



JANUARY E-NEWSLETTER

2020 is off running with lots of flu; outbreaks; novel Coronavirus from China and it is only January!!



Save the Date:

The next ICNC Quarterly State Meeting is **March 6th** from 8am-12:30pm at the Whitney Center in Hamden. Our focus will be outbreaks. We will announce the speakers when they are confirmed.

ICNC Web Page:

<https://www.infectioncontrolct.org/> Member Portal Password: **StampoutMDROs!**

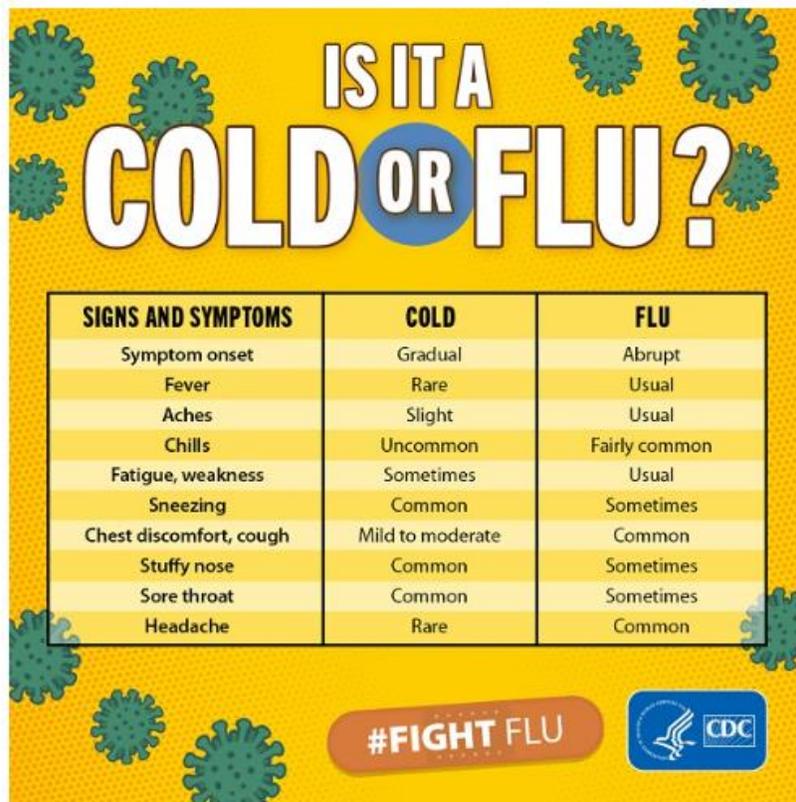
97.5°F NOT 98.6°F is the Average Normal Temperature!

A study out of Stanford University shows that 98.6°F was normal in 1869 but that over the years the average body temperature has been dropping. One hypothesis is that over 150 years ago people had chronic infections such as syphilis, gum disease and tuberculosis which could account for the higher temperature. Next step will be to see what happens with the findings of this study.

Influenza Activity:

Flu activity in CT is widespread and we are seeing more ED visits and hospitalizations compared to last year. If your facility has 1 lab positive flu case it is recommended to report it as an outbreak and put interventions in place, so the flu doesn't spread to others. Flu shots should be given until your local health department/district can report only a few cases of flu or none in the area. Sometimes it is April even May before we see flu cases drop off.

You can get information about Influenza in CT at <https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DPH/EEIP/FLU/thisweeksfluupdate.pdf?la=en>



https://www.cdc.gov/flu/symptoms/coldflu.htm?deliveryName=USCDC_7_3-DM17375

2019-2020 Novel Coronavirus (nCoV):

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the World Health Organization (WHO) are closely monitoring an outbreak caused by a novel (new) coronavirus in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China. Chinese authorities identified the new coronavirus, which has resulted in more than 40 confirmed human infections in China and exported cases in Thailand and Japan. The outbreak in Wuhan, China has been linked to a large seafood and animal market, suggesting a possible zoonotic origin to the outbreak. Some new cases report no exposure to the seafood or animal markets which means there is limited person to person transmission. Experts feel this new virus poses a significant threat to global health, but to date the clinical illness appears to be milder than both SARS (severe acute respiratory syndrome) and MERS-CoV (Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus). The US is screening incoming passengers from China at Los Angeles, San Francisco and JFK Airports. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

C-Difficile:

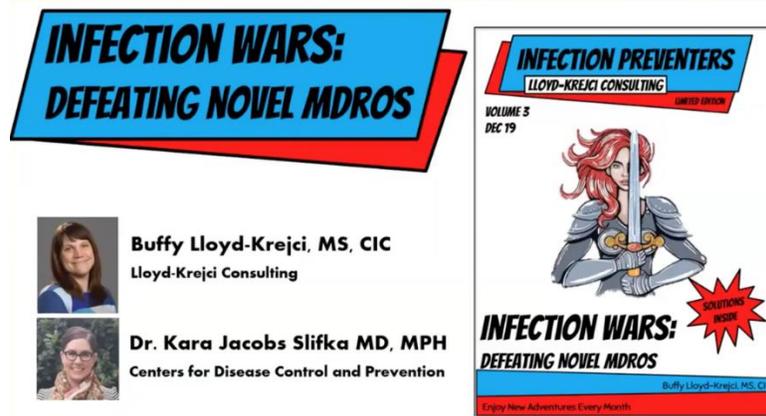
A new study published in Infection Control & Hospital Epidemiology found asymptomatic carriers could be a significant source of CDI in the hospital setting. It has always been assumed that patients picked up C-Diff during hospitalization, but this study shows that 38.1% of the asymptomatic carriers progressed to symptomatic C. diff infection (CDI) which means that asymptomatic carriers could be a significant source of CDI in the hospital setting. Identification of asymptomatic carriers could reduce the spread of C. difficile. <https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/infection-control-and-hospital-epidemiology/article/screening-of-clostridioides-difficile-carriers-in-an-urban-academic-medical-center-understanding-implications-of-disease/FED405CCD4540ED793B9C95B62AEAB44>

Prevnar 13:

The CDC has long recommended all adults 65 and older should receive two pneumococcal vaccines: the pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV13 or Prevnar 13) followed by the pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine (PPSV23 or Pneumovax) at a later visit. However last year the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), a group of medical and public health experts, recommended that PCV13 may not be necessary for healthy adults 65 and older — suggesting that the decision instead be left up to patients and their physicians.

<https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/68/wr/pdfs/mm6846a5-H.pdf>

Webinars of Interest:



**INFECTION WARS:
DEFEATING NOVEL MDROS**

Buffy Lloyd-Krejci, MS, CIC
Lloyd-Krejci Consulting

Dr. Kara Jacobs Slifka MD, MPH
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

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**INFECTION WARS:
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Buffy Lloyd-Krejci, MS, CIC
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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0Pr1EMqC6vI&feature=youtu.be>



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MIGHTY 3: C. DIFF, INFLUENZA, & NOROVIRUS**
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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vjIDVYFQ6mc&feature=youtu.be>