

INFECTION PREVENTION CONTROL (IPC) NEWSLETTER

3RD ISSUE

AUGUST 2024

Welcome to the **SUMMER** edition of the IPC Newsletter. We will highlight another member of our team, look at handbag hygiene and there is a wordsearch & quiz to complete (with a  to be won).



Behind The Scenes



HOLA! I AM ENRIQUE HERNANDEZ. FOR THE PAST 18 MONTHS I HAVE BEEN WORKING WITH THE INFECTION PREVENTION & CONTROL TEAM AS AN ADVANCED HEALTHCARE SCIENTIST. ORIGINALLY FROM MEXICO, I STUDIED AND WORKED AS A VETERINARIAN AND THEN CHANGED DIRECTION AND TRAINED IN BIO-STATISTICAL ANALYSES. I HAVE AN MSC IN QUANTITATIVE METHODS IN BIODIVERSITY, CONSERVATION AND EPIDEMIOLOGY, AND A PHD IN INFECTIOUS DISEASES OBTAINED AT THE UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW AND HAVE NOW MADE GLASGOW MY HOME.

PRIOR TO TAKING UP MY CURRENT POST, I WORKED AS A RESEARCH FELLOW AT THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH. THIS FOCUSED ON INFECTIOUS DISEASES, EPIDEMIOLOGY AND GENETICS IN TANZANIA AND KENYA WITH A FOCUS ON ZONOTIC AND REPRODUCTIVE DISEASES ON LIVESTOCK.

MY SKILLS AND WORK EXPERIENCE AS A DATA SCIENTIST IN EPIDEMIOLOGICAL, GENETICS/GENOMICS AND HEALTHCARE ANALYTICAL PROJECTS IS CRUCIAL FOR MY CURRENT ROLE. IN MY ROLE, I PROVIDE THE IPC SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS E.G. CONSULTANTS AND SENIOR MANAGERS WITH DATA INSIGHTS BASED ON ADVANCED ANALYTICS TO SUPPORT THEIR BUSINESS DECISIONS FOR HEALTHCARE IMPROVEMENT AT NHS GGC. IN ADDITION, I SUPPORT THE IPCT SURVEILLANCE AND DATA TEAM WITH HEALTHCARE-ASSOCIATED INFECTIONS (HAIS) REPORTING FOLLOWING NATIONAL PROGRAMME GUIDELINES. I ENJOY CONTINUOUSLY DEVELOPING MY DATA HANDLING, VISUALISATION AND ANALYTICAL SKILLS AND APPLY THEM INTO MY WORK AND RESEARCH INTEREST WHICH INCLUDE; INFECTIOUS DISEASES, HEALTHCARE ASSOCIATED INFECTIONS AND ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE. I BELIEVE DATA ANALYTICS AND SCIENTIFIC EVIDENCE IS KEY TO IMPROVE PEOPLE LIVES, AND I AM VERY PROUD THAT MY CONTRIBUTION TO THE IPC TEAM AT NHS GGC COULD HELP ACHIEVE THAT.



How Clean is Your Handbag?

A study in 2016 found that your handbag/rucksack could be dirtier than your toilet seat. They go everywhere with us and spend most of their time on the floor whether that be on public transport, toilet cubicles or changing room floors and usually contain everything from used tissues and half eaten food. How many times have you wrapped something up in a napkin to take home and enjoy later only to forget about it? Phones are handled frequently by our hands that may not always be clean, they are put down on dirty surfaces and they are even taken to the toilet with us. Then thrown into our bag before we leave the house or work. So it turns out that our bags could be toting more than just everyday essentials. The study found 10,000 different bacteria present in handbags, which is more than your average toilet seat.

A study in the Journal of Hospital Infection in 2009 found several different bacteria, including ones that are commonly found in hospitals on healthcare staff bags when swabbed. It also showed that the rate was higher in bags belonging to doctors than the bags belonging to nurses.

So what should you do?

- Avoid leaving your handbag on unclean surfaces
- Regularly declutter
- Avoid throwing unnecessary items in your handbag - things like hand cream and lip balm can also be prime culprits for cross-contamination. You could place them in a smaller bag inside instead.
- Clean your handbag - The easiest way to remove germs from your handbag is by regularly cleaning it. Even just a quick wipe down with a damp cloth and gentle soap can keep harmful bacteria at bay.
- Floors are obviously not as clean as other surfaces, because we walk on them in shoes that have been out of doors so where possible hang up your bag when you can.

We also need to remember that we can help stop the spread of infectious agents by washing our hands regularly. Using soap and water or alcohol based hand rub and following the correct technique will ensure that you won't transfer germs from your hands to your bag.



Visit our web page to access all IPC resources.

www.nhsggc.scot/hospital-services/services-a-to-z/infection-prevention-and-control

SUMMER CROSSWORD AND WORD SEARCH

USE THE LETTERS IN THE HIGHLIGHTED BOX TO REVEAL A WORD AND ALONG WITH 1 WORD IN THE WORD SEARCH THEY WILL MAKE UP AN INFECTION PREVENTION & CONTROL TERM. EMAIL THE PHRASE TO LYNN.PRITCHARD@GGC.SCOT.NHS.UK FOR A CHANCE TO WIN A GIFT VOUCHER. CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES WILL BE 31ST AUGUST 2024. GOOD LUCK



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ACROSS

- 1 - THE TYPE OF BAG DIRTY OR SOILED LINEN SHOULD BE PLACED INTO (8)
- 4 - "_____ THE HUB" (5) SOMETHING WE SHOULD DO WHEN USING PVCs, CVCS ETC
- 5 - SOMETHING THAT IS NOT CLEAN IS _____ (5)
- 8 - THE NUMBER OF SICPS (3)
- 10 - BRISTOL _____ CHART. USED TO MONITOR BOWEL MOTIONS (5)
- 11 - TYPICALLY A CHILDHOOD VIRUS WITH ITCHY FLUID FILLED BLISTERS (10)
- 12 - RESPIRATORY AND _____ HYGIENE IS ONE OF THE SICPS (5)
- 13 - THE MMR VACCINE GIVES PROTECTION FROM (5)
- 15 - A TYPE OF CLEAN PERFORMED IN HOSPITAL OR A WORD TO DESCRIBE A WAITING AREA OF AN AIRPORT (8)
- 18 - AN INFESTATION MOST COMMONLY FOUND IN HAIR BUT CAN BE FOUND IN OTHER AREAS OF THE BODY (4)
- 19 - _____ OF REUSABLE NON-INVASIVE CARE EQUIPMENT MUST BE UNDERTAKEN BETWEEN EACH USE (15)

DOWN

- 2 - WHAT YOU USE TO MAKE A BED (5)
- 3 - HOW MANY TIMES IN A 24 HOUR PERIOD PVC CARE PLANS SHOULD BE UPDATED (5)
- 6 - PPE SHOULD BE WORN WHEN YOU _____ SOILED LINEN (6)
- 7 - THIS ITEM IS PART OF THE PPE ENSEMBLE (5)
- 9 - OVERUSE OF ANTIBIOTICS CAN CAUSE BACTERIA TO DEVELOP ANTIBIOTIC _____ STRAIN (9)
- 10 - THE NUMBER OF STEPS OF HAND HYGIENE (3)
- 11 - IF YOU ARE NOT INFECTED YOU MAY BE _____ (9)
- 14 - ANOTHER DESCRIPTIVE WORD TO DESCRIBE A PUS LIKE DISCHARGE. (8)
- 16 - FFP3 IS A TYPE OF _____ (4)
- 17 - A WORD USED TO DESCRIBE A MEMBER OF NHS/GC STAFF (4)



Summer Word Search

M	A	F	I	V	E	M	O	M	E	N	T	S	O	O
A	E	L	A	S	L	O	O	T	S	E	S	O	O	L
S	D	A	E	F	G	O	P	S	G	I	F	F	C	G
K	O	P	A	T	I	E	N	T	H	S	T	H	E	L
T	V	R	K	B	S	H	G	F	N	I	O	H	A	O
T	I	O	T	E	M	O	U	T	B	R	E	A	K	V
R	P	N	M	T	E	T	N	Z	G	A	K	S	H	E
E	T	A	L	O	S	I	P	A	V	I	Y	S	H	S
T	Y	Z	V	H	U	D	N	E	B	T	M	E	A	A
C	F	M	Y	I	T	I	I	S	S	T	P	S	H	G
A	O	K	S	R	S	T	O	A	Y	V	T	S	S	C
B	R	C	A	M	R	O	P	L	B	G	T	M	D	S
O	M	E	P	G	B	N	R	M	P	A	B	E	L	E
L	R	D	I	M	P	I	V	O	E	I	A	N	I	L
Y	A	Z	N	E	U	L	F	N	I	L	H	T	R	G
P	S	C	O	M	M	O	D	E	M	Z	P	V	T	N
M	M	C	S	T	M	D	R	L	E	T	R	M	H	I
A	V	T	B	C	D	S	E	L	S	A	E	M	A	H
C	O	N	T	A	M	I	N	A	T	E	D	O	C	S

FIND THESE IPCT RELATED WORDS.

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|----------------------|---------------------|
| SHINGLES | FIVE MOMENTS |
| COMMUNE | PATIENT |
| VISOR | GLOVES |
| SALMONELLA | APRON |
| ISOLATE | INFLUENZA |
| HAND | ORGANISM |
| CONTAMINATED | LOOSE STOOLS |
| ASSESSMENT | MEASLES |
| CAMPYLOBACTER | OUTBREAK |
| MASK | SAMPLE |

ONE WORD

WILL NOT BE IN THE PUZZLE.
THIS IS HALF OF YOUR PRIZE
PHRASE.

TOURNIQUETS

PATIENT SAFETY IS A PRIORITY FOR ALL HEALTHCARE STAFF. ONE SMALL THING THAT CAN BE FOLLOWED IS ENSURING THAT A TOURNIQUET IS DISPOSED OF AS HEALTHCARE WASTE IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING USE. TOURNIQUETS USED ON MULTIPLE PATIENTS, CAN LEAD TO THE SPREAD OF INFECTION. SINGLE USE EQUIPMENT IS EQUIPMENT THAT IS USED ONCE ON A SINGLE PATIENT AND THEN DISCARDED. IT MUST NEVER BE REUSED EVEN ON THE SAME PATIENT. THE PACKAGING CARRIES THIS SYMBOL



NEWS

UPDATE

REVISED PERIPHERAL VENOUS CATHETER (PVC) CARE PLAN

THE CHANGE OVER TO THE NEW PVC CARE PLAN TOOK PLACE ON MONDAY 15 JULY 2024 AND ALL AREAS SHOULD NOW BE USING THE NEW CARE PLAN. THE NEW PVC CARE PLAN CAN BE ORDERED VIA PECOS USING CODE GGC0057.

THE MAIN CHANGES TO THE NEW CARE PLAN ARE

- PVCS SHOULD BE REMOVED AS SOON AS NO LONGER REQUIRED, WITH A MAXIMUM DWELL TIME OF SEVEN DAY
- NEW LAYOUT FOR DAY AND NIGHTSHIFT TWICE DAILY REVIEW
- QR CODE QUICK LINKS FOR ADULT & PAEDIATRIC IV ORAL SWITCH THERAPY (IVOST) GUIDELINES.

