



JULY E- NEWSLETTER

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Sustainability of ICNC relies on members and their participation. Encourage peers to join and think about taking on a leadership role.

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ANNUAL FLU UPDATE: Save the date for this great program held at the Woodwinds in Branford on September 18th. CT DPH, CDC and other organizations will provide up-to-date information on influenza. The southern hemisphere, especially Australia, has been hit hard by the flu, so be prepared!

MEASLES: Are your staff and patients/residents vaccinated against measles? If they were born before 1957 they are probably immune but how about the others? Encourage unvaccinated staff to get the vaccine, especially if they travel abroad. The MMR vaccine is safe and effective. One dose of MMR vaccine is approximately 93% effective at preventing measles; two doses are around 97% effective. Here is a new fact sheet on recognizing measles from CT DPH.

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/Departments-and-Agencies/DPH/dph/infectious_diseases/immunization/fact_sheets/Think-measles---Poster-for-EDs.pdf?la=en

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NEW CDC GUIDELINES ON PPE IN LTC TO PREVENT SPREAD OF MDRO: The new buzzword is Enhanced Barrier Precautions for colonized patients/residents. Click on this link for this new guidance: <https://www.cdc.gov/hai/containment/PPE-Nursing-Homes.html>
There is some great information especially on implementing this guidance.

- Post clear signage on the door or wall outside of the resident room indicating the type of Precautions and required PPE (e.g., gown and gloves)
 - For Enhanced Barrier Precautions, signage should also clearly indicate the high-contact resident care activities that require the use of gown and gloves (**reminder from ICNC: do not state the person's name or reason for precautions on the signage**)
- Make PPE, including gowns and gloves available immediately outside of the resident room
- Ensure access to alcohol-based hand rub in every resident room (ideally both inside and outside of the room)
- Position a trash can inside the resident room and near the exit for discarding PPE after removal, prior to exit of the room or before providing care for another resident in the same room
- Incorporate periodic monitoring and assessment of adherence to determine the need for additional training and education
- Provide education to residents and visitors

CDC/STRIVE ANNOUNCE FREE INFECTION CONTROL TRAINING:

The Phase 3 CMS "specialized IC training in LTC" requirement starts in November. STRIVE (States Targeting Reduction in Infections via Engagement) curriculum have been developed by national infection prevention experts led by the Health Research and Educational Trust (HRET) for the CDC. All courses are free and offering continuing education (CE).

There will be over 40 individual training modules grouped into 11 courses that focus on Foundational and Targeted infection prevention strategies. Two modules have been released with more coming out soon. Click on this link:

https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/training/strive.html?deliveryName=USCDC_425-DM2483

Regards,

Kristin Magnussen MSN,RN
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