

PICNet

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

Apply now: PICNet’s Education Resource Fund, 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>

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

Registration is now open for PICNet’s 2008 Educational Conference, which will be held at the Radisson Hotel in Richmond, BC, May 8-9.

This two-day conference will explore issues of outbreak management, communication and collaboration between Occupational Health, Infection Control and Public Health. Participants will also have time to review the poster hall and displays from our exhibitors.

For more information, to review the preliminary conference agenda, or to register, please visit the PICNet web site at www.picnetbc.ca.

Outstanding Travel Claims for 2007-2008

For those of you whom may have outstanding travel claims for meetings or workshops, we ask that you get those into us as soon as possible to meet fiscal year-end deadlines. Please have your claim into us, along with original receipts, by no later than March 15th. Receipts can be mailed to:

Attention: Sarah Pugh
Provincial Infection Control Network of BC
655 West 12th Avenue
Vancouver, BC
V5Z 4R4

Home and Community Health Care Guidelines Working Group: An Update

The Home and Community Health Care guidelines working group met twice by teleconference in February to continue work on the development of a first draft of infection prevention and control guidelines for Home and Community care. The group will meet throughout March, and is planning a face-to-face all-day meeting in early April for a point-by-point review of the completed first draft.

Antibiotic Resistant Organism (ARO) Guidelines Development: An Update

Currently, PICNet's Steering Committee is reviewing the formatted and complete first draft of the guidelines, which cover infection prevention and control for AROs across the continuum of care and health care settings.

Once feedback from the Steering Committee has been received, the ARO working group will meet to discuss and incorporate appropriate changes and edits. The document will then be sent out to PICNet's wider Community of Practice, where we will invite your comments, feedback and suggestions.

Clostridium difficile Surveillance Working Group: An Update

PICNet is excited to be nearing the pilot stage in our development of a system to collect provincial *Clostridium difficile* surveillance data in BC. Over the month of February, work has been ongoing towards finalizing a draft Memorandum of Understanding on data sharing between PICNet and the Health Authorities. As well, continued technical groundwork in all Health Authorities for the implementation of this system has been undertaken, to ensure the necessary synergies are in place between the current individual Health Authority surveillance systems, and PICNet's provincial surveillance endeavours.

The system will be ready for pilot within one Health Authority towards the end of March.

Online Education Module for the Prevention of Surgical Site Infections (SSI)

PICNet is beginning to work with technical designers from Vancouver Coastal Health and a content-design consultant, Fern Davey of Epiquest Consulting, to develop an on-line education module for the prevention of SSI. This interactive module will address pre-operative, intra-operative and post-operative care for the prevention of SSI. It will be a freely-available as voluntary learning tool across Health Authorities, and is expected to be completed and available by autumn of 2008.

Webber Training Debrief

March is a very busy month for Webber Training teleclasses, but do please note that four of the classes scheduled for March are intended for novice infection prevention and control practitioners.

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:
March 6, 200	Novice - Microbiology 101	Jim Gauthier, Providence Care
March 11, 2008	(Free Teleclass) Voices of CHICA – Part 1	CHICA Canada Board Members and Guests
March 13, 2008	Novice – The Basics of Cleaning, Disinfection and Sterilization	Dr. Lynne Schulster, CDC
March 20, 2008	Novice – Outbreak Management	Dr. William Jarvis, Jarvis, Jason & Jarvis Consultants
March 29, 2008	Novice - Surveillance Success	Dr. Mary Andrus, CDC

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