



August 2020 Newsletter

Wanted to share a great resource with you, The John A. Hartford COVID Resource page. A lot of information at your fingertips. <https://www.johnahartford.org/dissemination-center/view/nursing-home-long-term-care-resources>

ICNC Webinar: Surfaces- The Role of the Environment in Pathogen Transmission 9/29 at 11am

SAVE THE DATE: EOS Surfaces will be offering a webinar to ICNC on September 29th at 11am. Information with the link will be sent out in a few weeks.

Overview:

HAIs are a significant risk for patients receiving care in healthcare settings. The risk goes up when the patient has co-morbidities or is included in a vulnerable population (eg, critical care patients, neonates). Registered nurses and other healthcare professionals should be aware of the role the environment plays in pathogen transmission and how surfaces are effective in reducing the risk of HAIs. This one-hour seminar will cover those topics as well as the use of copper infused surfaces and the science behind them.

New Hampshire Reviewed Ventilation Systems in LTC

New Hampshire's Health Commissioner said the state's recently completed review of ventilation systems in the 28 long-term care centers that have experienced outbreaks turned up no common factors that might have encouraged the spread of the coronavirus. She said differences in how often indoor air was exchanged for outdoor air, types of air filters or how often they were replaced seemed to make a difference in the virus's spread. Engineers have recommended installing ultraviolet light systems in ducts to disinfect the air and increasing the air exchange rate in resident and common rooms. The Commissioner said the state will examine whether such changes might make a difference.

Rapid Test Kits Being Sent to LTC BUT There is a Hitch

Point of care antigen tests are being sent to 114,000 LTC to increase screening and staff BUT the manufacturers are saying the point of care tests are meant for symptomatic people not for screening. https://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/936235?src=mkm_covid_update_200824_mscpedit_uac=88802HY&impID=2522872&faf=1

Free APIC Resources on Long Term Care

Due to COVID, APIC is giving free access to their online texts on Infection Prevention in LTC and Outbreak Preparedness and Response and other resources that can be found at <https://apic.org/free-ltc-resources/>

CT Data on COVID

Daily data <https://portal.ct.gov/Coronavirus/COVID-19-Data-Tracker>