO EVALUATE THE AGED CARE IPC LEAD PROGRAM</b> To review the impact of the Foundations of Infection Prevention and Control course for Aged Care IPC Leads	D2
4.6	<b>PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS RESEARCH</b> To document contemporary professional standards for ICPs in different settings	C6
4.7	<b>PROMOTE AND SUPPORT IPC RESEARCH</b> To build IPC research capacity, including through research grants	C6



# ACTIONS, PROJECTS & KPIs

## Key result area 5 – Sustainability

ACTIONS		STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES
5.1	Promote relevant resources that support members to adopt sustainability measures in their respective settings	E3
5.2	Implementation of sustainable practices within ACIPC operations	E4
5.3	Engage with other stakeholders to collaborate on sustainable initiatives for IPC professionals	E3