



## February 2012

### **SAVE THE DATE: ICNC SEMINAR APRIL 27<sup>TH</sup>**

at **The Aqua Turf** in Plantsville, CT. Your day will be filled with many interesting speakers, visiting with the vendors, networking with each other and a wonderful lunch.

### ICNC State Officer elections April 27<sup>th</sup>.

President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer needed. If you have interest or questions, please contact Kris Magnussen at

[krisMRN@msn.com](mailto:krisMRN@msn.com) or

Karen Taylor at [karentayloricn@sbcglobal.net](mailto:karentayloricn@sbcglobal.net)

## WHAT'S HAPPENING?

**C Diff Report** released by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) shows that hospital stays involving *Clostridium difficile* infections increased 300 percent between 1993 and 2008, but the number of hospital stays leveled off between 2008 and 2009. Common conditions among patients hospitalized with *C. difficile* in 2009 included dehydration and electrolyte disorders, blood infections and renal failure. The federal agency reported that among all hospitalized patients with *C. difficile* in 2009:

- Patients age 85 and older were at highest risk, with hospital stays at a rate of 1,089 per 100,000 people. This was more than double the next highest rate, for those age 65 to 84, at 465 stays per 100,000.
- More than 9 percent of hospital stays with *C. difficile* ended in death, compared with less than 2 percent for all other hospital stays.
- Patients with this condition spent an average of 13 days in the hospital, while the average hospital stay for others was less than 5 days.

This AHRQ *News and Numbers* summary is based on data from Statistical Brief #124: *Clostridium difficile* Infections (CDI) in Hospital Stays, 2009.



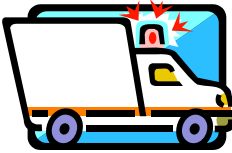
## Masks & Hand Hygiene

used together have been found to reduce the rate of flu 43% and up to a 75% reduction in flu-like illness according to a study done at the University of Michigan since 2006. The 43% rate reported isn't statistically significant as the students were more likely to report ILI symptoms than get laboratory tested. The use of masks alone showed no significant symptom reduction but when paired with hand hygiene was found to be significant in reducing flu-like illness. This M-Flu study was collaboration among the School of Public Health, University of Michigan Housing and the University Health Service.



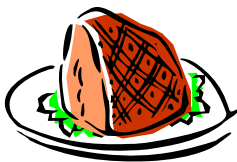
## Norovirus

is number one on the list of infection outbreaks in U.S. hospitals and was responsible for 65% of unit closures, according to a study published in the February issue of the *American Journal of Infection Control*. I can only speak for our local health department, that Norovirus is the most common cause of outbreaks in long term care and food service establishments.



## Emergency

Department visits was found to be associated with a more than a threefold increased risk of acute infection among elderly residents from long term care facilities. The Canadian co-hort study suggests that long term care facilities should consider additional precautions for residents following a visit to the emergency departments.



## MRSA in pork

products found to be higher than originally thought according to a published study, published January 19<sup>th</sup> in the on-line science journal PLoSONE. It showed that the pork we buy in grocery stores has a higher prevalence of MRSA thought to be due to the handling of the raw meat at the processing plant. There was no difference between those raised with or without antibiotics or antibiotic growth promotants.



## Reportable Diseases 2012

Health Acquired Infections (HAI) that are currently reported to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Inpatient Prospective Payment System (IPPS) have been added to the list of reportable diseases, emergency illnesses and health conditions. In 2012, all hospitals licensed by DPH as a general or children's hospital are required to report Central Line Associated Blood Stream Infections (CLABSI) from all adult and pediatric ICUS, and all level II/III neonatal ICUs; Catheter Associated Urinary Tract Infections (CAUTI) from all adult and pediatric ICUs; and abdominal hysterectomy and colon surgery procedure associated Surgical Site Infections (SSI).



## EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

**The ICNC New London Chapter** invites you to a  
***Food Safety Presentation***

by Ryan McCammon RS, Senior Sanitarian  
on March 8<sup>th</sup> at 9am at the Ledge Light Health District  
at 216 Broad Street in New London.

Space is limited so we ask that other chapter members interested in attending RSVP to Kris Magnussen at 860-448-4882 ext 331 or [krisMRN@msn.com](mailto:krisMRN@msn.com).

Ryan will be covering the basics of food safety; surveillance and food service worker illness.

# RESOURCES



**FREE POSTERS FOR THE DIETARY DEPARTMENT**

<http://foodsafety.tamu.edu/resources-and-links.htm>

<http://nfsmi.org/ResourceOverview.aspx?ID=74>

**IP TOOLS**

upload..share...prevent.. a website for IPs!

[http://www.infectionpreventiontools.com/component/docman/doc\\_details/81-uti-catheter-related-infections-audit-tool](http://www.infectionpreventiontools.com/component/docman/doc_details/81-uti-catheter-related-infections-audit-tool)

**Please do not forget to pay your \$35 dues!**