

# INFECTION CONTROL SURVEILLANCE

TO BE FEATURED IN THE NEXT *INDUSTRY INNOVATIONS*

The Winter 2020 issue of *Industry Innovations* will showcase innovative product offerings supporting communicable disease surveillance in healthcare.

Surveillance of communicable diseases, especially healthcare-associated infections, provides baseline data and builds capacity for subsequent monitoring activities, including benchmarking. Surveillance data guides clinical practice, including identification of outbreaks and implementation and monitoring of interventions aimed at reducing transmission events. It also informs research and antimicrobial stewardship programming. Surveillance activities may be continuous in nature, or data may be gathered via point prevalence studies. Surveillance activities may be conducted at unit, facility, provincial, territorial, national or international levels.

Barriers to surveillance in healthcare include challenges in gathering and interpreting relevant data, limited information technology resources, and support and human resource challenges. We welcome innovations from our industry partners, which can assist in addressing these challenges to support IPC programs to build effective surveillance practices and processes.

Thank you to IPAC Canada members for the continued opportunity to showcase our industry partners in this publication.

## INFECTION CONTROL SURVEILLANCE GUIDELINES

The role of the Editor and Publisher of *Industry Innovations* is to ensure that this publication is of a high quality, structured, and a good comparative resource for Infection Prevention and Control Canada's (IPAC Canada) core membership. All submissions to *Industry Innovations* are subject to curatorial review. Relevance to IPAC Canada membership and integrity of claims will be assessed prior to approval or denial of publication partnership.

For whitepapers accepted for publication, the Editor will coordinate with the submitting industry partner prior to publication with applicable technical editing requests. The Editor and Publisher will ensure that the curation and publishing process of whitepapers and advertisements accepted for publication are managed transparently in consultation with authoring industry partners. Preferred whitepapers for publication in *Industry Innovations* will refrain from subjective and unverifiable claims. They will use a mixture of industry voice, technical specification, and use-case logistics with significant attention to the immediate organizational impact of implementation. The numbered guideline sections below are sequentially ordered to provide a comparable reading flow throughout *Industry Innovations'* volumes, and must be adhered to during whitepaper development. The suggested word count is included for the whitepaper author's reference to ensure sufficient content is incorporated into each section without exceeding the suggested submission length of 4,500 words.

## GENERAL GUIDELINES

- Core Focus: *Industry Innovations'* guidelines are structured to provide a comparable summary of considerations to enable IPAC Canada readership to assess their organization's implementation readiness and the immediate use cases of an industry product.
- Please refrain from comparing your product's solution to competing solutions.
- Where clinical or industry research is referenced, ensure a summary description of the research is included rather than generalizations.
- For in-text citations, use parenthetical numbers (Vancouver style) and append references to end of whitepaper using the same order of numbers appearing in-text.

### 1. Abstract – ~500 Words:

- What makes this product stand out as an innovative solution to infection control surveillance in acute care, long-term care homes, and other healthcare facilities?

- Please refrain from comparative analysis to other innovations in infection control surveillance, but common standardized surveillance processes may be referenced.

### 2. Specifications – ~600 Words:

- Describe the technology/process of the infection control surveillance solution;
- If there are electronic components to the infection control surveillance solution, please describe their utility (data collection, entry, validation, analysis, presentation, etc.).
- Describe any additional resources used peripherally to your product's infection control surveillance solution and what ongoing resources a healthcare facility implementing your solution will need to support ongoing infection control surveillance (e.g. physical resources, training, physical/electronic storage, compatibility with existing software, databases and/or processes, etc.).

### 3. Metrics – ~600 Words:

- Describe the recommended statistical tracking methodology for infection control surveillance with your product, as applicable (e.g. type and number of infections able to be monitored, frequency of report generation, etc.).
- Previous quantitative research in effectiveness of the infection control surveillance solution may be described and referenced here.

### 4. Practice Changes – ~600 Words:

- Please describe the frontline practice changes involved in implementing your company's solution (not the overall impact of infection control surveillance, just the work involved with the product in use).
- For example, will your solution add additional steps to nursing consultations/data collection within the patient room? Will infection control staff need to add another step to their workflow? Will clinical teams need to be trained in the use of the infection control surveillance solution?

### 5. Implementation – ~600 Words:

- Please describe the steps involved in implementation of your infection control surveillance solution.
- What stakeholders are needed (nursing staff, physicians, administration, infection control, etc.)?
- What activities in initial implementation/ongoing maintenance of this infection control surveillance solution will be managed by your company?
- What initial/ongoing maintenance steps will be managed by the healthcare facility implementing your infection control surveillance solution?
- What maintenance steps are required to ensure the infection control surveillance solution is functioning effectively/as intended on a continuous basis?

### 6. Narrative – ~700 words:

- Please provide in narrative format the post-implementation use case of the infection control surveillance solution, including a description of the data collection, input, validation and analysis processes (as applicable) associated with using the product by healthcare staff and any new processes that will need to be implemented to support the use of the product.
- Please refrain from describing the general workflow of infection control staff and associated teams; focus on tasks performed by healthcare institution staff involving the immediate use of your product.

### 7. Cost Estimate – ~300 words:

- Please provide a cost estimate in table format for implementation of your infection control surveillance solution given typical needs in a small/medium/large healthcare setting.

### 8. Contact Info

- Please provide detailed contact info (phone, email, webpage, etc.) to ensure interested readers are able to reach out for further information and estimates. ■