

PICNet

Provincial Infection Control Network – BC “Debugging Health Care Together!”

PICNet Welcomes Joanne Archer to the Management Office

PICNet is very pleased to announce the addition of Joanne Archer to PICNet’s Management Office team, as our new Infection Control Educator and Consultant. Joanne has been actively involved with PICNet since its inception in 2005, having served on various working groups and as a valued member of PICNet’s Steering Committee. Joanne holds a Masters of Arts in Disability Management, and brings to the position a strong background in nursing and infection prevention and control. Recently, Joanne has been working as Regional Manager for Infection Prevention and Control in Northern Health. She will be joining PICNet, working from Prince George, in mid-June. Welcome, Joanne!

May 8-9, 2008: PICNet’s Conference “Building Bridges” Between Occupational Health, Public Health and Infection Prevention and Control

PICNet’s 2008 Conference will take place May 8-9th at the Radisson Hotel in Richmond, BC. Registration is now closed, with a record 120 registrants from across BC, representing occupational health, public health and infection prevention and control. Over the two days of the conference, participants will learn about and discuss issues of outbreak management, communication, and leadership, and will work to identify future opportunities for collaboration. A final conference agenda is available on our Web site at www.picnetbc.ca

A very committed conference organizing team from across BC has been working since last autumn to bring this event together. PICNet would like to thank the following members of our Conference Planning committee: Debora Giese, Janice DeHeer, Tracy Lanier, Darlene Spence, Cathy Munford, Cathy Smith, Deb Connell, Jackie Ratzlaff, Linda Adam, Terry Dickson, Judy Klein, Bruce Gamage and Sarah Pugh.

PICNet’s Provincial Surveillance Program for *Clostridium difficile* Associated Disease (CDAD)

PICNet continues to work towards the launch of BC’s first provincial surveillance program for *Clostridium difficile* Associated Disease (CDAD). This system is coming together thanks to the hard work and collaboration of epidemiologists, IMIT experts, infection control professionals, medical microbiologists and other health care leaders from across Health Authorities. The PICNet CDAD Surveillance Working Group has now finalized the elements of the minimal data set for this program. A pilot of this provincial surveillance program will commence in May in Fraser Health.

This voluntary surveillance system will enable the Health Authorities to submit anonymized data from both regional and facility levels to a secure provincial data repository. PICNet epidemiologists will then compile provincial CDAD rates and trends that will be shared with the submitters. This will enable benchmarks to be established, by which Health Authorities and facilities can measure themselves and apply interventions as necessary for improved infection prevention and control. We would like to express our thanks to those involved in this exciting, involved, and very important project.

Home and Community Health Care Guidelines – An Update

Work is being completed on the first draft of PICNet's Guidelines for Infection Prevention and Control in Home and Community Health Care Settings. Some revisions remain to be implemented, based on the feedback of the Working Group, following a face-to-face meeting in early April. When ready, the document will receive wider circulation for feedback from our Community of Practice.

Antibiotic Resistant Organism (ARO) Guidelines – An Update

The second draft of PICNet's ARO guidelines, with feedback incorporated from the Working Group and PICNet's Steering Committee, has now gone back to the Working Group for review. Once approved, the guidelines will be posted on PICNet's Web site for feedback, comments and input from our wider Community of Practice. We are planning to release the ARO Guidelines in the summer of 2008.

PICNet at the CHICA-Canada Conference

PICNet is looking forward to participating in the upcoming national conference of the Community and Hospital Infection Control Association (CHICA), to be held in Montreal from May 29 to June 5, 2008.

We will be hosting an information booth at the Exhibition Hall, and will also be spearheading a half-day workshop called the "Network of Networks", which will bring together infection prevention and control leaders from across Canada for informal discussions around current and future projects/activities, surveillance, best practice guidelines and the variety of provincial-level responses to infection prevention and control. This workshop will also provide an excellent opportunity to explore opportunities for knowledge-sharing and collaboration with colleagues working in a similar field in other parts of the country.

Webber Training Debrief

Since February 2006 PICNet has purchased and hosted educational classes offered by Webber Training (<http://webbertraining.com/schedule1.php>). These classes address topics of interest to infection control professionals and other health care professionals worldwide.

Webber Training May 2008 Schedule

Date:	Topic of Interest:	Presenter:
May 1, 2008	Infection Control in Personal Service Settings	Dr. Bonnie Henry, BC Centre for Disease Control
May 8, 2008	Selecting Microbicidal Chemicals for Infection Control: Buyer Beware!! <i>*Please note, due to our PICNet Educational Conference taking place at the same time, we will be unable to provide access to this teleclass.</i>	Prof. Syed Sattar, University of Ottawa
May 15, 2008	Adverse Events in Dialysis	Dr. Matthew Arduino
May 22, 2008	Bedpan Decontamination – Manual vs. Mechanical	Gertie van Knippenberg Gordebeke, International Consultant, IPC, The Netherlands

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