



April 2010 Newsletter

Cari Coomer

2010 Chicago APIC President

www.apicchicago.org

President's Update

Happy Spring! I would like to announce the Board approval and appointment of Martha Bouk (contact info below), Bylaws Chair, who will be completing the term that Steve Brash held. Steve has moved to the East Coast and needed to resign from his Board position. Please help me in welcoming Martha!

Education Committee Update

The next education event is May 13th at Elmhurst Memorial Center for Health, Elmhurst. This session will concentrate on the aspects of electronic surveillance, how to choose, how to use! It should be beneficial for those that are considering or would like to consider an electronic surveillance system, and for those who already have one to see what else is available. The flyer/registration has been forwarded. Please contact Chris Silkaitis (312-926-3046) if you did not receive one via email OR visit www.apicchicago.org to view the registration form and see when other events are planned.

Chris and the Board members have been working diligently to provide excellent speakers for the education events and thus far have a great line-up for the October 8th all-day meeting!

HAI Plan Committee Update

Members of this committee from Chicago APIC traveled to Bloomington, IL and met with members of APIC Central regarding the grant deliverables and next steps. All Illinois hospitals either received education via Chicago's six live presentations from Mary Andrus or the webinars that were provided by the Central Chapter. An annual meeting is in the works for this year and next that will be offered to the IP's and NHSN administrators state-wide. Stay tuned for further updates!

HAI workgroup update:

1. MDRO Surveillance Workgroup

- Will explore making all or some of the specific emerging multidrug-resistant gram negative organisms of epidemiologic importance reportable in Illinois
- First meeting was Tuesday 4/27 at 10:00 a.m.
- The following Chicago-area IP's have signed up to participate in this work group: Mary Anderson, Angie Rupp, Carol Hoffman, Deborah Marquardt, Jennifer Daniel, Kathy Aureden, Gerry Genovese, and Onofre Donceras.

2. Outbreak/Breaches of IC Practices Workgroup

- Establish outbreak reporting requirements
- Explore methods for electronic notification of HAI outbreaks
- Explore developing a separate module for reporting HAI clusters within the current reporting systems
- Explore developing processes and tiered response criteria to handle increase reports of serious infection control breaches or suspect cases/clusters
- Identify actions that will be taken when serious infection control breaches have been identified
- Met Wednesday 4/21.
- The following Chicago-area IP's have signed up to participate in this work group: Angie Rupp and Carol Schultz.

3. IC Program Workgroup

- Explore developing legislation to mandate use of qualified electronic surveillance system
- Develop minimum Infection Prevention and Control staffing levels for hospitals
- First meeting was Monday 4/26 at 2:00 p.m.
- The following Chicago-area IP's have signed up to participate in this work group: Sallie Jo Rivera, Mary Anderson, Angie Rupp, Cathy Paulus, Alex Tomich, Gerry Genovese, Onofre Donceras, Laura Bardowski, and Kathy Aureden.

4. Long Term Care Workgroup

- Assist in developing a statewide needs assessment and profile
- Establish educational standards for LTC and LTACH healthcare workers
- Develop standardized educational tools
- Implement educational sessions
- Explore current and future collaborations among public health, LTCFs, LTACHs and hospitals
- First meeting took place in January
- The following Chicago-area IP's have signed up to participate in this work group: Zein Bertacchi, Pam Camporese, Joanne Purpura, and Deb Burdsall.

If you are interested in participating in one of these workgroups, please email lauren.gallagher@illinois.gov with your name, email address, phone number, and which workgroup you would like to join.

Legislative Update

SB 2981 (MRSA Screening & Reporting Act of 2007) has passed in both Houses and will be sent to the Governor for signature. The amendment removes the sunset in January 2011. If you are interested in working on this initiative or sharing your organizations data, please contact Mary Alice Lavin at 312-942-3056 or mary_alice_lavin@rush.edu.

News from National APIC

- APIC's 2010 Webinar Series Begins - APIC expects to offer more than 25 webinars this year, providing members with **FREE** access to the most current, practice-based information. To learn more visit www.apic.org.
- People we know!
 - Washington, March 15, 2010 – Denise M. Murphy, RN, MPH, CIC, of Newton Square, Pa. has been named the 2010 recipient of the prestigious *Carole DeMille Achievement Award* by the Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (APIC). The award, which will be presented at the APIC 37th

Annual Educational Conference and International Meeting, July 11-15 in New Orleans, is given annually to an infection preventionist who best exemplifies the ideals of Carole DeMille, a pioneer in the field.

- Washington, April 7, 2010 – The Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (APIC) today announced Mary Andrus, BA, RN, CIC, of Gainesville, Ga. as the 2010 recipient of the Elaine Larson Lectureship Award. Awarded annually by APIC's Board of Directors, the award honors the individual best able to present a dynamic lecture on the state of the science of infection control and/or epidemiology in the area for which he or she has been a major contributor over a lifetime of pursuit.
- Statement by The Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America, The Infectious Diseases Society of America and The Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology in response to The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality's *National Healthcare Quality Report*
http://www.apic.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Featured_News_and_Events&TEMP_LATE=/CM/ContentDisplay.cfm&CONTENTID=15257

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Other resources:

Joint Commission Resources (JCR) 2010 Infection Control Accreditation Standards and Survey Process Update is now available as an on-demand seminar. Barbara Moore Soule, RN, MPA, CIC, a Consultant and Practice Leader in Infection Prevention and Control for JCR, guides you through the 2010 Infection Control standards in the comfort and convenience of your own office. To purchase, call Customer Service at 877-223-6866 and tell them you're interested in **Product Code EDUVA1003**