



October 2011

ICNC Board News:

- Membership: we need to increase our membership! Letters will be sent out by the chapters to facilities in their area; discussion as to whether we are giving away too much especially with the web site- no need to join if can get everything of value through the web site.
- The New Haven Chapter has booked the spring seminar for April 27th at the Aqua Turf in Plantsville. They are working hard to put together a great seminar in a new venue. MARK YOUR CALENDAR!
- Farewell to Lila Bareford, CIC who moved to Massachusetts and is now an Infection Preventionist in a local hospital. The New London Chapter thanks Lila for her leadership as the President. She will be missed.
- If you have something that you would like posted on the ICNC web site, please send to Jasper at jaspertolarba@infectioncontrolct.org. Thank you again, Jasper, for the wonderful web site!



If you did something fun for Infection Prevention Week, please send us a write up and photos to put on the ICNC web site!

*My apologies for not getting out a September newsletter. Unfortunately, Storm Irene set me way back as I worked in a shelter for 6 days. If your facility had to evacuate before, during or after the storm, please drop me a line. I am on the statewide Mass Care Advisory Board and we are interested in hearing about the LTC experience in evacuating, especially if you had to re-locate to a town/regional shelter.
KrisMRN@msn.com*

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN INFECTION PREVENTION

CDC Reports Decrease in 4 Common HAIs in Hospitals in 2010

- * 33 % reduction in central line-associated bloodstream infections: a 35% reduction among critical care patients and a 26% reduction among non-critical care patients.
- * 7 % reduction in catheter-associated urinary tract infections throughout hospitals
- * 10% reduction in surgical site infections
- * 18% reduction in the number of people developing healthcare-associated invasive methicillin resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) infections



<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/>



One Way to Get Staff to Get a Flu Shot!

Some hospitals in Connecticut and around the country are mandating that any staff person who does not get vaccinated against the flu will have to wear a face mask through April! I think that will get real old, real quick!



1 out of 6 cell phones tested in the UK have fecal matter on it!!!



CDC: 8 STEPS TO REDUCE WORKPLACE FLU RISK

1. Limit hand to face contact transmission
2. Surface cleaning and disinfection needed
3. Clean desktops and keyboards regularly (and sanitize hands often)
4. Clean office cups, dishes and utensils
5. Clean using flat mops with microfiber with no-dip disinfection (traditional mops leave dirt residue and using a bucket can lead to cross contamination)
6. Use an EPA-approved disinfectant
7. Use color coded microfiber cloths (so the cloth used in the bathroom isn't being used on a desk!)
8. Enact and enforce stay at home work policies so people sick do not come to work



NOROVIRUS & FOOD WORKERS

Reminder to Connecticut Long Term Care Facilities and Hospitals: food workers with symptoms of nausea, vomiting and/or diarrhea must be out of work for 72 hours after the end of their symptoms. Below is a link to a Norovirus handout for foodworkers. Don't forget that there is a Norovirus Toolkit on the ICNC web site.

<http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvrd/revb/gastro/downloads/norovirus-foodhandlers.pdf>.

RESOURCES:



Great resource on bedbugs: <http://www.bedbugs.umn.edu/>

Ct Flu Watch: <http://www.ct.gov/ctfluwatch/cwp/view.asp?a=2533&q=453532>

CT DPH Epidemiologist Newsletter:

http://www.ct.gov/dph/lib/dph/infectious_diseases/ctepinews/vol31no1.pdf

APIC's EPI 201 COMING TO CONNECTICUT...FREE!!!

The Connecticut Department of Public Health's Healthcare Associated Infections Program join the Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (APIC) in sponsoring "EPI 201™ - Beyond the Fundamentals: Enhancing Practice Using Epidemiologic Principles". **This intermediate level course will be held on December 5 – 8, 2011*(Updated Correction) at the Hartford/Windsor Marriott in Windsor, Connecticut.**

EPI 201™ course designed for those who have worked in infection prevention and control for 6 to 18 months, as well as those who are ready to move to the next level of critical thinking regarding the best practice and outcomes of an infection prevention and control program. **The course is FREE to 100 participants and does not require APIC membership!** This is a tremendous opportunity as the usual cost of this course (excluding hotel and airfare) is:

- With APIC membership: \$725 (early registration)/ \$825 (registration)
- Without APIC membership: \$900 (early registration)/ \$1,000 (registration)

Register NOW on CT Train: <https://ct.train.org/DesktopShell.aspx>

