



HICMR Infection Control Newsletter

January-February 2011



<The HICMR Team sends our thoughts to all those affected by the recent floods and bushfires>

Products Review:

Sterrad Boosters

An education program is being rolled out by J&J across Australia/New Zealand to create awareness of the importance of correct Booster placement, & how to place Boosters correctly on medical devices requiring same when reprocessed in STERRAD. A letter is being sent to clients with further details.

ENDOSCOPY/PROBES & STERILISING SERVICES IC WORKSHOPS: 2011

HICMR Endo/Probes & SS Workshops are for HICMR clients & any other interested HCWs. Book early as places fill fast! NB. HICMR Clients are not charged until the month prior to the Workshop. Also make sure you are aware of the Cancellation Policy. For details/online

Registration refer www.hicmr.com.au

Endoscopy Workshops

Launceston:	01 Mar
Adelaide:	06 April
Brisbane:	19 April
Newcastle:	29 April
Melbourne:	22 June
Perth:	05 July
Perth:	30 Sept
Albury:	06 October
Sydney:	09 November
Adelaide:	16 November
Melbourne:	30 November
Brisbane:	07 December

BCP Workshop (For Bronchs/Cystos /Probes only, ie. NO GI Scopes)

Sydney:	05 May
Melbourne:	16 August

Endo Preceptors Workshops (For HICMR Manual Clients Only)

Launceston:	28 Feb
Adelaide:	05 April
Brisbane:	18 April
Sydney:	05 May
Melbourne:	21 June
Perth:	04 July
Albury:	05 October
Sydney:	08 November
Melbourne:	29 November
Brisbane:	06 December

Sterilising Services Workshops

Melbourne:	23 Feb
Launceston:	02 Mar
Adelaide:	07 April
Brisbane:	20 April
Newcastle:	28 April
Perth:	06 July
Melbourne:	17 August
Sydney:	10 November
Brisbane:	8 December
Melbourne:	15 December

****Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Points Now Available!****

RISK ALERT - STAY SAFE AFTER FLOODING

After storms and flooding a number of infectious diseases, including Gastroenteritis and Hepatitis A, can spread due to the presence of contaminated water, eg. from mud and sewage. Increased health risks include wound infections, and mosquito-borne infections. It is essential to stay safe and healthy during clean up and recovery. Always wear protective clothing, don't walk or wade through water if you can avoid it, wash hands with soap and water if in contact with flood water or mud, and be vigilant regarding contaminated food and water. For further information for affected individuals or healthcare facilities' contact your nearest Public Health Unit.

HHA Update

HHA Update: HHA have several new '5 Moments for Hand Hygiene' posters specific to specialty areas, and can take requests for additional ones to be developed, eg. Instrument Processing Areas. They also encourage all HCWs to complete the Online Education Package. For the updated version of the HHA Manual http://www.hha.org.au/UserFiles/file/Manual/HHAManual_2010-11-23.pdf

CLIENT PORTAL/HARP UPDATE

❖ **Policy Manuals: Policy Revision Process:** The 3 year review is in progress. HICMR has commissioned Author-it Software Corporation to provide a new content management system for our Policies, Toolkits and other products. Author-it is a world leader in content management and delivery systems. Once content is created, the information can be easily shared across multiple documents and published to a wide range of different print, help, and web formats. This will enable improved consistency and timeliness of documentation development and updates, ensuring a standardised, high quality outcome. While the process of review and reformatting has begun, it may take longer than expected as we implement the new system. Meanwhile ensure you familiarise yourselves with the new NHMRC Guidelines.

Current Versions:

- Infection Control:
 - Surgical-Acute Medical (S-AM) - Index V17
 - Aged Care (AC) - Index V7.
 - Day Surgery - Index V3.
 - NonSurgical (NS) - Index V6.
- Endo/Probes - Index V11. Manual under extensive review as the revised GESA/GENCA Guidelines are now available.
- Sterilising Services - Index V3.
- DI, NEPT, Office Based - under review.

❖ **RA Tools:** All currently under review.

TRANSMISSIBLE DISEASES REVIEW

Legionnaire's Disease in Ice/Water Dispensing Machines

- In recent studies in Australia, USA and Europe Legionella has been isolated from Ice/Water Dispensing Machines.
- These Machines are capable of creating a favourable environment for Legionella growth if the tubing is warmed by the compressor/motor components of the Ice/Water Machine. In addition, poor maintenance/cleaning increases the risk.
- Generally the potential for contracting Legionnaires disease from sucking on ice or drinking water from contaminated Machines is low. However, for those "at risk" patients, eg. Immunocompromised, the risk may be greater.
- Health Care Facilities should take reasonable steps to minimise the risk of Legionella growth in Ice/Water Dispensing Machines, including:
 - There should be a coordinated, documented maintenance schedule covering all Ice/Water Machines in the facility, which includes the manufacturers' recommended care and maintenance requirements, including:
 - Method of cleaning and disinfection.
 - Frequency of cleaning and disinfection.
 - Service requirements.
 - Ice Machines should be appropriately cleaned, disinfected and maintained, including:
 - The Ice Machine chamber should be checked twice weekly for build-up of mould/contaminants, and cleaned accordingly.
 - All removable parts should be disassembled and cleaned on a quarterly basis.
 - Water Machines should be cleaned according to the Manufacturers' recommendations.
- Sanitation of the machine should be performed annually in accordance with manufacturer's instructions.
- Refer HICMR Infection Control Policy: Ice Machines; and CDC Guidelines for Environmental Infection Control In Healthcare Facilities, 2006: <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5210a1.htm>

NEW/REVISED STANDARDS/ GUIDELINES

- ✓ **NHMRC Australian Guidelines for the Prevention and Control of Infection in Healthcare** now available: <http://www.nhmrc.gov.au/node/30290>
- ✓ **GESA/GENCA Infection Control in Endoscopy Guidelines** now available for purchase: <http://www.genca.org/>
- ✓ **ASA: Disinfection of Intracavity Ultrasound Transducers Update** now available for Diagnostic Probes: http://www.a-s-a.com.au/file_rep/WEB-UpdateIntracavityDisinfectionWEB-FINAL-100702.pdf
- ✓ **ACORN Standards for Perioperative Nursing 2010-2011** are now available for purchase: <http://www.acorn.org.au/>
- ✓ **Therapeutic Guidelines: Antibiotic, Version 14, 2010** now available: <http://www.tg.org.au/>