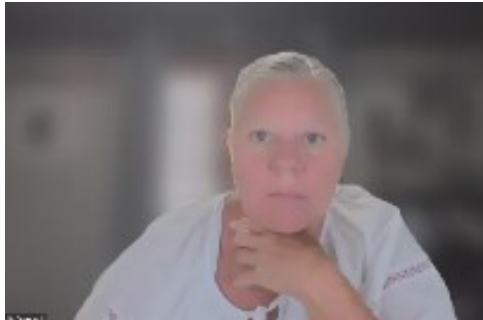


Preparing for the 2026-2027 Respiratory Viral Season

Recording Link & Recap (ICNC August 2026 Meeting)



Duration: 00:46:33
Shareable link:

<https://zoom.us/rec/share/822oazsNLgmRHM81LUmorWFWo-yPOTzu1ZSielBnZWJwFngGSkBPANv-el1K25C0.xwkpZr1JBI6r1rjj>

[View in Zoom](#)

Meeting summary

Quick recap

The August ICNC meeting focused on preparing for the 2026-2027 respiratory viral season, with Julie leading a discussion on vaccination planning, surveillance, outbreak management, and supply readiness. She emphasized the importance of early preparation, reviewing outbreak plans, ensuring staff knowledge, and maintaining strong infection prevention practices. The meeting also covered updates on the upcoming ICNC conference in October, including the program and registration details. Questions from participants addressed CPAP/BiPAP cleaning, COVID vaccine up-to-date status, and PCR swab availability. Julie shared information about additional conferences and resources for infection preventionists, and announced that the September monthly meeting would be replaced by other events. The conversation ended with a reminder about board nominations and the value of using the ICNC chat for support.

Next steps

Galina

- [Investigate alternative cleaning techniques for CPAP/BiPAP machines by consulting manufacturer's instructions or contacting the supplier.](https://tasks.zoom.us?meetingId=jxDRDsikRWq0IDTDK8ROZw%3D%3D&stepId=989adfa1-a17f-11f1-a6c5-a642b35547c5)<https://tasks.zoom.us?meetingId=jxDRDsikRWq0IDTDK8ROZw%3D%3D&stepId=989adfa1-a17f-11f1-a6c5-a642b35547c5>

Julie

- Share information about the 26-27 COVID vaccines and rollout as it becomes available, through Connect or email.<https://tasks.zoom.us?meetingId=jxDRDsikRWq0IDTDK8ROZw%3D%3D&stepId=989abe53-a17f-11f1-bcbd-a642b35547c5>
- Send the meeting slides and links via email to all attendees.<https://tasks.zoom.us?meetingId=jxDRDsikRWq0IDTDK8ROZw%3D%3D&stepId=989ac55b-a17f-11f1-8cfe-a642b35547c5>
- Post the registration information for the "Charting the Course" conference on the ICNCCT.org site.<https://tasks.zoom.us?meetingId=jxDRDsikRWq0IDTDK8ROZw%3D%3D&stepId=989ac95d-a17f-11f1-b121-a642b35547c5>

Collaboration

- Facility IPs/Leadership: Review and update respiratory outbreak plans with your team before the season begins.<https://tasks.zoom.us?meetingId=jxDRDsikRWq0IDTDK8ROZw%3D%3D&stepId=989accba-a17f-11f1-8af1-a642b35547c5>
- Facility IPs/Leadership: Check current stock of PPE, testing supplies, and antiviral medications, ensuring accessibility and non-expiration.<https://tasks.zoom.us?meetingId=jxDRDsikRWq0IDTDK8ROZw%3D%3D&stepId=989acfb0-a17f-11f1-9b39-a642b35547c5>
- Facility IPs/Leadership: Discuss with your pharmacy the availability of antiviral treatments (e.g., Xofluza, Tamiflu) for both treatment and prophylaxis.<https://tasks.zoom.us?meetingId=jxDRDsikRWq0IDTDK8ROZw%3D%3D&stepId=989ad289-a17f-11f1-95be-a642b35547c5>
- Facility IPs/Leadership: Ensure processes are in place for resident and employee vaccination clinics, including consent, documentation, and tracking of declinations.<https://tasks.zoom.us?meetingId=jxDRDsikRWq0IDTDK8ROZw%3D%3D&stepId=989ad557-a17f-11f1-a89c-a642b35547c5>
- Facility IPs/Leadership: Reinforce everyday infection prevention practices (hand hygiene, PPE use, etc.) with staff, residents, and visitors before the respiratory season.<https://tasks.zoom.us?meetingId=jxDRDsikRWq0IDTDK8ROZw%3D%3D&stepId=989ad827-a17f-11f1-8257-a642b35547c5>
- Facility IPs/Leadership: Educate staff on workplace exclusion policy for respiratory illness (3-day exclusion for 2+ symptoms in CT).<https://tasks.zoom.us?meetingId=jxDRDsikRWq0IDTDK8ROZw%3D%3D&stepId=989adaf3-a17f-11f1-b42d-a642b35547c5>
- Interested Members: Nominate themselves or others for the ICNC board by emailing Julie.<https://tasks.zoom.us?meetingId=jxDRDsikRWq0IDTDK8ROZw%3D%3D&stepId=989ae2de-a17f-11f1-b3ef-a642b35547c5>
- Attendees: Register for the ICNC Annual Conference on October 21st via the ICNCCT.org site.<https://tasks.zoom.us?meetingId=jxDRDsikRWq0IDTDK8ROZw%3D%3D&stepId=989ae5c1-a17f-11f1-a903-a642b35547c5>
- Attendees: Consider registering for the "Charting the Course" conference on September 14th and the American Lung Association conference on September 17th.<https://tasks.zoom.us?meetingId=jxDRDsikRWq0IDTDK8ROZw%3D%3D&stepId=989ae888-a17f-11f1-93dd-a642b35547c5>

Summary

Respiratory Viral Season Preparation

Julie led the August ICNC meeting focused on preparing for the 26-27 respiratory viral season. She emphasized the importance of having vaccination plans ready, strong surveillance systems, and well-prepared teams before the season begins. Julie stressed the need to review outbreak plans, check supply expiration dates, ensure staff and resident vaccination, and maintain strong infection control practices. She also highlighted resources available, including CDC toolkits and standing orders, and encouraged facilities to use these materials to prepare effectively.

Healthcare Updates and Conference Announcement

Galina asked about cleaning techniques for CPAP and BiPAP machines, and Julie advised following the manufacturer's instructions for each specific machine and noted that different machines may require different cleaning methods. Julie clarified that for COVID vaccination updates, residents under 65 only need one dose while those 65 and older need to receive their vaccine within 6 months, though guidance may change with the release of new boosters. Julie announced details about an upcoming ICNC annual conference on October 21st at Glastonbury Hills Country Club, featuring presentations on AI-generated infection control, antibiotic stewardship, diagnostic stewardship, and water management, with registration available on the [ICNCCT.org](https://www.icncct.org) website.

Conference Pricing and Testing Updates

Julie discussed the conference pricing, clarifying that the annual membership is \$40 and the conference fee is \$140, which includes membership. She announced that weekly NHSN reporting for COVID vaccines may cease in October, though specific dates are still being confirmed. The group discussed challenges with obtaining nasal swabs from labs and explored alternative testing options, including combined influenza A/B and COVID tests and RSV swabs for adults. Julie encouraged participants to use the group chat for questions and mentioned that Mary Ellen Casey from Healthcare Centrics would discuss her IP3 meeting at the upcoming conference.

September Conferences and Policy Updates

Julie announced two upcoming conferences for September: the "Charting the Course" presentation at Central on September 14th from 9-2, which is free and includes lunch, and the American Lung Association conference on September 17th from 8-3:30 at Woodwinds in Brantford. She noted that workplace exclusion policies require staff with 2 or more respiratory symptoms to be out of work for 3 days, and reminded everyone to educate staff about these requirements. Julie announced that monthly Zoom meetings will be suspended in September due to the conferences, and will resume in November, with the October meeting including board nominations.