

Cardiac Care Interest Group

Chair: Jo-Anne Janigan RN BScN CIC

Co-Chair: Karen Stoopnikoff BSN MSN CIC

Although we are a small group, 37 members, our group enrollment has increased since last year. Cardiac care is a very unique special interest group which offers a community to ask questions related specifically to Cardiac care.

We had a guest speaker at our February teleconference to discuss wound care as it relates to cardiac surgical patients.

This year we had several members send out questions related to their practice. These questions were then presented to our group during one of the spring teleconferences. Topics include surgical prep, Cardiac SSI definitions and heater cooler.

At this year's Banff conference there were several presentations that were very relevant to Cardiac Care. One of our members shared with the group these presentations during a teleconference.

We plan to have several teleconferences in 2019, with at least one guest speaker.

Community Healthcare Interest Group

Chair: Lorinda Stuber

Number of IPAC Canada members: 197

Meetings and Conference Calls

The interest group had teleconference calls only. The group has reviewed the CHIG webpage within the IPAC Canada website and has made recommendations with respect to updating links and removing content if the links are no longer available. To support new members to the interest group, we have developed a welcome letter. We highlighted a few of the IPAC Canada Conference presentations from the 2018 conference as a part of the education program during our teleconferences.

Highlights/Ongoing Projects

- Continue with quarterly meetings and education component at those meetings
- Continue with sharing issues and identifying possible new initiatives
- Continue to support CHIG members to publish findings, present at conferences

Goals for the coming year

The group will explore developing a toolkit for conducting Nursing Clinic Audits in the face of limited supplies and practice changes to accommodate the limited funding that are counter to IP&C best practice recommendations.

Dialysis Interest Group Annual Report

Chair: Victoria Williams

Co-chair: vacant

Number of IPAC Canada members who belong to the Interest Group:

111 members

Position Statements (if any) developed/under development

Position statement on Infection Prevention and Control Measures to Prevent Transmission of Hepatitis B Among Hemodialysis received approval by the board.

Results of any questionnaires/surveys sent out by the Interest Group

In 2018 DIG members shared their experience with the following:

- Screening for *Staphylococcus aureus* colonization in hemodialysis patients
- Management of transducer probes in fistula cannulation
- Disposal versus reuse of left over acid solution and bicarbonate for hemodialysis
- Education of patients on dressing changes

Environmental Hygiene Interest Group (EHIG)

Chair: Barry Hunt

Co-chair: Monica Stanton

Currently the committee consists of 249 members including the chair and co-chair.

The purpose of EHIG is to facilitate knowledge transfer of best practices in environmental hygiene that is specific and relevant to Infection Prevention and Control. The goal of 2018 was to increase educational offerings to the members.

Activities:

- Four committee meetings were held in 2018.
- Eight educational presentations were provided at these meetings. The topics included:
 - Six Moments of Environmental Hygiene
 - Advances in Technology
 - Change Management for Environmental Hygiene and Infection Control
 - *Introduction to Patient Engagement for Environmental Hygiene and Infection Control*
 - Mobile UV-Health Quality Ontario's Health Technology Assessment
 - Update on New CSA Standards for Cleaning and Disinfection
 - International Ultraviolet Association (IUVA) Update
 - CHES and EHIG

Long Term Care Interest Group (LTC IG)

Chair: Cathy Guitare

Co-Chair: Michele Terfry

Secretary: vacant

Number of members: 239 (membership increase of 11)

Meetings

- **January 17th, 2018 Conference Call:** No agenda items brought forward from the membership and scheduling conflicts present so the call was canceled.
- **March 14th, 2018 Conference Call:** 22 members attended – Guests welcomed from the Networks of Networks IPAC IG. Some old business was discussed. Members continued with discussion on the upcoming national conference in Banff as a remote location as well as the deletion of the interest group day at this conference. It was decided that the chair would communicate the membership concerns to national office. Discussion continued with planning for the spring webinar. The meeting also covered standing agenda items of provincial/regional infection control review, current and new resources, discussion questions circulated through the membership since the last meeting and a round table. Discussion included LTC dressing techniques and strategic plan and interest group day.
- **April 24th, 2018 Webinar:** 27 members attended – Education provided by Gwen Cerkowniak, RN BN CIC of Saskatchewan Ministry of Health in regards to “UTI Prevention in LTC: What’s new and a review”. Following the education portion of the webinar was a business meeting which discussed updates from old business, upcoming elections of executive and need for change over of Chair and Secretary roles. Standing agenda items were reviewed including great discussion on circulated discussion questions: Mobility and wheelchair equipment cleaning, RSV outbreaks, toileting and hygiene care equipment cleaning and management, tub cleaning and disinfection practices. The call was ended following a round table discussion.
- **June 13th, 2018 Conference call:** 13 members attended the conference call - Discussion of old business and then replacement of the chair and secretary. Co chair not prepared to take over chair position but willing to reoffer as co-chair. No offers from the membership to be chair or secretary. Chair required to continue in position and secretary position left vacant. Reviewed attendees experience at the national conference in Banff. Standing agenda items were reviewed including provincial/regional infection control overview by Monica Sephton of Northern Health in BC plus great discussion on circulated discussion questions: ARO screening and sluicing practices of soiled clothing. The call was ended following a round table discussion.
- **September 12th, 2018 Conference Call:** 15 members attended - Some old business was reviewed. Great discussion around the ½ LTC workshop planning for the 2019 conference and antimicrobial resistance point prevalence study by Claudia Rank of PHAC. The membership would like to have someone speak on benchmarking methods and key performance indicators in LTC at the fall webinar as they feel there is a lack of resources available on this subject. It was decided that the chair would try to secure a speaker on this topic for the webinar. Standing agenda items were reviewed including a great discussion on circulated discussion questions: surveillance, N95 masks, auditing practices. The call was ended following a round table discussion.

- **November 14th, 2018 Webinar:** 0 members attended – Education was requested by the membership on benchmarking methods and key performance indicators in LTC for this webinar since they feel there is a lack of resources on these topics. The chair attempted to secure a speaker through discussion with the membership, follow-up to names brought forward but it was unsuccessful. The chair then approached assistance of the executive director but was still unable to secure a speaker. An executive decision was made to cancel the webinar because a large portion of the commitment was to have an educational speaker for this event.

Position Statement Development

- It was decided that the LTC IG did not have a position statement that required work at this time.
- LTC IG TOR were previously revised and submitted.

Highlights/Ongoing Projects

The LTC IG will continue to discuss standing agenda items at each meetings. These include:

- Regional/Provincial Infection Control Program Overview a member volunteer to give an overview of their area's infection control program.
- LTC IG Discussion Questions which are circulated to the membership and a summary provided back to them after others have a chance to respond.
- Current/New Resources brought forward by the membership.
- Round table discussion on topics of membership's interest.

Goals for the coming year (2019)

The LTC IG plan to continue revitalizing the group and the need to foster membership participation, growth and networking within the group.

Network of Network Interest Group

Co-chairs: Gwen Cerkowniak, Murtuza Diwan (starting November 2018)

of IPAC members: 83

Dates/ Topics of meetings:

January 19, 2018:

- Board Update on LTC case definitions, HAI surveillance and AMR activities was presented.
- Summaries of the 6 survey questions (see below in Projects) were presented followed by a discussion of each point
 - # of ICPs working within government or government positions has been decreased or been eliminated. Often IPAC is called on or seconded to participate in government responses to emerging or novel issues
 - Can we do more to ensure our members are informed about resources that IPAC Canada does not send out nationally?
 - Our group is meant to be a Network to keep members connected about what is happening elsewhere
 - Information shared at this group is important or of interest at 2 levels- government and leadership level, so focusing on one level may limit opportunities for sharing
- IPAC Chat on Standard Process for movement in and out of AIIR using an Anteroom discussed

April 26th, 2018:

- Presentation by Jen Tomlinson on the First Reported Case of MDR *Candida auris* in Canada
- In light of the IG survey results, the TOR were reviewed and accepted as is
- Updates from IPAC Canada presented
- Round Table discussions were held on the following points:
 - VRE management and surveillance in your community of practice
 - UV-C for HLD- who is using this technology or trialing this, do your jurisdictions consider this technology as acceptable/effective
 - Sterile water for injection shortage – how is it impacting you
- Health Canada updates regarding Classification and Licensing of HLDs and Sterilants

November 28th, 2018

- Murtuza Diwan introduced as the new co-chair
- Guest speaker Claudia Rank with an update on plans for LTC prevalence study planned for April 2019
- Discussion on IPAC ratios for staffing recommendations- current situation and tools/resources to assist with proposals to increase staffing levels
- Round Table discussions were held on ESBL Screening/Management practices

Projects:

- In the fall of 2017 the co-chairs reported that the Network of Network IG was struggling to find a focus since the change to open membership, the changes in many provincial structures and absence of federal participation.
- The board had felt the group was important to support IPAC strategic goals and support/communication with Provincial/Provincial and Territorial members. We were also requested to explore alternative ways to meet more confidential types of discussions and to seek input from the membership about the value of the NoN group and recommendations for future directions. A survey was sent out in early January.

Questions asked:

- 1. What is the value of NoN to you?
- 2. What is the value of NoN to your organization
- 3. How can he NoN better support sensitive leadership discussions with governments and regulatory bodies?
- 4. How have you used information from the NoN within your organization?
- 5. What do you see as the future focus and/or direction of this group
- 6. Who should we be a recruiting as members to achieve that direction and/or focus

Northern Network

Chair – Samantha Stewart **Co-Chair** – Karen Parry
Secretary – Adeline Griffin or Sheryl-Ann Wasson

Number of IPAC Canada members who belong to the Interest Group: 8

Meetings and Conference Calls

Teleconference Calls total of 10 up until December 31st, 2018

Dates:

February 7th 2018 – First meeting

- Introductions (very diverse group – acute care, LTC, public health, communicable disease)
- Review and approve Terms of Reference with assistance from Gerry Hansen
- Review roles / job descriptions for Co-Chair and Secretary
- Appointment of Secretary
- Determine groups needs re: frequency of meetings
- Gain understanding of what the group would like to gain from the Northern Network
 - Education topics considered – issues pertaining to the North; support for rural remote nursing stations surrounding cleaning & disinfection, infectious waste, sharps and sterilized equipment); Ebola; new construction and renovations; resource and experience sharing; invite guest speakers; IPAC BC Membership discussed, PICNet Resources; provincial / national education opportunities discussed; Webber Training, Diversey IPAC Education.

March 2nd, 2018

- Paul Webber provided a complimentary 2018 membership to Northern Network for Webber Tele-education sessions
- Discussed mechanism for posting resources to IPAC Northern Network webpage
- Review Diversey Education topics to select educational options
- Group hopes to have an education session once per quarter
- Appointment of Co-Chair

April 4th, 2018

- Discussion and selection of Diversey Education topics – 1. Swab to Requisition Understanding Microbiology Reports and 2. Understanding the Organism – Calming the Panic
- 4 Other topics centered around 4 themes:
 - Cleaning, disinfection
 - Teaching adult learners
 - Construction, renovation and maintenance in healthcare
 - Microbiology
- Discussed sharing of information from the members that attended IPAC National Conference

May 2nd, 2018

- Education Topic – Jim Gauthier – Microbiology 101 (Diversey Presentation)

June 6th, 2018

- Welcome two new members to Northern Network
- Determine fall/winter meeting schedule
- Information Sharing by attendees who were at IPAC National Conference
- Decision to have Jim Gauthier – Diversey do another education session
- Investigation into “reprocessing” session with Merlee Steel Rodway in the fall/winter
- Discussion around Hand Hygiene initiatives undertaken for May 5th, 2018

- Suggested topic brought forward about PHAC / CNISP participation in Northern areas (currently no Northern areas involved)

July 4th, 2018

- Education Topic – Jim Gauthier – From Swab to Requisition (Diversey Presentation)
- Resignation of one of the Co-Chairs sharing the role.

August 1st, 2018

- Discussion surrounding how each of the areas (Y.T., N.W.T. and Nunavut) handle reprocessing (centralized, de-centralized)
- Discussion surrounding how each of the areas (Y.T., N.W.T. and Nunavut) do hand hygiene auditing and education
- Follow up regarding the new day / time of meetings
- Update from members who attended TB Clinical Training at McGill Institute.
- Update regarding PHAC / CNISP presentation to Northern Network

September 4th, 2018

- Idea sharing for Infection Control Week
- Idea sharing for promotion of Flu Vaccine to Healthcare workers
- Decision to not hold a November meeting
- Discussion to have longer meeting in December to accommodate reprocessing education possibility

October 2nd, 2018

- Presentation from PHAC regarding CNISP (Linda Pelude and Robyn Mitchell)
- Idea sharing for Patient Safety Week
- IPAC Week Opportunity for Northern Network to join WebEx with Jim Gauthier who is in Whitehorse Yukon doing IPAC Education at Yukon Hospitals. Education Power Point / WebEx is “Environmental Cleaning: Not Just an EVS Issue” (Factors that influence HAI’s)

Highlights/Ongoing Projects

Continue to provide support, encouragement and northern specific education as identified by the group.

ONCOLOGY TRANSPLANTATION INTEREST GROUP (OTIG)

Chair: Kristie Harding

Co-Chair: Roberta McCombie, Kimberly Mallory (December 2018)

Both chair & co-chair roles were up for renewal in 2018. Kristie has stayed on as chair so there can be some overlap in the two roles.

Number of members: 87 (was 83 in 2017)

Dates/topics of meetings throughout the year

July 27, 2018 – T-conference

Review of Varicella Zoster Management Member Survey

- 14 respondents
- Numerous ideas how to use findings, defining immunocompromise was identified as one of the key challenges in VZV management, working group established to look at this closer

December 5, 2018 - T-conference

Expansion of the group to include Transplantation population, Chair/Co-chair role renewals,

- Decision to rename group “Oncology Transplantation Interest Group” OTIG
- Kim Mallory will co-lead the immunocompromise working group with Kristie
- Kaitlin Hearn has done a review of OIG webpage and suggested updates

Results of any questionnaires/surveys sent out by the Interest Group:

See July 27th meeting

Updates/Goals for the coming year

GOALS for 2019:

- Immunocompromise Working Group established, aim to develop a definition of immunocompromise in the oncology/transplant population
- Membership survey on Management of Respiratory Infections
- First webinar planned on Transplant and IC, date TBA
- Continued support for circulating practice inquiries, organize 1-2 meetings to discuss practice issues. Streamline process for posting to OTIG webpage.
- Continue building resources for webpage

Pediatrics and Neonatal Interest Group

Judy Dennis (Chair) and Pat Bedard (Co-Chair)

Number of IPAC Canada members who belong to the Interest Group: Ninety-seven

Dates/topics of meetings throughout the year

Most communication within the group has been via email – posting of questions or other communication. Two teleconferences were booked. One was cancelled due to lack of interest. One teleconference was held in October with limited engagement and attendance. Topics of interest over the year included:
PNIG half day in Quebec City

Position Statements developed/under development: Working group currently reviewing and updating the Expressed Breast Milk Position Statement.

Prehospital Care Interest Group

Chair- Greg Bruce A-EMCA

Secretary- Erika Stebbings, RN, BSN

Interest Group Membership

PHCIG membership stands at 70 members; 18 of these members participate in the Working Group. Membership represents those working in Prehospital care agencies as well as supporting agencies such as Health Regions, Health Units and Hospitals.

Meetings

The interest group held a total of four teleconference meetings over the course of the year for the working group.

- February 9 2018-Interest Group Teleconference. Focus was continuing work on items the group feels to be valuable to engage our current membership and to attract new members. Set up of a Facebook group has been completed and testing with working group members. Planning for webinar April 18 2018
- Jun 14 2018-Working group teleconference. Focus on this teleconference was to announce the Cleaning and Disinfection Road show to the group and begin brainstorming for topics, content and potential attendees
- July 20 2018-Cleaning and Disinfection Road Show Teleconference with working group to further refine the program and content. Topics to include; Cleaning and Disinfection 101, Selection of Cleaners and Disinfectants, Design Elements for Cleaning and Disinfection, New Technologies
- November 15 2018-Working Group Teleconference. This teleconference focused primarily on establishing the leaders for each session of the Road Show

Cleaning and Disinfection Road Show Teleconferences

- February 27 2018-Initial discussion held with Gerry Hansen and Greg Bruce to explore Prehospital Cleaning and Disinfection Road Show idea
- March 14 2018-Initial meeting held with Wood Wyant, Gerry Hansen and Greg Bruce to explore Prehospital Cleaning and Disinfection Road Show.
- July 20 2018-Cleaning and Disinfection Road Show Teleconference with working group to further refine the program and content. Topics to include; Cleaning and Disinfection 101, Selection of Cleaners and Disinfectants, Design Elements for Cleaning and Disinfection, New Technologies
- November 5 2018-Teleconference with Gerry Hansen and Wood Wyant to further develop Road Show content in consultation with Wood Wyant representatives
- December 10 2018-Road Show session lead teleconference to develop session outlines and set targets for completion of presentations
- December 19 2018-Teleconference with Gerry Hansen, Wood Wyant and PHCIG session leads to develop Road Show content

Webinars

The interest group hosted one webinar in 2018 as a method of membership engagement.

- April 18 2018-The third Prehospital Care Interest Group Webinar was held. Topics included Pandemic Preparedness in Prehospital Care presented by Lisa Young and Infection Control: From the Streets to the Hospital with Trevor Johnson presenting. This webinar was the largest one hosted to date with 25 participants. There were a few guest members invited to attend and there is potential for new memberships coming from this

Projects

Prehospital Cleaning and Disinfection Road Show

Prehospital Care Audit Tool review finalized and posted new version on IPAC Canada website May 2018

Member participation in CSA Ambulance Design for Infection Control Standard

Member Presentation at IPAC Canada National Conference Alberta 2018

Member Presentation at Chapter Education Days. Manitoba June 2018 and Central East Ontario November 2018
IPAC Canada Prehospital Care Brochure re-draft
Redraft of Cleaning and Disinfection Position Statement and Practice Recommendation

Goals for Coming Year

Moving forward and looking into 2019 the intention is to continue a focus on membership issues. The interest group believes that with continued webinars we are offering value added to members and this will attract new members. The Cleaning and Disinfection Road Show in partnership with Wood Wyant will be the main focus for the first half of the year. The second half of the year the focus will move to increasing our presence in professional magazines and newsletters.

Reprocessing Interest Group

Chair- Vi Burton –IPAC-SASKPIC

Co-Chair –Donna Moore-IPAC-PANA

Number of IPAC Canada members who belong to the Interest Group:

- 220 as per membership list with an overall monthly attendance of 24 members

Dates/topics of meetings throughout the year (in-person meetings and teleconference calls)

Conference call meeting dates and topics

- 1. Jan 10/19**
 - Consolidation of Midwifery, Dentistry and Endoscopy into “Community Reprocessing Group”-RIG subcommittee. The goal is to discuss challenges faced with reprocessing in community settings and best practices to manage this.
 - Non-health care approved tools used for foot care
- 2. Feb 14, 2018**
 - Foot care instruments- semi critical and critical tools and reprocessing requirements
- 3. April 11, 2018**
 - Reprocessing of Critical Foot Care Devices position statement discussion
 - One-Source for medical devices MIFU’s
- 4. May 9, 2018**
 - Networking dinner meeting held at IPAC-Canada Conference
 - Revised- CAN CSA Z314-18 Reprocessing in all health care settings is available
 - Draft Contingency Plan Template distributed
 - WRHA Cancelling of Surgery and Management of Sterile Supplies related to high humidity-distributed
- 5. June 13, 2018**
 - CSA Z314-18 FAQ distributed to membership
- 6. July 11, 2018**
 - Alberta Health Services- IPAC MDR Audit tool –shared
 - Sunnybrook IPAC MDR Audit tool-posted
 - RIG membership interest IPAC-Canada Audit tool revision committee membership
- 7. September 12, 2018**
 - BC Ministry of Health Best Practice Guidelines made available
 - Consistent messaging across the country CAMDR, CSA, and IPAC
 - Education-Ultrasonic washer article in CAMDR journal
 - Education-The Art of Brushing-webinar link
 - RIG Questions: Facility auditing practices, MDRT wearing artificial eye lashes; on-line education platform for on-going MDRT competencies
- 8. October 8, 2018**
 - Education: MDRD Webinar by QIP Audit-Michael Tsang
 - Audit Tools Clinical Practice Settings and Dental Practice Settings link
- 9. November 14, 2018**
 - Midwifery guide to reprocessing shared
 - Questions: Gravity displacement sterilizers, processes for sterilizing broncs/cyst, sterile storage in surgical suites, reprocessing of problems for PICC lines, and humidity
- 10. December 12, 2018**
 - Reprocessing of ultrasound probes in relation to blood stream or surgical infections. Surveillance?

Position Statements (if any) developed/under development

- Joint IPAC Canada/CAMDR Reprocessing education Certification vs Certificate
- Position Statement: Reprocessing of Critical Foot Care Devices –approved

- Position Statement: Reprocessing in the Community-in progress
- Position Statement: Foot Care Practice Guidelines –in progress

Results of any questionnaires/surveys sent out by the Interest Group

- RIG needs assessment survey

Highlights/Ongoing Projects

- Community Reprocessing Group-18 members from across the country; single use, central MDRD, capacity for internal reprocessing if can meet CSA Z314-18
- Dental subcommittee as a “hot topic”. Determine if working group need exists following work completion by Community Reprocessing Group
- Ultrasound probes (used for vascular assess, surgical procedures) subcommittee as “hot topic”-blood stream infections and the possible risks

RIG continues to provide leadership as group members collaborate and advocate best practice reprocessing recommendations with the purpose to mitigate transmission risk and untoward client outcomes.

SURVEILLANCE AND APPLIED EPIDEMIOLOGY INTEREST GROUP (SAEIG)

Leadership

Chair: Jennifer Happe

Co-chair: Donna Penney

Secretary: Denise Gravel Tropper

Number of Members

279

Dates and Topics of Meetings

- Jan 23, 2018: Canadian Field Epidemiology Program (CFEP) Overview. Speaker Kathleen Laberge, Acting CFEP Program Director.
- Sept 25, 2018: The Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI) requested a meeting with SAEIG to discuss three ideas for national surveillance collection and distribution. The Canadian Nosocomial Infection Surveillance Program (CNISP) asked to join the call to listen and learn from the responses. The meeting was cancelled after a lack of communication / confirmation from CIHI/CNISP.
- Nov 27, 2018: The CIHI/CNISP meeting was rescheduled. CPSI will join the call.

Coming Year

May 2019 marks the end of the Chair's term. The Terms of Reference must be reviewed. Four meetings are tentatively scheduled for January, March, September and November 2019, as well as an in person meeting on May 25, 2019 at the annual conference in Quebec City.

Report Prepared November 21, 2018