

PICNet

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

CONFERENCE DATE CHANGE

PICNet’s 2008 Educational Conference will take place May 8th and 9th, 2008 at the Radisson President Hotel in Richmond, BC. The change is due to a recently-announced meeting conflict that would have meant some of our key stakeholders could not have participated in the conference.

PICNet 2008 Conference, May 8-9: “*Building Bridges*” between Occupational Health, Infection Control and Public Health

The theme of this year’s PICNet educational conference will be “*Building Bridges*” between Occupational Health, Infection Control and Public Health. Topics to be addressed over the two days of the conference include opportunities for collaboration between Occupational Health, Public Health and Infection Prevention and Control; Outbreak Management and Emergency Planning; Communication; Antibiotic Resistant Organisms and more.

In order to make this conference as accessible as possible to our community of practice, no conference fees will be charged.

As part of our annual conference, we would like to invite all members of our Community of Practice to share some of the work they have done throughout the year. If you have submitted a relevant poster to a conference during the year, and would be willing to bring that poster to our educational event, please let us know. We would also love to hear about any innovative projects you may have helped develop within your program. If you are willing to develop a display to share these project ideas, you are welcome to do so. This is your chance to “strut your stuff!”

Visit the PICNet web site at www.picnetbc.ca for further information and registration details.

Home Health Care Guidelines Working Group: An Update

PICNet’s first meeting of the Home Health Care guidelines working group took place on Thursday, January 24th, 2008. At this meeting, the group discussed the scope, focus and target audience of these guidelines, as well as the necessary next steps.

The group decided that these guidelines will address infection prevention and control best practices in those places where health care is provided to clients outside of traditional health care settings, including home care, home support, group homes, assisted living and adult day care. The document will be meant to reach an audience of physiotherapists, occupational therapists, social workers, dietitians, group home providers, home care nurses, home support workers and assisted living providers.

Fern Davey of Epiquest Consulting has completed a comprehensive literature review of infection prevention and control in home health and community care, which will serve as an excellent launching pad for the work still to come. PICNet would like to thank all members of the Home Health Care Guidelines Working Group for their enthusiasm and interest in this topic. The next meeting of the group will take place by teleconference, from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. on February 7th 2008.

Antibiotic Resistant Organism Guidelines Development: An Update

Work is wrapping up on the Antibiotic Resistant Organisms (ARO) guidelines. Final editing and formatted is currently being completed within the PICNet Management Office. The document will then be sent out once again to the Working Group, as well as to PICNet's Steering Committee for comments and edits. Finally the document will be posted on the PICNet website (www.picnetbc.ca) for review by our Community of Practice.

Clostridium difficile Surveillance Working Group: An Update

Further steps were taken in January towards the development of a system to collect provincial *Clostridium difficile* surveillance data in BC.

On January 14th, a sub-group of PICNet's CDAD Surveillance Working group met with IMIT experts to work on the development of a database for surveillance data collection. The group refined its minimal data set, reviewed a draft Memorandum of Understanding on data sharing between PICNet and the Health Authorities, and discussed the IMIT system design and architecture for the surveillance program.

The next meeting of this group will be held in mid-February, date to be determined.

Project Priority and Planning Committee: An Update

The Project and Priority Planning Committee (P3) met on January 29th, 2008 to review this year's project proposals, and also to review and refine current and ongoing PICNet projects. The recommendations of the P3 committee will be brought forward to the next Steering Committee meeting on February 7th, 2008 for final approval.

Education Resource Fund Call-out: Deadline March 31, 2008

Consistent with its role in supporting infection prevention and control education and training, PICNet has established a \$20,000 "Education Resource Fund." The purpose of this fund is to

provide educational grants to members of PICNet's community of practice (COP), which includes all health care professionals in British Columbia who are involved in the prevention and control of health care associated infections.

Members of PICNet's COP may submit their application to the PICNet Management Office by March 31, 2008 to receive up to \$2,000 to support their attendance at a national conference/meeting or other educational activity of their choice that is relevant to infection prevention and control. Applications will be reviewed by a Steering Committee-appointed selection committee, and successful applicants must use their funds within the 2008-2009 fiscal year.

For the full policy and application form, please see PICNet's web site at:
<http://picnetbc.ca/page193.htm>

International Commission on Occupational Health Workshop Publication

In late October, PICNet was proud to co-host a pre-conference workshop on Occupational Health and Safety in low-resource and developing countries, held prior to the International Commission on Occupational Health Conference at the Sheraton Wall Centre in Vancouver.

The all-day workshop was a great success, with participants from at least 10 different countries world-wide coming together to discuss challenges and strategies for achieving best practices in occupational health in low-resource settings. Since the workshop, participants continue to work together via email and telephone on the development of a publication that will delve into various themes explored over the course of the workshop. PICNet is leading the development of this publication, which will be published by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (CDC-Atlanta).

The first draft of this publication is currently being compiled, and the Workshop/Publication planning committee will be meeting next on February 9th to discuss the work to date, and next steps.

Educational Opportunity: CHICA-Canada MRSA Traveling Road Show

On February 6th 2008, the Community and Hospital Infection Control Association of Canada (CHICA-Canada) will host a half-day "MRSA Traveling Road Show" at the Hyatt Regency hotel in Vancouver (8:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.). This event is part of a cross-country educational tour dealing with topics related to best practices for the screening, prevention and surveillance of MRSA, with speakers including Dr. Bonnie Henry, Dr. Elizabeth Bryce and Bruce Gamage.

For more information, see CHICA's web site at www.chica.org

Webber Training Debrief

Welcome to the 2008 season of Webber Training teleclasses!

Since February 2006 PICNet has purchased and 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. There are two teleclasses scheduled for January.

Webber Training January 2008 Schedule

Date:	Topic of Interest:	Presenter:
February 5, 2008	Lessons from the Maidstone C. diff Outbreak	Christine Perry, United Bristol Healthcare Trust (UK)
February 14, 2008	LTC – <i>Clostridium difficile</i> in Long Term Care	Dr. Andy Simor, Sunnybrook Hospital, Toronto
February 20, 2008	Climate Change and Human Health	Prof. Peter Curson, University of Sydney
February 21, 2008	CBIC Teleclass 1 – Understanding the Practice Analysis and CIC Exam Content Outline	CBIC Board Members & Guests

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