



**IPAC Canada Interest Group Annual Reports 2019
at time of printing**

Dialysis Interest Group Annual Report

Interest Group Name: Dialysis Interest Group

Chair: Victoria Williams

Co-chair: vacant

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

117 members

Position Statements (if any) developed/under development

Publication of the position statement on Infection Prevention and Control Measures to Prevent Transmission of Hepatitis B Among Hemodialysis Patients in the Summer issue of the Canadian Journal of Infection Control.

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

In 2019 DIG members shared their experience with the following:

- Screening for *Candida auris*
- Healthcare worker attire
- Dialysis machine cleaning
- Disposal of peritoneal dialysis effluent
- Skin antiseptics
- Fistula clamps

Long Term Care Interest Group (LTC IG)

Chair: Cathy Guitare, BScN RN

Co-Chair: Michelle Terfry (resigned) Jessica Korn, BScN RN

Secretary: Sherry Goodland, RN BN

Number of members: 228 (membership decrease of 11)

Meetings

- **January 15th, 2019 Conference Call:** 13 members attended - No agenda items brought forward from the membership and scheduling conflicts present so the call was canceled.
- **March 13th, 2019 Conference Call:** 22 members attended - Some old business was discussed including the LTC Point Prevalence study, upcoming 2019 IPAC National Conference details for attendance as well as the initial planning for 2020 conference to include a LTC specific concurrent session. New business covered the 2019 meeting/webinar schedule and ways to foster membership participation. There was a discussion on planning for the spring webinar as well as ARO outbreak guidelines/tracking tools. 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 CPO/CPE/CRE management in LTC.
- **April 16th, 2019 Webinar:** 19 members attended – Education provided by Tara Ferguson, IPAC Manager of Health PEI in regards to “Management of CRE in a LTC Setting”. Following the education portion of the webinar was a business meeting which discussed new business of the IPAC Canada position statement on reprocessing of critical foot care equipment (possibility of a fall webinar speaker). Standing agenda items were reviewed including discussion on shingles in LTC and finished with a round table.
- **June 19th, 2019 Conference call:** 15 members attended the conference call - Discussion of old business on the IPAC Canada position statement on reprocessing of critical foot care equipment. A review was done of the interest group activities since the last executive election and a discussion of what the members wish to see their interest group focus on moving forward. Elections were held for chair, co-chair and meeting recorder. Co chair not prepared to take over chair position but willing to reoffer as co-chair since no one else would consider the position. No offers from the membership to be chair or secretary. Chair required to continue in position and secretary position left vacant. Standing agenda items were reviewed and there was discussion at round table on a continuing care resources manual/links in which the member offered to share with the group.
- **September 11th, 2019 Conference Call:** 17 members attended - Some old business was reviewed including a great discussion around the ½ day LTC workshop held at the conference and the reprocessing of foot care equipment position statement. IPAC challenges in resident centered care, IPAC auditing and the TOR were deferred as we ran out of time. The foot care statement seems to be a hot topic with mixed reviews. Standing agenda items were reviewed. The call was ended following a round table discussion.

- **November 19th, 2019 Webinar:** 29 members attended (some appear to be multiple on the same call in) - The webinar was well attended and for the first time we were able to secure two speakers. For this reason all planned agenda items for the business portion were deferred to the next conference call. One session was TB contact tracing in a LTC facility presented by Suzanne Hyderman. The other session was on the reprocessing of critical foot care equipment by Clare Barry and Merlee Steele Rodway. Both presentations were well received and there was an abundance of membership participation.

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 are due for revision but were deferred at previous meeting and will be submitted once the IG reviews them again.

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 (2020)

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

Submitted by: Cathy Guitare, BScN RN, LTC IG Chair

MENTAL HEALTH INTEREST GROUP

MHIG hosted a September 17th webinar for group members, 'CPE on an Inpatient Psychiatric Unit: A Case Study'. We do have another webinar scheduled for on December 3rd, 'Outbreaks in a Mental Health Setting'.

The group co-chair, Murtuza Diwan, will assume the role of Chair as of January 1, 2020.

Paige Reason, Chair

Network of Network Interest Group Annual Report 2019

Co-chairs: Gwen Cerkowniak, Murtuza Diwan

of IPAC members: 94

Dates/ Topics of meetings:

November 28, 2018:

- Teleconference-12 members attended - notes posted to website
- Guest speaker Claudia Rank- presented on LTC prevalence study for April 2019
- Roundtable discussion on ESBL, Procedure mask criteria, IPAC staff ratios

June 24, 2019:

Adobe Webinar was held with Barley Chironda- “Must Know IPAC Insights for the last 12 Months of Conferences” –Insights from notable conferences from the previous 12 months (APIC, IPAC Canada, ID Week, SHEA and AMMI/CACMID)

The webinar was planned for January but needed to be postponed.

Jane Stafford a long time Network of Network member and co-chair over many years has retired. This group has been looking for another co-chair for the last 2 years but no one has come forward. Gwen Cerkowniak is will be retiring April 2020 and will no longer be available to be a co-chair as of Dec 31st.

Northern Network Annual Report

Chair – Samantha Stewart

Co-Chair – Karen Pardy

Secretary – vacant position at this time due to member moving on to new role

Number of IPAC Canada Members who belong to the Interest Group: 7

Meetings & Conference Calls 2019

January 8th, 2019 – Guest Speaker Merlee, Steel-Rodway, Canadian Association of Medical Association.

March 5th, 2019 – only 3 of 7 members participated

- Assigned role of secretary
- Discussed future educational topics
 - Construction
 - Surveillance
 - Diversey Educational Topics

April 25th, 2019 – Educational Session from Northwest Environmental in B.C related to Construction, Renovations, and Maintenance in Healthcare Facilities.

Unfortunately, several meetings were cancelled during the year because of lack of participation.

Highlights/Ongoing Projects

We will continue to provide support, encouragement and northern specific education as identified by the group. Work continues with the Executive Director, Gerry Hansen, to see about how we can invigorate the Northern Network

IPAC Canada Annual Report 2019

Pediatric/Neonatal Interest Group

Chairs: Megan Clarke (Co-Chair) Angela Thomas (Co-Chair)

Number of IPAC Canada members who belong to the Interest Group: 108

Dates/topics of meetings throughout the year: Most communication within the group has been via email – posting of questions or other communication. We are in the early stages of organizing a webinar for interest group members-topic TBD.

Position Statements developed/under development: Review and revision of the Human Milk position statement has been completed. Toy Cleaning position statement is currently under revision.

Prehospital Care Interest Group

Co-Chairs- Greg Bruce A-EMCA, Janie Nichols MPH, RN CIC
Secretary- Erika Stebbings, RN, BSN

Interest Group Membership

PHCIG membership stands at 63 members; 17 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 three teleconference meetings over the course of the year for the working group.

- February 21 2019- Working group teleconference. Primarily to update the group on the progress of the Cleaning and Disinfection Road Show
- May 1 2019- Working group teleconference. The focus of this teleconference was to establish a Facebook page for the group and after testing invited all group members to join. Ongoing work on revise the prehospital pamphlet continued. Completion of re draft of Prehospital position statement and begin work on practice recommendation. Also an update on member participation in CSA Ambulance standard project. Group was also updated on the Cleaning and Disinfection Road show details
- October 28 2019-Working group teleconference. Work continued on a few projects including revising the registration pamphlet and increasing access to the group Facebook page. Practice recommendation was completed and ready to be sent to the group for review. Update provide on the Cleaning and Disinfection Road show. Decision not to host a webinar this year due to work on road show

Cleaning and Disinfection Road Show Teleconferences

Through collaboration with Sani Marc/Wood Wyant and local EMS facilities, the first two of six PreHospital Cleaning & Disinfection Roadshows were held in Winnipeg (September 25) and Dartmouth (October 23). An interest group working group designed the program and presentation. Presenters Greg Bruce, Marcus Macdonald and Kathy Ellis provided their expertise and presentation skills to ensure engagement of the audiences. The interest in the Roadshows extended to new memberships in IPAC Canada. 2020 Roadshows are in planning stages: Vancouver (April 16, 2020), Edmonton (summer 2020), and Montreal (fall 2020).

Projects

Prehospital Cleaning and Disinfection Road Show
Prehospital Care Cleaning and Disinfection Position Statement re-draft
Prehospital Care Cleaning and Disinfection Practice Recommendation re-draft
Member participation in CSA Ambulance Design for Infection Control Standard
Member Presentation at Chapter Education Days Quebec, March 2019
IPAC Canada Prehospital Care Membership Brochure re-draft

Goals for Coming Year

Moving forward and looking into 2020 it is clear that the group focus will continue to be on the Cleaning and Disinfection Road Shows. The planning will be ongoing through the year and will include development of a video for the presentations. The group will also be working to establish new work plan items to move forward to coming years.

2019 Reprocessing Interest Group Annual Report

Chair-Vi Burton IPAC SaskPIC
Co-Chair, Karrie Yausie SaskPIC

RIG Membership: 230 RIG IPAC Canada members with 20-25 members on monthly conference calls
Working groups consist of 3-6 members

Dates/topics of monthly (q2 Wednesday) meetings (in-person meeting and teleconference calls)

January

- 2018 Membership survey findings- decisions around continuing monthly meetings and adding periodic hot topic or pertinent education sessions

February

- Managing a large membership list One decision- insert agenda, minutes and attachments into meeting event

March

- *Reprocessing of Critical and Semi Critical Devices in the Community*- approved
- Bore scope for visualizing endoscopic internal channel; Channel Check Verification Test for duodenoscopes; duodenoscopes sterilized with vapor-harder on scopes

April

- Dental reprocessing sections within their guidelines (education and association) were noted not to be in compliance with CSA Z314-18. Decision: advocacy and communication to ensure safe client care by reviewing guidelines and considering a process towards standardization to CSA Z314-18
- medical office type sterilizers used for mobile reprocessing purposes-not meeting CSA Z314-18 requirements
- RIG requested provincial associations dental guidelines/standards documents

May

- **Education:** CSA Z314-18 update on revisions- Merlee Steele-Rodway. Presentation on RIG site
- Action plan for closing out each of Q&A with a summary and references. If references are not included it was suggested that "opinion" be noted

July

- dry heat is not an acceptable method of sterilization and not included in CSA Z314-18

August

- single-use foot-care items are not reprocessed as no MIFU's
- purpose of foot care reprocessing recommendations is for health care providers in all healthcare settings

September

- *Practice Recommendations for IPAC related to foot care in health care* forwarded to IPAC board/standards and guidelines
--reusable foot care equipment/devices must be reprocessed in accordance with CSA Z314-18

October

- **Education-** Foot care practice recommendations/standard WebEx by Clare Barry and Merlee Steel-Rodway. Presentation on RIG site

November

- Foot Care Audit Toolkit revisions were made to comply with CSA Z314-18, and forwarded to the Audit Tool Program
- Webinar or WebEx education to be evaluated using IPAC evaluation tool

December

- Letter to IPAC Board: *Advocacy/Communication requested to improve safe reprocessing of medical devices in all health care settings* is requested
- 2020 budget and projects

Position Statements (if any) developed/under development

- Reprocessing of Critical and Semi Critical Devices in the Community
- Practice Recommendations for Infection Prevention and Control related to Foot Care in Healthcare

RIG member Questions and Answers:

- Visiting surgeon wanting to reprocess personal rigid nasoscopes
- Laryngoscope reprocessing
- Microscope cuffs
- Audiology ear tips
- CJD reprocessing instruments
- Retention of MDR records
- Service and therapy animals in medical and dental settings
- Monitoring cleanliness-policy for disclosure or biofilms found on endoscopes
- Silicone pads in ophthalmology instrument trays
- Laparoscope/endoscope/cystoscope camera sterilization

No questionnaires/surveys sent out by the Interest Group in 2019

Highlights

- Merlee Steele-Rodway was the 2019 “Champion of Infection Prevention and Control” award recipient. Proud moment for IPAC Canada and RIG!
- Round table discussions that vet out MDR issues/practices
- RIG maintained momentum in advancing MDR best practices through RIG working groups and monthly conference call’s

Ongoing or New Projects: Working Groups

- 1. Priority HIGH: Vascular** Ultrasound Probes used for critical and semi critical vascular and related procedures (i.e. vascular access, sentinel node biopsy, foreign visualization during trauma, assessment of abscess)
- 2. Priority HIGH: Dental** as provincial dentistry guidelines are not consistent with CSA Z314-18 and consider position statement around meeting reprocessing elements-no third-party or mobile units

2020 Goals:

1. To complete the above projects, and encourage active participation of RIG membership in the 2020 IPAC Canada and CAMDR national conferences
2. To review RIG TOR using the new template
3. Encourage attendance at IPAC Canada National Conference-including “reprocessing” ½ day
4. Encourage attendance at CAMDR conference in Edmonton Fall 2020
5. Continue to support reprocessing networking and collaborative activities to promote patient safety, and mitigate or prevent untoward client care events

Respectfully Submitted
Vi Burton, RN MN CIC
Chair
December 31, 2019

SURVEILLANCE AND APPLIED EPIDEMIOLOGY INTEREST GROUP (SAEIG)

Leadership

Chair: Jennifer Happe

Co-chair: Katherine Paphitis

Secretary: Denise Gravel Tropper

Number of Members

266

Dates and Topics of Meetings

Jan 29, 2019:	Education topic: 2019 LTC Point Prevalence Study Overview; speaker Claudia Rank, Epidemiologist at Public Health Agency of Canada. Began work on two projects: preparing a position statement recommending routine surveillance in LTC settings and preparing a new survey to gather information on SSI surveillance practices across Canada (last survey was in 2013).
Mar 19, 2019:	Education topic: the epidemiology of the emerging pathogen, multi-drug resistant <i>Candida auris</i> ; speaker Dr. Ilan Schwartz, Mycologist with University of Alberta. Continued work on LTC and SSI surveillance projects this month.
May 25, 2019:	Education topic: National Surveillance Programs on AMR/AMU / Key Findings for Benchmarking, speakers Denise Gravel-Tropper, Manager of the Canadian Antimicrobial Resistance Surveillance System and Claudia Rank, Epidemiologist at Public Health Agency of Canada. Katherine shared an exceptional MS Excel database built by PHO in collaboration with the Schlegel Corporation. The database houses surveillance information and auto calculates rates and prepares epidemiologic curves. The tool was validated using Stone, et al. (2012) definitions but can be used with any LTC case definitions (e.g. IPAC Canada 2017 definitions). The tool is being piloted and revised. The tool will be made available to SAEIG members once it is ready for distribution. The Public Health Agency of Canada's Community, Rural and Northern Acute Care Point Prevalence (CNAPP) team prepared an MS Excel data collection tool for the 2019 point prevalence survey. CNAPP offered the data collection tool for modification and use based on local surveillance case definitions, classifications and protocols, by SAEIG members who don't otherwise have access to an acute care surveillance database. Katherine may revise the CNAPP tool to include an auto-rate calculation function.
Sept 24, 2019:	The SAEIG position statement recommending routine surveillance in LTC settings was vetted by the Standards and Guideline Committee over the summer and approved by the Board of Directors in September. It is expected that the statement will be published in the fall Association News. A survey was drafted over the spring and summer to re-assess the types of SSI surveillance conducted across Canada since the 2013 survey and to obtain contact information from those engaged in SSI surveillance who want to network and share information. The survey is currently being built in Survey Monkey and will be distributed to all IPAC Canada members early this fall. A Survey Monkey planning survey was completed by membership this month to support 2020 planning and budget preparation.
Nov 26, 2019:	Guests from the Canadian Nosocomial Infection Surveillance Program (CNISP), Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI) and Canadian Patient Safety Institute (CPSI) joined us to propose several options for an expanded national surveillance system and to collect feedback on the options presented.

Coming Year

SAEIG will continue to meet bi-monthly through 2020 with a summer hiatus. Education will be a component of each meeting with topics determined via a recently completed group survey. Two special projects will be tackled including a national survey and report on SSI surveillance practices, CPO screening and management practices, *C. auris* screening and management practices and updating the IPAC Canada 2017 LTC surveillance definitions.