

PICNet

Provincial Infection Control Network – BC “Debugging Healthcare Together!”

Just Released: Office of the Auditor General’s Report “Infection Control: Essential for a Healthy British Columbia

On March 22, 2007, the British Columbia office of the Auditor General released its long-awaited report entitled “Infection Control: Essential for a Healthy British Columbia.” The Auditor General completed its fieldwork in the period from July 2005 to February 2006, resulting in a series of recommendations relating to future directions for infection prevention, surveillance and control in the province.

Many of the findings in the Auditor General’s report echoed the findings of PICNet’s own report “An Assessment of Infection Control Activities Across the Province of British Columbia” produced in 2006. We’re pleased to note that since the completion of the Auditor General’s field work, a great deal of progress has already been made towards addressing the recommendations it put forth. In its formal and media responses to the report, the Ministry of Health repeatedly brought up PICNet’s good work when citing examples of how the province has been moving forward in infection control.

While much work remains to be done, there is certainly also much to be proud of. For links to PICNet’s public response to the Auditor General’s report, and to read the report itself, please visit our website at www.picnetbc.ca

PICNet’s 2007 Educational Conference May 3-4, 2007

Preparations are in full swing for PICNet’s 2007 Educational Conference, to be held May 3-4, 2007 at the Radisson President hotel in Richmond, BC.

The conference provides an opportunity for our wide-spread community of practice to come together from across the province, and across the continuum of care, to share thoughts, ideas and experiences related to infection control in BC. The mornings will focus on the work of PICNet’s various committees and working groups, and the advances we have made in the past year in surveillance, education and training, and best practices. In the afternoons, interactive educational workshops are planned to address issues around surveillance (May 3rd) and construction (May 4th). The conference planning committee has been working hard to organize this event, and we look forward to seeing you there!

As part of our efforts to make this educational conference accessible to our community of practice from across the province, **there are no registration fees for this conference.** Hotel accommodation, transportation, and incidentals, however, are the responsibility of the delegate. Breakfast and lunch will be included for both days of this event.

To register and for more information, please go to www.picnetbc.ca/page204.htm

Call for Posters or Table Displays: “Showcasing Excellence”

Across the province, people working in infection prevention and control are undertaking many new and innovative programs and projects. As part of PICNet’s 2007 Educational Conference, we invite you to share these innovative approaches with the wider community of practice through a poster or table display at the conference.

For further details, please contact picnet@bccdc.ca.

PICNet International Project: An Update

PICNet’s Interim International Project group had a meeting scheduled for mid-March, but this was postponed due to the timing of the release of the Auditor General’s report. A new meeting date is presently being organized for the third week of April.

PICNet Antibiotic Resistant Organism (ARO) Guidelines Working Group: An Update

The group met for the first time on March 5, 2007. At the meeting the group reviewed the purpose, scope and timelines for completion of the guidelines. It was agreed that all health care settings will be addressed and include guidance on MRSA (both community and hospital associated), VRE, ESBL and PRSP. MDRTB is outside of the scope of this document. The goal will be to have a final draft of the document available for review by the PICNet community of practice by the fall of 2007.

As a first step, PICNet has contracted Fern Davey to perform a search of current literature to create a summary document on antibiotic resistant organisms for use when creating the guidelines. This work will be completed in early April. This will allow the working group to address what gaps there are in the current Provincial guidelines and what needs to be updated.

PICNet *Clostridium difficile* Surveillance Working Group: An Update

The group met for a second time on March 9, 2007. At the meeting Leslie Forrester was confirmed as group lead and representative to the P3 committee. The group has agreed to contract Praveen Johal to prepare a “feasibility and recommendations” document for the development of an HAI surveillance system.

As a next step, Leslie has approached the VCH Privacy office to seek guidance on the development of an information sharing agreement between PICNet and the Health Authorities.

Communications Leadership Group: An Update

The Communications Leadership Group (CLG) met on March 14, 2007. The group vetted recent suggestions for new postings to the web site, and is in the process of working out the best vision and design for a secure on-line member log-in section for the new web site, which will allow committee and working group members to access specific documents related to their work on-line. As well, the group discussed final plans for communications around the release of the Auditor General's report, "Infection Control: Essential for a Healthy British Columbia." Many thanks to the CLG for their contribution towards a successful and positive response to the report.

Needs Assessment Working Group: An Update

Following up on PICNet's Needs Assessment "An Assessment of Infection Control Activities Across the Province of British Columbia," we are pleased to announce the release of a new piece of work entitled "Framework for Staffing and Core Competencies Training Designed for Infection Control Programs." The document is now online at the following link:
http://picnetbc.ca//sites/picnetbc2/files/PICNet_Publications/Part_Two_Needs_Assessment_Document_Final_Draft_March.pdf

PICNet would like to thank our Needs Assessment Working Group as well as PICNet consultant Phyllis Stoffman for their work on this important document.

Surveillance of Healthcare Associated Infections Program for British Columbia: An Update

PICNet's proposal for the Surveillance of Healthcare Associated Infections Program for British Columbia (SHAIP-BC) is currently awaiting response from the Ministry level. The Ministry of Health's official response to the Auditor General's report "Infection Control: Essential for a Healthy British Columbia," cites the "implementation of the recommended healthcare associated infection surveillance system" as a Ministry initiative currently underway.

Webber Training debrief

Since February 2006 PICNet has hosted educational classes offered by Webber Training (<http://webbertraining.com/schedulep1.php>). These classes address topics of interest to infection control professionals and other health care professionals worldwide. The chart below provides an overview of the upcoming teleclasses in the month of April.

Date:	Topic of Interest:	Presenter:
April 12, 2007	Who's Afraid of the CIC Exam?	Sheila MacDonald and Sharon Krystofiak, CBIC Board

April 19, 2007	Bacterial Resistance to Biocides in the Healthcare Environment	Prof. Jean Yves Maillard, Cardiff University
April 25, 2007	Making IC Really Work: Managing the Human Factor	Prof. Seto Wing Hong
April 26, 2007	Environmental Surveillance for Infection Control	Andrew Streifel, University of Minnesota

Upcoming PICNet Meetings

Meeting	Date
ARO Working Group	May 2
Steering Committee	May 3
2007 Educational Conference Planning Committee	April 4, April 18
CDAD Working Group	May 2
Communications Leadership Group	April 10
Ad-Hoc International Planning Committee	Week of April 16-20 th (TBA)
Project Priority and Planning Committee	April 10

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