



Indiana
Department
of
Health

Infection Prevention Press

April 2024

APIC

Wanting to grow your infection prevention practice? Consider joining APIC!

The Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (APIC) membership connects you with the largest network of infection preventionists and education to help you create and manage effective infection prevention programs.

Long-term care resources - Long-term care facilities include nursing homes, skilled nursing facilities, and assisted living facilities. Patients in these settings are at increased risk for acquiring healthcare-associated infections. Infection prevention and control programs in long-term care facilities can help prevent the spread of infection to vulnerable residents. APIC has LTC-specific resources available.

Long-Term Care MyAPIC Community – A benefit of your membership that can connect you with more than 1,500 members in long-term care to get answers to your most pressing issues. You can post a question or engage in this community 24/7. Participation is restricted to current members of this section.

Cost vs. value - Expand your support network by connecting with more than 15,000 infection prevention colleagues and experts working across the continuum of care. Stay current through APIC's comprehensive clinical education and professional development programs for every stage of your career. Tap into free and discounted member resources, practical tips, and solutions.

Don't forget to join the Indiana chapter (#76) - APIC Indiana is committed to spreading knowledge in the infection prevention community. We have strategic partnerships, work with IPs at many levels, and are always looking for new ways to learn and grow. Membership includes access to scholarships, conferences, and regional meetings!

Helpful links

[APIC website](#)

[Membership brochure](#)

[Membership application](#)

[Indiana chapter \(APIC-IN\)](#)



APIC Indiana Spring Conference

APIC Indiana's Spring Conference is scheduled for April 18 and 19. It will be held at IKORCC in Greenwood. At the time of publication, facemasks are optional. Don't forget to bring cash, check, or credit/debit card to purchase tickets for our educational support fundraiser and earn a chance to win gifts. Please wear your facility ID badge while attending the conference. Please register if you wish to attend.



To register and find out more information [visit the event's website](#).

Thursday, April 18, 2024		
Time	Topic	Speaker
7:30am - 8:30am	Registration - Breakfast	
8:30am - 8:45am	President's Welcome	DJ Shannon, MPH, CIC, VA-BC, FAPIC
8:45am - 9:00am	Mentoring Award	Diana Greathouse / Shanna Smith
9:00am - 10:00am	The Advantages of Being an Inspired Leader	Carla J. Billups
10:00am - 10:15am	Break - Ticket Sales	
10:15am - 11:15am	Communicating Complex Data: Creating Understand Through Visualization	Marc-Oliver Wright, MT (ASCP), MS, CIC, FAPIC <i>Sponsored by PDI Healthcare, CE Available</i>
11:15am - 11:30am	Break - Ticket Sales	
11:30am - 12:15pm	All Members Meeting	
12:15pm - 1:15pm	Lunch - Ticket Sales	
1:15pm - 2:15pm	Disinfectants 101: Mastering the Minutia	Marc-Oliver Wright, MT (ASCP), MS, CIC, FAPIC <i>Sponsored by PDI Healthcare, CE Available</i>
2:15pm - 3:45pm	Break - Vendor Time - Poster Presentations - Ticket Sales <i>Vendors/Posters will be located in the IKORCC Training Center</i>	
3:45pm - 4:45pm	Where to Start: Navigating the Infection Preventionist Role	Kristin Canul, MSN, RN, CIC
	Adult Learning Strategies for the Infection Preventionist	Amanda Becker, BSN, RN

Friday, April 19, 2024		
Time	Topic	Speaker
7:30am - 8:00am	Breakfast - Ticket Sales - Kick Off	
8:00am - 8:05am	Acknowledge Committee Members	Lori Getts, 2024 Program Chair
8:05am - 9:05am	Incorporating Antimicrobial Stewardship in Infection Prevention Practices	Laura Gillespie, PharmD
9:05am - 9:15am	Break - Ticket Sales	
9:15am - 10:15am	Infection Prevention Survey Readiness in Sterile Processing	Jill E. Holdsworth, MS, CIC, FAPIC, NREMT, CRCST
10:15am - 12:15pm	Exhibit Hall: Vendor Visits and Posters in Training Center	
12:15pm - 1:00pm	Lunch - Last Chance Ticket Sales	
1:00pm - 2:00pm	The New Horrors of C. difficile	Rachma Aggarwal, MDDS, MPH <i>Sponsored by Cleanis, Inc., CE Available</i>
2:00pm - 2:05pm	Break	
2:05pm - 3:05pm	Overlooked Resources for Management of C. difficile	Rachma Aggarwal, MDDS, MPH <i>Sponsored by Cleanis, Inc., CE Available</i>
3:05pm - 3:30pm	Educational Support Raffle	
Conclusion of 2024 APIC Indiana Spring Conference - Safe travels home!		

Times and topics are subject to change. The website will be updated as information becomes available.

If you have suggestions about what you would like to see in future editions of the IPP newsletter, email Bethany Lavender at BLavender@health.in.gov.

Clean Equipment

Implementing Visual Identification of Clean vs. Dirty Shared Patient/Resident Equipment

By Deanna Paddack, Central Region Infection Preventionist

In healthcare settings, the transmission of pathogens via shared patient/resident equipment poses a significant risk to both patients and healthcare workers. Effective infection control measures are imperative to mitigate this risk and ensure safety. One innovative approach to enhancing infection control standards involves implementing visual identification systems for the disinfection process of shared patient/resident equipment. By clearly distinguishing between clean and dirty equipment, healthcare facilities can reduce the transmission of pathogens, thereby safeguarding the well-being of patients/residents and staff alike.

Importance of visual identification

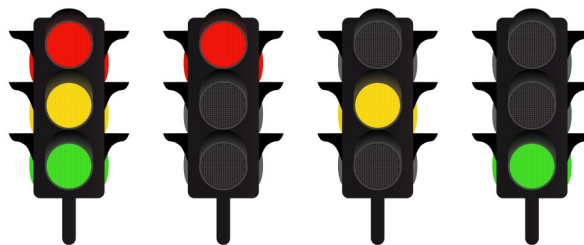
Visual identification plays a crucial role in reinforcing infection control practices within healthcare settings. By employing distinct visual cues, such as color-coded labels or indicators, healthcare workers can easily identify whether patient equipment has undergone proper disinfection. This visual reinforcement serves as a constant reminder of the importance of adherence to disinfection protocols, thereby promoting a culture of cleanliness and accountability among staff members.

Key components of visual identification systems

1. **Color-coded labels:** Assigning specific colors to indicate the cleanliness status of patient equipment can streamline the disinfection process. For example, green labels may signify that an item has been properly disinfected and is ready for use, while red labels indicate that the equipment requires cleaning.
2. **Visual Indicators:** Incorporating visual indicators, such as stickers or tags, onto patient equipment can provide instant feedback regarding its disinfection status. These indicators should be prominently displayed and easily recognizable by healthcare workers.
3. **Standardized symbols:** Utilizing standardized symbols or icons to denote clean or dirty equipment can facilitate quick comprehension across diverse healthcare settings. Clear and universally understood symbols help mitigate potential language barriers and ensure consistent adherence to infection control protocols.

Resources for implementation

1. **Educational materials:** Develop educational materials, such as posters and training modules, to educate healthcare staff on the significance of visual identification in infection control. These materials should highlight proper disinfection procedures and emphasize the role of visual cues in enhancing patient safety.
2. **Training programs:** Conduct training programs to familiarize healthcare workers with the visual identification system and its implementation within the facility. Training sessions should include hands-on demonstrations and opportunities for staff members to ask questions and provide feedback.
3. **Collaboration with manufacturers:** Collaborate with equipment manufacturers to integrate visual identification features into the design of new medical devices and supplies. By incorporating these features during the manufacturing process, healthcare facilities can ensure consistency and reliability in identifying clean and dirty equipment.



Continued on next page ...

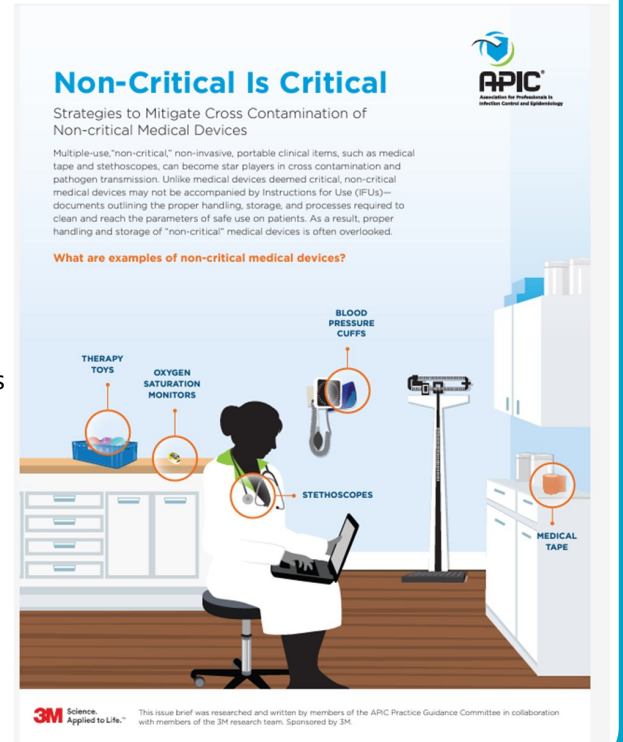
Clean vs. dirty shared patient/resident equipment

Quality assurance measures

Implement robust quality assurance measures to monitor compliance with visual identification protocols and evaluate the effectiveness of the system. Regular audits and inspections should be conducted to assess adherence to disinfection standards and identify areas for improvement.

Conclusion

Incorporating visual identification systems for the disinfection process of shared patient equipment represents a proactive approach to enhancing infection control standards in healthcare settings. By providing clear visual cues to indicate the cleanliness status of equipment, healthcare facilities can reduce the transmission of pathogens and safeguard the health of patients and staff. Through collaboration, education, and ongoing evaluation, healthcare organizations can effectively implement and sustain visual identification systems as part of comprehensive infection control strategies.



Injection Safety Website

The New IDOH Injection Safety webpage

By Deepshikha Singhal, Healthcare Associated Infections, Epidemiologist II

Injection safety and other basic infection control practices are central to patient safety.

Safe injection practices are a set of measures to perform injections in an optimally safe manner for patients, healthcare providers, and others to prevent transmission of infection from patient to provider, provider to patient and from patient to patient. Improper use of syringes, needles, and medication vials has resulted in transmission of bloodborne pathogens like hepatitis C, among others. As defined by the World Health Organization, a safe injection does not harm the recipient, does not expose the provider to any avoidable risks, and does not result in waste that is dangerous for the community. The Indiana Department of Health is working with external partners to disseminate evidence-based information for healthcare professionals and the public.

For more information check out the link for the updated [IDOH Injection Safety webpage](#).

Indiana Department of Health

Search IDEPD

Health Home > Infectious Disease Epidemiology & Prevention Division

A-Z List

Healthcare-Associated Infections and Antimicrobial Resistance Epidemiology

Influenza/Flu

NEDSS Base System (NBS) & Surveillance

Injection Safety

IP Team Map

Infection Prevention Team Regions

Trent Gulley, MPH - Healthcare Associated Infections Director

Tgulley@health.in.gov 317-431-5257

Total 739 LTC/AL Facilities

IP Program Manager

Janene Gumz-Pulaski, BSN,
RN, MBA, CIC, LTC-CIP
jgumzpulaski@health.in.gov
317-499-3877

Northern Region

Victor Zindoga, DPN, RN
VZindoga@health.in.gov
317-509-8964

Central Region

Deanna Paddack, BSN, RN
dpaddack@health.in.gov
317-464-7710

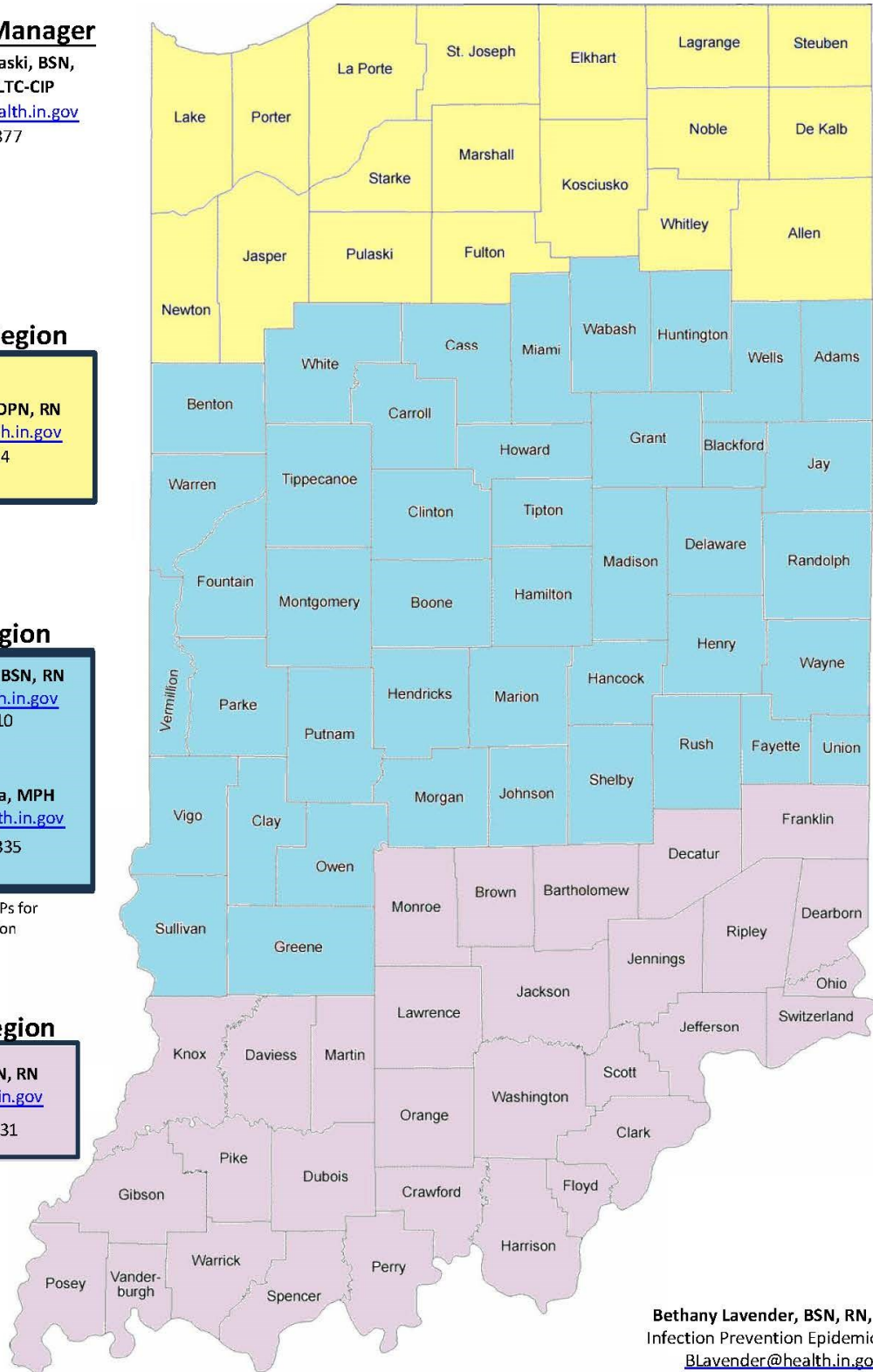
&

Angela Badibanga, MPH
Abadibanga@health.in.gov
317-695-3335

* Please email both IPs for questions in this region

Southern Region

Mary Enlow, BSN, RN
menlow@health.in.gov
317-727-8431



Bethany Lavender, BSN, RN, MPH
Infection Prevention Epidemiologist
BLavender@health.in.gov

Updated 1.24.2024

Links and References

If you are viewing this newsletter online, you can open the [links](#) throughout by clicking on them. If you are viewing in printed form the full URLs are below:

Wanting to grow your infection prevention practice?

1. APIC website: [APIC.org](https://apic.org)
2. Membership brochure: https://apic.org/Resource/TinyMceFileManager/Membership/2017/APIC_Member_Promo_Brochure_8pg_rev17-VA_online.pdf
3. Membership application: <https://apic.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/MembershipApp2021-2-F-3.1.21.pdf>
4. Indiana chapter (APIC-IN): <https://community.apic.org/indiana/home>

APIC Indiana Spring Conference

1. Registration and information website: <https://community.apic.org/indiana/events/our-events/spring-2024>

Implementing visual identification of clean vs. dirty shared equipment

1. Reference and image: <https://apic.org/noncritical-is-critical/>
2. Reference: <https://www.cdc.gov/hai/prevent/resource-limited/cleaning-procedures.html>

New IDOH Injection Safety webpage

1. IDOH Injection Safety Webpage: <https://www.in.gov/health/idepd/healthcare-associated-infections-and-antimicrobial-resistance-epidemiology/healthcare-associated-infections/injection-safety>

IP Map

1. Reference: <https://www.in.gov/health/idepd/healthcare-associated-infections-and-antimicrobial-resistance-epidemiology/infection-prevention/>



To **promote**, **protect**, and **improve** the health and safety of all Hoosiers

Indiana Department of Health

2 North Meridian Street • Indianapolis, Indiana 46204 • 317-233-1325 • health.in.gov

