

PICNet

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

PICNet Contributes to Successful International Commission on Occupational Health Pre-Conference Workshop

On Thursday, October 25th, over 40 people from countries across the world participated in an all day pre-conference workshop on occupational health for health care workers in low resource settings and developing countries. Occupational health and infection prevention and control professionals from BC, the USA, Romania, South Africa, Egypt, Nigeria, Japan, China, Vietnam, Belgium and other countries came together to discuss how occupational health challenges were being addressed in their respective regions and facilities, particularly in low-resource settings. It was a very exciting and interesting workshop, the proceedings of which will be compiled over the coming months by workshop participants themselves. These proceedings will be published by the National Institute for Occupational Health and Safety (NIOSH), CDC Atlanta.

PICNet was very proud to be a contributing sponsor of this event. A number of PICNet members participated in the workshop, and PICNet Management Office staff Bruce Gamage and Sarah Pugh helped facilitate sections of the day. We would like to extend a special thank-you to the Workshop Coordinator, Rachelle Rebman, for all her hard work and commitment in pulling together this successful and inspiring event.

PICNet 2008 Conference Planning Committee Struck

An important first planning meeting of the 2008 PICNet Educational Conference Planning committee was held October 30th. The committee, with representation from every health authority across the province, met face-to-face to review goals and objectives, conference structure, and to begin planning content for next year's event. The PICNet conference will once again be a two-day conference, to take place in late April or early May (precise dates to be determined). Thank-you to all who have stepped forward to be part of this committee, including Tracy Lanier, Linda Adam, Terry Dickson, Judy Klein, Debra Giese, Debora Connell, Janice DeHeer, Cathy Munford, Jackie Ratzlaff, Bruce Gamage and Sarah Pugh.

Stay tuned for more details!

PICNet at CHICA Education Day

PICNet presented on Friday October 26th at a Community and Hospital Infection Control Association of BC (CHICA-BC) Education Day called “Partnership with the Community: Infection Control in Residential Care Facilities.” PICNet’s presentation introduced the audience to the organization, including an overview of its mandate, vision, history, and past, current and future projects. We’d like to thank CHICA-BC for the invitation to present, and the opportunity to share PICNet’s work and continue to build our professional networks.

Clostridium difficile Surveillance Working Group Update

PICNet’s *Clostridium difficile* (CDAD) Surveillance Working Group met October 22nd by teleconference. The group discussed updates on the progression of the Privacy Impact Assessment, and the technology needed to implement surveillance. IMIT consultant Praveen Johal has assembled his team for the development of the necessary system, including a programmer, a quality control person, a business analyst and himself. A system design team is currently being assembled. The group also discussed data quality issues, and determined that attributable death should remain part of the data set. Work on the Information Sharing Agreement also continues to move forward.

The group will meet again in mid-November to discuss progress and next steps.

Antibiotic Resistant Organisms Working Group: An Update

Sub-groups of the larger Antibiotic Resistant Organisms (ARO) Working Group continue to meet to discuss and work on their components of the guideline updating project, and drafts of the sections continue to circulate between group members.

Contractor Phyllis Stoffman is working towards the completion of the first draft of the guidelines by mid-November, which will be followed by an all-day face-to-face meeting of the ARO working group on November 23rd. The larger group will work together through the draft document, section-by-section, for revisions, corrections, and editing, and is hoping to release a draft to the wider community of practice for review by mid-to-late December.

Webber Training debrief

October held some technical challenges for PICNet members connecting with Webber Training, but we would like to thank-you for your patience, and encourage you to review the November schedule for upcoming 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.

Webber Training November Schedule

Date:	Topic of Interest:	Presenter:
November 6, 2007	Commissioning Infection Control Strategy	Yvonne Sawbridge
November 8, 2007	Hazard Vulnerability Analysis for Infection Control	Andrew Streifel, University of Minnesota
November 15, 2007	An Approach to Outbreak Management – Using Biostats to Clobber Bugs	Dr. Dick Zoutman, Queen’s University
November 29, 2007	Effective Infection Control Promotion in 3- 5 Steps	Allen Soden

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