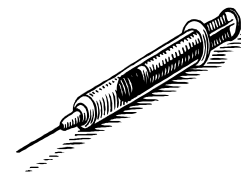




# HICMR Infection Control Newsletter

## JULY 2008

To contact your **HICMR Consultant (ICC) OR** to report Blood and Body Fluid Exposure Incidents (B&BFEI), call pager **016 301 701**.



### **HICMR CLIENT PORTAL**

- The revised Aged Care and Non-Surgical Manuals are now available on the Client Portal.
- The revised Endoscopy Manual is now available on the Client Portal!
- The revised Sterilising Services (SS) Manual is now available on the Client Portal!
- Refer Info Sheet for new Education Program implementation for Endo & SS Programs.
- All Manuals are accompanied by Toolkits, which include Forms, Posters and other resources, to assist in implementation.
- Each Manual will now include a Document Control System Policy explaining the development, revision, access, implementation and feedback process – refer Policy and Index in the relevant Manual/s.
- SDLPs and online auditing by both Participant and Activity are currently undergoing testing, and will be available soon. They include Core and Optional Education to meet local requirements and resources.

**Make sure you know your facility's login details to access the Client Portal at any time – see your ICC/DON.**

### **HICMR ASSESSMENT & REPORTING PROGRAM**

- ✓ HICMR are currently in the process of revising the 38 automated Risk Assessment (RA) Tools in line with updated Policies, to ensure they continue to comply with current standards/guidelines.
- ✓ Internal Audit (IA) Tools are in the development phase for HICMR clients to self-audit compliance.
- ✓ Automated Reports, Graphs and Calendars are undergoing testing and will be available in the next few weeks, via a secure site on the Client Portal. The DON or their nominated rep will have access via a secure login.

### **STAFF HEALTH: RECOMMENDED VACCINATIONS FOR HEALTHCARE WORKERS (HCWs)**

All HCWs and students directly involved in patient care, or the handling of human tissue should be offered vaccination against the following:

- ❖ Hepatitis B
- ❖ Influenza (annually)
- ❖ Pertussis (dtpa, provided dTpa has not been given previously).
- ❖ MMR ( if non-immune, born during, or after 1966, or have only received 1 dose of MMR)
- ❖ Varicella (if seronegative).

**Refer HICMR IC Policy: Staff Health Management Program.**

### **CLINICAL UPDATE: SHARPS**

- Inappropriate handling of sharps represents the major cause of incidents involving potential exposure to bloodborne infections.
- HCWs should always handle sharps with care in order to minimise the risk of injury.
- The person who uses the sharp should be responsible for its immediate safe disposal following use, preferably at point of use.
- Needles should not be resheathed unless an approved recapping device is used.
- Needles should not be bent or broken by hand, removed from syringes or otherwise manipulated by hand.

**Refer HICMR Policy: Clinical & Related Waste Mngmnt, & Toolkit: Appropriate Precautions.**

### **TOPIC OF THE MONTH: CLINICAL WASTE MANAGEMENT**

**Regulatory Bodies:** Management of clinical and related waste should conform to relevant State/EPA regulations, AS/NZS 3816 & NHMRC National Guidelines for Waste Management.

**Segregation:** Waste should be segregated at the point of generation, using appropriately colour-coded and labelled containers. For relevant Waste Posters refer HICMR Toolkit: *Appropriate Precautions*.

**HCWs Protection:** Standard Precautions should apply when handling clinical waste, ie. HCWs should wear gloves and protective clothing when handling clinical and related waste bags and containers. HCWs involved in the handling of such waste should be trained in the correct procedures.

**Containers/Bags:** Clinical waste should be placed in appropriate leak resistant bags or containers bearing the black biohazard symbol. They should not be overfilled or compacted by hand.

**Transportation:** Trolleys used for transportation of clinical waste should be clearly labelled, and used exclusively for waste transport. Trolleys should be cleaned daily, and should not be overfilled.

**Refer HICMR IC Policy: Clinical and Related Waste Management**

### **ENDO & SS WORKSHOPS**

**July - Oct 2008**

#### **✚ Sterilising Services Workshops:**

Melbourne: 27.8.08

Perth: 2.9.08

Brisbane: 9.10.09

#### **✚ Endoscopy Workshops:**

Adelaide 13.8.08

Sydney: 30.10.08

#### **✚ BCP Workshops:**

Sydney: 11.9.08;

Melbourne: 17.9.08.

#### **✚ Endo Precaptors:**

Launceston: 3.7.08;

Brisbane: 16.7.08;

Adelaide: 12.8.08;

Sydney: 11.9.08;

Melbourne: 17.9.08.

✚ Please register ASAP, ie. at least 4/52 prior, as insufficient numbers may result in cancelled Workshops.

✚ For further details for 2008/register: [www.hicmr.com.au](http://www.hicmr.com.au) > Workshops >

Type of Workshops > State >

Register online OR

✚ Contact [workshops@hicmr.com.au](mailto:workshops@hicmr.com.au).



HICMR Pty Ltd, Level 1/71 Queens Rd, Melbourne 3004. Ph: 03 95203040 Fax: 03 95203041.

Email: [enquiries@hicmr.com.au](mailto:enquiries@hicmr.com.au) Website: [www.hicmr.com.au](http://www.hicmr.com.au)

