

Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) Hub

Long Term Care

Community of Practice

Road to IPAC Certification

Presented by:

ESC IPAC Hub, GB IPAC Hub , HNHB IPAC Hub, SW IPAC Hub , WW IPAC Hub

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Ontario Health
West



Agenda

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IPAC Hub and Public Health Ontario (PHO) Regional Team Contacts

Erie St. Clair (ESC) IPAC Hub:

ESC_IPACHub@wrh.on.ca

Grey Bruce (GB) IPAC Hub:

ipachub@publichealthgreybruce.on.ca

Hamilton Niagara Haldimand Brant (HNHB) IPAC Hub:

hnhbipachub@stjosham.on.ca

South West (SW) IPAC Hub:

ipachub@swpublichealth.ca

Waterloo Wellington (WW) IPAC Hub:

wwipachub@smgh.ca

Ontario Health (OH) IPAC Support:

michelle.wilband@ontariohealth.ca

Public Health Ontario (PHO) IPAC Support:

IPAC@oahpp.ca



IPAC Courses and Training

IPAC Training Courses

- Courses are designed to provide the core knowledge to enter the field of infection prevention and control, often required for hiring
- IPAC Canada endorses courses which meet minimum education time and core competency requirements to work as an ICP
- IPAC Canada also acknowledges courses which do not meet requirements though cover important or niche topics
- IPAC Canada sponsors a basic IPAC course, taught by IPAC Canada instructors
 - [IPAC Canada's Online Essentials in Infection Prevention and Control Course](#)



IPAC Canada Endorsed Courses

IPAC Canada Endorsed

- [Centennial College, Toronto Basic Infection Prevention and Control Program](#)
- [Queen's University Infection Prevention & Control Online Professional Development Course](#)
- [Bay River College, Infection Prevention and Control Program](#)
- [University of British Columbia, Vancouver Basic Infection Control Course](#)

IPAC Canada Acknowledged

- [Centennial College: Preventing and Controlling Infections in Non-Acute Care Settings](#)



Courses neither Endorsed nor Acknowledged

- [Queen's University Master's of Public Health \(IPAC Track\)](#)
- [Michener Institute, Toronto - Infection Control & Epidemiology](#)
- [Webber Training](#)
- [Ontario Centres for Learning, Research and Innovation in LTC](#)
- [Infection Control Training Group](#)



CBIC Certification Overview

CBIC Certification

- Certification Board of Infection Control and Epidemiology
- Issues certification through proctored examination, and re-certification (primarily) through review of “IPUs” (known elsewhere as CE/CME credits) for accredited learning opportunities
- Historically offered just the CIC examination, designed for novice ICPs to take after 2 years work experience in IPAC

Types of Certifications

[Associate – Infection Prevention and Control \(a-IPC\)](#)

Designed as an entry-to-practice examination; does not require work experience

Valid for 5 years; re-certification by examination only

Does not meet MLTC IPAC certification requirements (under FLTCA and IPAC Standard)



[Certification in Infection Control \(CIC\)](#)

Requires post-secondary education in a health-related field

Requires applicant to be actively working in IPAC; 1 year FT or 2 year PT employment

Valid for 5 years; re-certification by IPUs only



LTC-CIP Certification

[Long-Term Care Certification in Infection Prevention \(LTC-CIP\)](#)

Requires post-secondary education in a health-related field

Requires applicant to be working in IPAC within LTC (or similar) environment

Recommends 1 year FT experience

Initial certification by examination

Valid for 5 Years, recertification by IPUs



CIC/LTC-CIP Work Eligibility

Infection prevention activities include:

1. Identification of infectious disease processes
2. Surveillance and epidemiologic investigation
3. Preventing and controlling the transmission of infectious agents
4. Environment of care
5. Cleaning, disinfection, asepsis, and sterilization best practices

AND at least two (2) of the three (3) components:

1. Employee / occupational health
2. Management and communication
3. Education and research





Exam Section and Sample Questions

Exam Sections

CIC Exam

- Identification of Infectious Disease Processes (22 Questions)
- Surveillance and Epidemiologic Investigation (22 Questions)
- Preventing/Controlling transmission of Infection (22 Questions)
- Employee/Occupational Health (11 Questions)
- Management and Communication (14 Questions)
- Education and Research (12 Questions)
- Environment of Care (14 Questions)
- Cleaning, Disinfection, Sterilization (18 Questions)

LTC-CIP Exam

- Long-Term Care Settings (15 Questions)
- Management and Communication (16 Questions)
- Identification of Infectious Diseases (18 Questions)
- Surveillance and epidemiologic investigations (24 Questions)
- Prevention/control of infectious diseases (24 questions)
- Environment of care (18 Questions)
- Cleaning, Disinfection, Sterilization (15 Questions)
- Antimicrobial Stewardship (11 Questions)
- Employee/Occupational Health (9 Questions)



Long Term Care Settings

- Ethics
- Communal Gatherings
- Interdisciplinary Team
- Normal Aging Processes
- Special Populations



Management and Communication

- Infection Prevention program planning
- Communication and Feedback
- Evaluate and facilitate compliance with accreditation standards/regulatory requirements
- Quality Performance Improvement and Patient Safety

Sample Question

According to the APIC Competency Model the Early Novice IP is should pursue competency in all the following except:

- a. Developing policies.
- b. Learning the basics of epidemiology.
- c. Performing advanced analysis of statistics.
- d. Participating in ongoing learning opportunities.

Answer: C



Identification of Infectious Diseases

- Interpret diagnostic and laboratory reports
- Practices for specimen collection, handling, and storage
- Correlate clinical s/s with infectious disease processes
- Differentiate colonization, infection, and contamination
- Differentiate prophylactic, empiric, and therapeutic uses of antimicrobials

Sample Question

Serologic markers of a recent infection include:

- a. IgG
- b. IgM
- c. IgA
- d. IgC

Answer: B



Surveillance and Epidemiologic Investigation

- Design of Surveillance Systems
- Collection and Compilation of Surveillance Data
- Interpretation of Surveillance Data
- Outbreak Investigation

Sample Question

The first step in an outbreak investigation is:

- a. Develop a case definition.
- b. Begin case finding.
- c. Confirm the outbreak.
- d. Notify senior leadership.

Answer: C

Preventing/Controlling the Transmission of Infectious Agents

- Develop evidence-based/informed infection prevention and control policies and procedures
- Collaborate with relevant groups and agencies in planning community/facility responses to biologic threats and disasters
- Identify and implement infection prevention and control strategies

Sample Question

Important interventions to prevent catheter-associated urinary tract infections include:

- a. Regularly changing urine collection bags.
- b. Obtaining a urine culture when a foul odor is present.
- c. Obtaining a urine culture urine when pyuria is noted.
- d. Ensuring urinary catheters are inserted for appropriate indications.

Answer: D



Environment of Care

- Elements important for a safe care environment
- Assess infection risks of design, construction, and renovation
- Evaluation and monitoring of environmental cleaning and disinfection
- Selection and evaluation of environmental disinfectant products

Sample Question

Infection preventionists should review which of the following when assessing the environment of care?

- a. Outdoor air quality.
- b. Weather related outdoor humidity.
- c. Air pressure relationships within the facility.
- d. Elevation of the head of the bed for patients on ventilators.

Answer: C



Cleaning, Disinfection and Sterilization

- Identify and evaluate appropriate cleaning, sterilization and disinfection practices
- Collaborate with others to assess products under evaluation for their ability to be reprocessed
- Identify and evaluate critical steps of cleaning, high level disinfection, and sterilization

Sample Question

Cleaning is defined as:

- a. Removal of organic material.
- b. Applying sporicidal solutions to surfaces.
- c. Inactivation and killing of microorganisms.
- d. Activities that achieve the absence of pathogenic levels of microorganisms.

Answer: A

Antimicrobial Stewardship

- Core Elements of Antimicrobial Stewardship
- Colonization, Infection, and Contamination

Employee/Occupational Health

- Develop screening and immunization programs
- Evaluate data and develop work restriction recommendations related to communicable diseases and/or exposures
- Recognize healthcare personnel who may represent a transmission risk to patients, coworkers, and communities
- Assess risk of occupational exposure to infectious diseases (e.g., *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, bloodborne pathogens)





Exam Resources and Study Tips

Exam Prep – Primary Resources

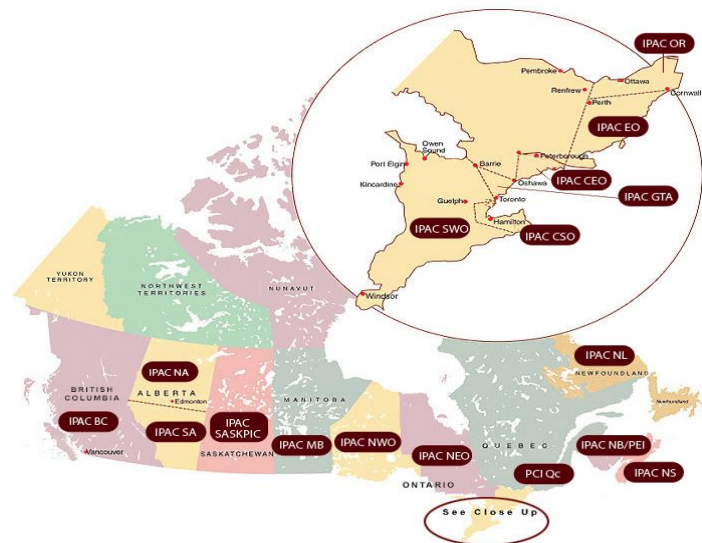
- APIC Text Online (ATO). Available at: <https://text.apic.org/>]
- Kulich P, Taylor D, eds. The Infection Preventionist's Guide to the Lab, APIC, Washington, DC, 2012.
- Heymann, D., ed. Control of Communicable Diseases Manual, 20th edition, Washington, DC: American Public Health Association
- Brooks, Kathy. Ready Reference for Microbes, 4th ed., APIC
- Infection Prevention [guide](#) to long term care 2nd edition (APIC)
- Advisory Committee on [Immunization](#) Practices (ACIP) – Centers for Disease Control

Exam Prep – Other Resources

- [10 Ethical Principles in Geriatrics and Long Term Care](#)
- [Position on Ethics Committees in Long Term Care](#)
- CBIC Facebook group and LinkedIn.
- YouTube video CBIC [How to Prepare for the CIC Exam](#)
- [CBIC Podcasts, Webinars and Webber Teleclasses](#)
- CIC Study Groups on YouTube (i.e.. [CIC Epidemiologists](#))

IPAC Canada

- IPAC Canada is a non-for-profit organization founded in 1976 for professionals interested in IPAC in any healthcare setting in Canada and abroad.
- IPAC Canada provides to its members; education, communication, networking opportunities and resources.
- IPAC Canada also advocates on behalf of its members, both locally and nationally.
- There are 17 chapters distributed across Canada.



IPAC Canada Membership

2023 membership fees are:

Individual membership - \$223

Group Membership - First representative - \$296

Group Membership - Additional representatives - \$150

Students and Retired Members - \$135

First-Time New Individual member* (first year) - \$135



Questions?