

PICNet

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

Now Hiring: Infection Control Educator/Consultant Position with PICNet

PICNet is hiring a third person for the Management Office, to fill the position of Infection Control Educator/Consultant. While this position was posted earlier in the year, it has not yet been filled. PICNet is now re-posting the position, but with the following significant revision: **Please note that although ideally situated in Vancouver, consideration may also be given to allow reporting to the central office while working remotely from other areas within BC.** This is a full-time position under the Provincial Health Services Authority. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

**For the Infection Control Educator/Consultant Job
Description and Instructions for Application, go to
PICNet’s Web site at www.picnetbc.ca**

Register Now! PICNet’s 2008 Conference “Building Bridges” Between Occupational Health, Public Health and Infection Control

Registration is open for PICNet’s 2008 Conference, to be held May 8-9th at the Radisson Hotel in Richmond, BC. To register, and for more information, please go to www.picnetbc.ca

A successful approach to infection prevention and control in the province requires the cooperation, support and collaboration of a multi-disciplinary assortment of health care professionals, across the continuum of care. Recognizing this, PICNet’s 2008 conference will bring together health care professionals from the fields of Occupational Health, Public Health and Infection Control to discuss issues of outbreak management, communication, leadership and to identify further opportunities for collaboration.

In order to make this conference widely accessible, there are no registration fees. However, registrants are expected to pay for their own travel and accommodation expenses.

For a preliminary conference agenda, please visit www.picnetbc.ca

Home and Community Health Care Guidelines

Work continues on the first draft of PICNet's Guidelines for Infection Prevention and Control in Home and Community Health Care Settings. The working group met by teleconference in March, and will be meeting face-to-face in Vancouver on April 2, 2008, for a detailed review of the soon-to-be-completed first draft.

Following the face-to-face meeting, the draft will be revised according to the feedback and direction of the group. When ready the document will receive wider circulation for feedback from our Community of Practice.

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

We are very excited to be so close to the launch of BC's first provincial surveillance program for *Clostridium difficile* Associated Disease (CDAD). This system has come together through the hard work and collaboration of epidemiologists, IMIT experts, infection control professionals, medical microbiologists and other health care leaders from across the province.

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, from which PICNet epidemiologists will compile a provincial CDAD snapshot. 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.

The PICNet CDAD Surveillance Working Group is continuing to meet to finalize the elements of the minimal data set for this program. In the meantime, a pilot of this provincial surveillance program will be launched in April in Fraser Health.

Antibiotic Resistant Organism Guidelines – An Update

Work continues on PICNet's Antibiotic Resistant Organism guidelines, with feedback from our Steering Committee and Working Group currently being incorporated into the latest draft. Once this feedback is incorporated to the satisfaction of the Working Group, the guidelines will be sent out to our wider Community of Practice (that means you!) for your feedback, comments and input. We are planning to release the ARO Guidelines in the summer of 2008.

PICNet at the CHICA-Canada Conference

PICNet will be active at 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 hosting and leading 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

April is another busy month for Webber Training teleclass seminars, covering a wide range of topics from various corners of the globe. 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.

Webber Training January 2008 Schedule

Date:	Topic of Interest:	Presenter:
April 3, 2008	The Human and Environmental Toxicity of Microbicidal Chemicals: Are Safer Alternatives Available?	Dr. Susan Springthorpe, University of Ottawa
April 10, 2008	Disease Problems in the Global Food Supply	Dr. Corrie Brown, College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Georgia
April 16, 2008	(South Pacific Teleclass) Antibiotic Resistance – Can We Hold Back the Tide?	Dr. Mark Thomas, Auckland District Health Board
April 17, 2008	CBIC Teleclass 2 – Study Strategies for the CIC Exam	CBIC Board Members & Guests
April 22, 2008	(British Teleclass) Live Broadcast from Central Sterilising Club Conference, UK	Speaker: To Be Announced
April 24, 2008	Case Study – What I Learned in Kindergarten Was Very Useful in Controlling a Large VRE Outbreak	Dr. Dick Zoutman, Queen’s University

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picnet@bccdc.ca

www.picnetbc.ca