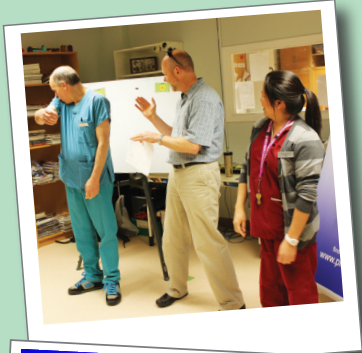


PICNet

PROVINCIAL INFECTION CONTROL
NETWORK OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

A program of the Provincial Health Services Authority



Infection Control Week 2015

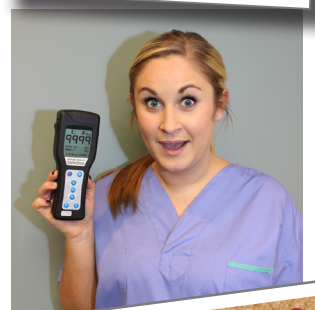


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About This Toolkit

The Provincial Infection Control Network of BC (PICNet) has created this toolkit to help you plan and promote your Infection Control Week activities. We have provided many ideas for fun and educational things you can do, and we've also provided estimates of preparation time and cost. Infection Control Week takes place **October 19-25, 2015**, and we suggest you start your planning early so that you are less time pressured during the actual week!

We're constantly posting new resources to the PICNet website (<https://www.picnet.ca/resources/>), so be sure to check it regularly for updates.

Note about web links

If you are using an outdated browser (such as IE 8 or older), it is possible that some of the hyperlinks in this document will not work for you. Try using a newer browser (such as Chrome); if you still have problems, contact us and we can help you navigate to the web page.

Planning Your Week

Setting your goals

We recommend that you review this list of goals for IC Week and prioritize them with your team, and then choose activities based on your top priorities and your available resources.

1. Increase awareness of types of infections and types of transmission
2. Review routine practices
3. Review additional precautions
4. Promote hand hygiene
5. Promote flu vaccination
6. Have staff check that all their vaccinations are up-to-date
7. Provide updates on new infection control issues/practices
8. Review environmental cleaning practices
9. Review reprocessing practices
10. Promote (additional) infection control education
11. Infection control myth-busting
12. Answer questions from staff
13. Find out what issues/difficulties staff are dealing with
14. Create enthusiasm for infection control
15. Make staff aware of who their ICP is, or whom they should go to (throughout the year) with questions about infection control
16. Celebrate your staff's achievements in infection control

High-Level Timeline

The following timeline will help with your planning and scheduling. You can add to this, of course!

Task	People involved	Deadline
Assemble your team		
Identify/set a budget		
Meet to review activity ideas and decide which you want to do		
Identify resources needed (people, materials, prizes, AV equipment)		
Identify potential locations to run the activities		
Select activities, dates, people involved		
Identify possible issues/problems based on other events your facility has run (and check for date conflicts with other things happening in your facility)		
Create detailed task list with deadlines		
Book locations and resources (Rooms, tables, poster stands, AV equipment)		
Notify other departments that may be affected (security, housekeeping, etc.)		
Buy resources (craft materials, prizes)		
Discuss promotional activities with your Communications department		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Identify promotional tools: posters, intranet articles, blog/Facebook posts, tweets 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Create schedule of promotions/announcements 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Create promotional materials 		
Set up for IC Week		
Run your event		
Clean-up		
Debrief and send thank-yous		
Post photos, newsletter items, etc. highlighting achievements		

Activities

Following are ideas for Infection Control Week activities. You can adapt these ideas to suit your own needs, educational goals, and resources.

The blue boxes at the beginning of each activity give a preparation time/work estimate (1/5 = little preparation required; 5/5= a lot of preparation required) as well as cost and resource estimates.

Let's Go Viral!

Preparation: ●●●○○	Cost: \$50 for kit (or printing costs if you choose to download and print instead); and prizes	Resources: PPE Meeting room to host the game
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PICNet has an infection control training workshop in-a-box available for purchase or download. The workshop runs in a game-show style, with a presenter and assistant, and two teams playing for points. Each question is based around an infection control teaching moment. You can download the instruction booklet to read through the questions and see what it's all about. The game is "scalable", meaning it starts with easy questions and then gets harder, so you can tailor it to suit the knowledge level of your staff. There is even an instructional video on how to run the game! There are links to all the following at <https://picnet.ca/letsgoviral>.

- View the game contents
- Download the instruction booklet and game cards
- Purchase the kit (rather than downloading and printing the pieces yourself)
- Download promotional posters
- Watch a demo video clip (a short one, to give you a quick overview)
- Watch the full demonstration videos
- View photos of the game in action

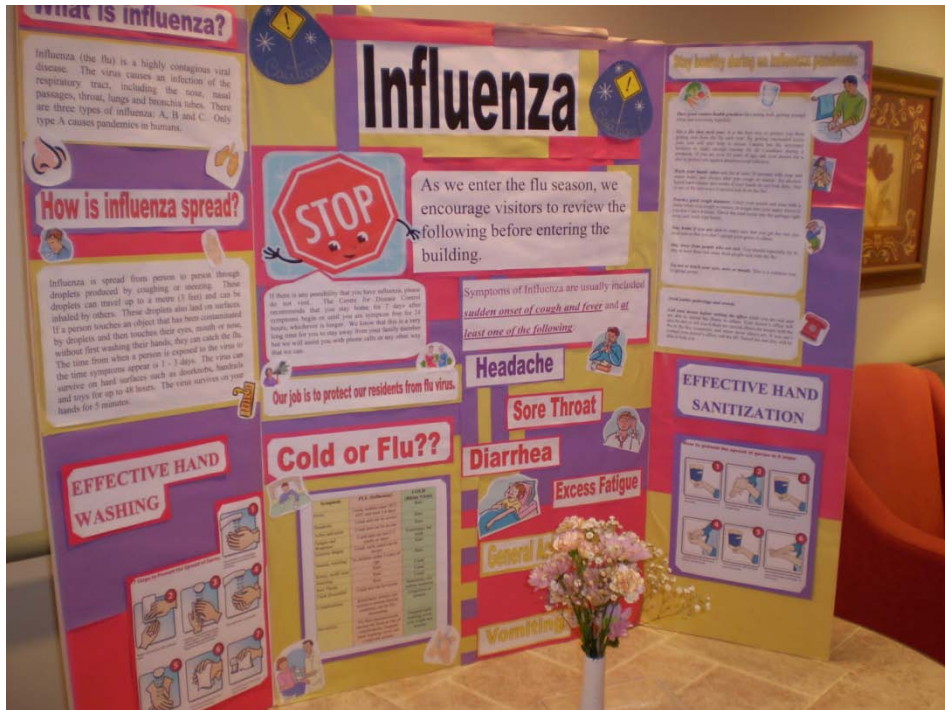


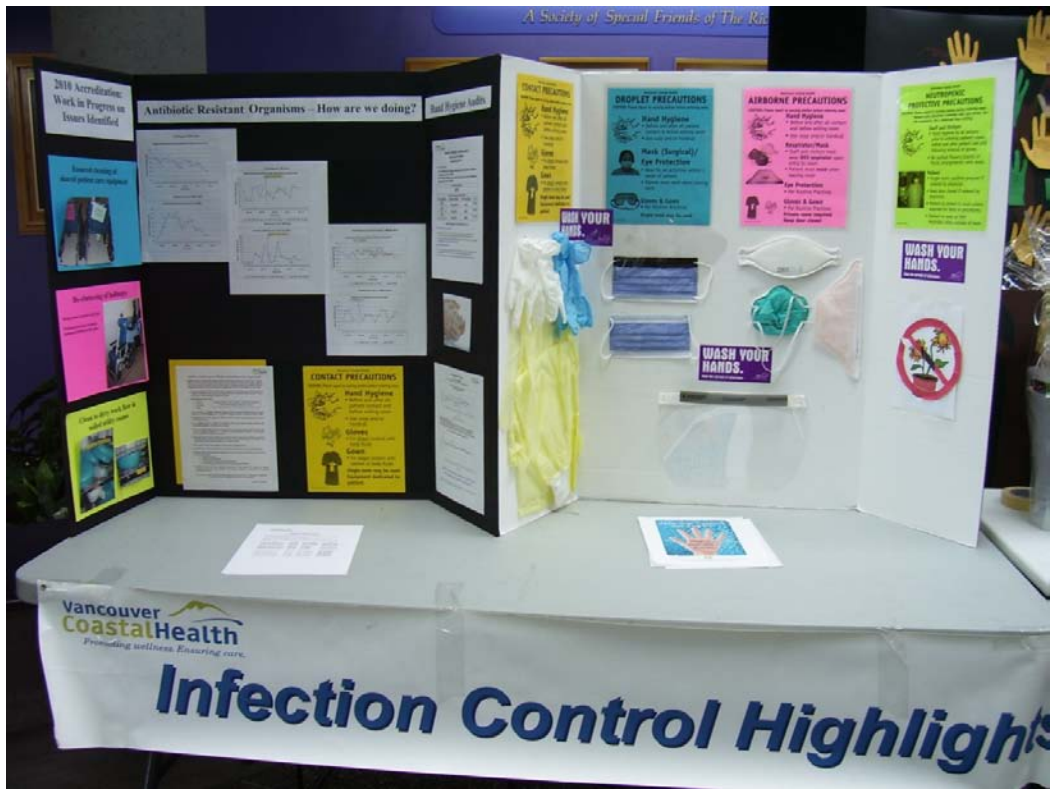
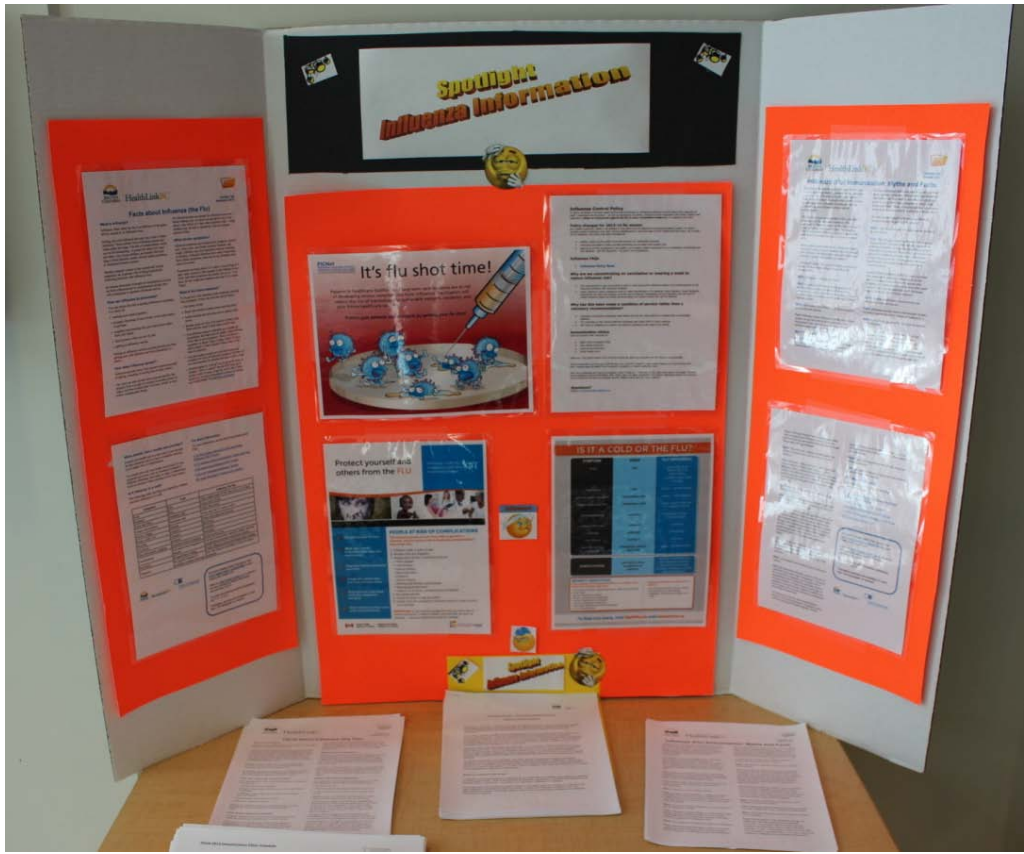


Posters and Displays

Preparation: ●●●○○○	Cost: Printing and/or craft materials	Resources: Poster/display materials
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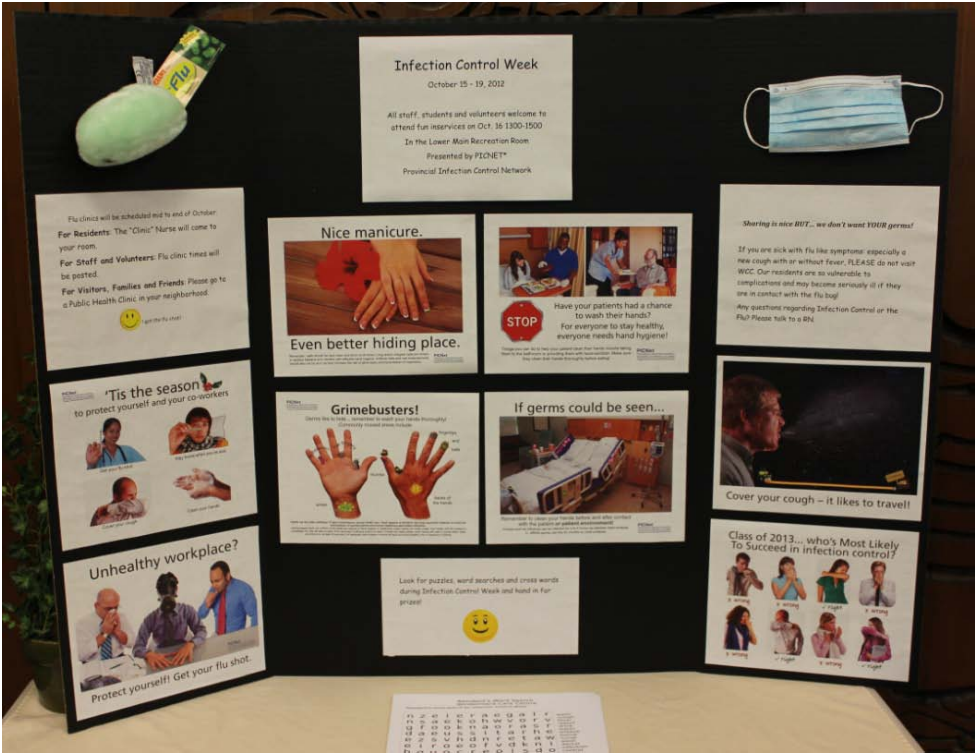
Here are some great ideas for posters and displays:







Pressed for time? You can [download posters from the PICNet website](#) and use these in your display.

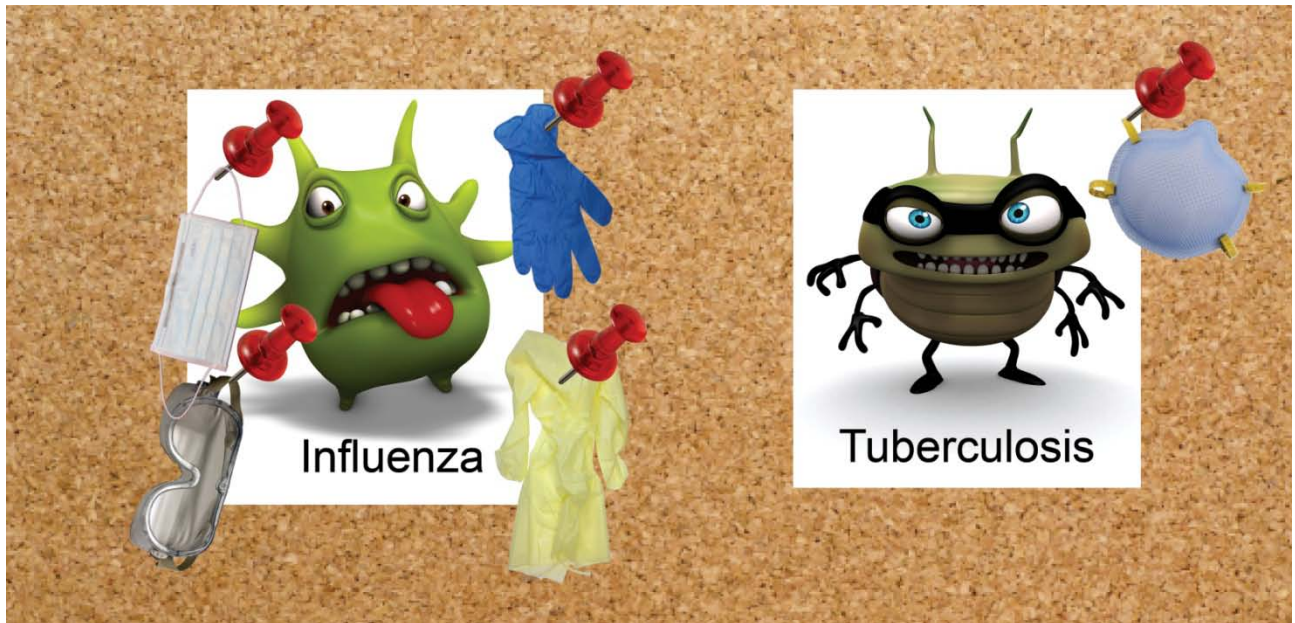


Pin the PPE on the Infection

Preparation: ●●○○○	Cost: Craft materials	Resources: Posters, pins or Velcro, laminator (if you have one)
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People really like interactive displays, so this is a poster display with a difference. There is a main background poster, and then PPE pieces get attached by your staff using pins, tacks, or Velcro. People can do this as they walk by, and then you can “reset” the poster throughout the day. This will also show you where your staff has training needs! At the end of the week you can give a presentation on what **should** go where.

You can use real PPE items or drawings of the items. You could also adapt this to be “Pin the type of transmission on the infection” or “Pin the PPE on the type of transmission” – whichever best suits your staff’s training needs.



Poster or photo contest

Preparation: ●●○○○	Cost: Minimal: craft materials and a prize	Resources: Poster materials (if you are supplying these) Camera (if you are supplying this) Printing
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If you and your team are too busy to create posters or displays... ask your staff to participate by having them enter a poster or photo contest! You provide the poster materials (cardstock, markers, glue, other crafting materials) and let them create their own infection control messaging. The better the prize, the better the incentive for a great poster!

A photo contest works well, too... most people have smartphones, so they can use these to take photos of infection control scenarios, practices, or messages. If they don't have smartphones or these are not permitted in your facility, you can assign a camera to someone on your team and have them take photos as and when the staff request.

Then print out the photos, put up on a poster board, and you have your display! Plus, you've got everyone thinking about infection control.

You can get some great photo contest ideas by viewing the entries for the 2014 Clean Shots photo contest at <https://picnet.ca/cleanshots/finalists/>.



De-Cluttering Campaign

Preparation: ●○○○○○	Cost: None/minimal	Resources: Prizes Camera (if you want to take before/after photos)
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Choose a ward or area where clutter is a problem, and send your staff on a de-cluttering mission. This can be done in several ways:

Do the de-cluttering with them, showing them what the problems are in the area, and how to remedy them.

or

Divide your staff into two teams and send them to two separate areas that need de-cluttered; then award points or prizes to the team that does the best job.

or

Take before and after photos of a de-cluttering job that you have done, and have a “spot the differences” contest with the photos.

or

Have a contest to find the most out-of-place object during the de-cluttering.

Areas that may need de-cluttered:

- Service rooms
- Hallways
- Patient rooms (remove items like old newspapers, dead flowers, leftover food items; always with the patients approval)
- Staff rooms
- Unit meeting rooms
- Nutrition areas

You can view a **slide presentation** on VGH’s highly successful de-cluttering campaign at <http://s.picnet.ca/vghdeclutter>.



Bug Hide-and-Seek

Preparation: ●●○○○	Cost: \$5 to \$10	Resources: Plastic bugs Poster putty / sticky tack
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This can be an addition to the de-cluttering campaign, or an activity you can run on its own.

Hide plastic bugs in any area that you want to draw attention to cleaning or de-cluttering, and have the staff go find as many as they can. The person or team who finds the most, wins a prize!

Make sure you write down the location of all the bugs so that you can ensure they're all removed after the game!

If you want to do this exercise in a patient area, you can use something less potentially frightening than bugs, such as small stuffed animals or microbe keychains.



Infection Control Videos

Preparation: ●○○○○	Cost: None	Resources: Computer with internet and large monitor <i>or</i> TV and DVD player
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Do you need an eye-catching infection control display but don't have time to put one together? PICNet has created a playlist of great infection control / hand hygiene videos that you can play on a loop. These will also give your staff ideas for creating their own songs, flash mobs, or videos!

You can access our YouTube playlist at <http://s.picnet.ca/youtubevids>. If you're in a facility where internet connection is patchy, you may wish to burn the videos onto a DVD and play them from a DVD player rather than directly from YouTube. (Just don't copy and distribute the DVD, as this is not allowed under copyright laws.)



Flash Mob

Preparation: ●●●●●	Cost: None/minimal	Resources: Rehearsal space, props, costumes Enthusiastic people!
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This one takes a lot of preparation... but you can issue the challenge to your staff instead of (or as well as) doing a flash mob yourself!

What to do: give your team or staff a theme (it can be infection control in general, or something more focused like PPE or hand hygiene) and ask them to create a routine to any song they like. They can either perform it true flash mob style in your facility, where the audience doesn't know it's going to happen, OR each group can perform for the other teams.

If you want to make it easier, pick one song and re-work the lyrics yourself to make it infection control themed (you can "borrow" ideas from PICNet's 2012 song contest!), then divide your staff into teams and assign each team just a portion of the song. Then, when it comes time to perform it (a cafeteria is usually a good place), each team jumps up and performs their portion of the song.

And don't forget to video it so that you can share it!

You can watch some great examples of flash mobs on PICNet's YouTube channel:
<http://s.picnet.ca/flashmobs>.



St. Joseph's Hospital in Comox

Skits

Preparation: ●●●○○	Cost: None/minimal	Resources: Rehearsal space, props, costumes
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Either: your IC Week team creates a skit *or* ask your staff to create short skits based on infection control situations/practices.

Put up a poster with some ideas to get them thinking... the ideas can be themes, names, or even short plots. Here are some to get you started:

- The MRSA Team (think: the A-Team)
- Law and Order: Additional Precautions Unit
- Germ CSI
- America's Next Top Microbe
- 28 Days Later (if the world stops hand hygiene)
- Germs like to travel
- Do people really cover their coughs?
- If germs could be seen

You can get some great inspiration for skits that are short, simple, fun, and effective from Northern Health's 'Fight the Virus' video at <http://s.picnet.ca/NHFightVirus>.



Northern Health's "Fight the Virus!" video

Hand Cleaning Contest

Preparation: ●○○○○	Cost: None, if you already have Glo Gel and a UV Light To purchase both: about \$50 for small kit; \$100 for larger Prize	Resources: Glo Gel or Glo Germ UV light
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Method 1: Hand sanitizing (the quick method)

1. Assemble the team of staff that you are training, and have them “sanitize” their hands using any type of UV-responsive lotion or gel. You can time this for 15 seconds if you like.
2. Then, examine everyone’s hands under the blacklight, and point out any areas that were missed (usually: fingertips, thumbs, and wrists).
3. Award the prize to the person who did the best job of cleaning their hands!



Method 2: Germ transmission and hand washing (the longer lesson – but the better one!)

1. Using a UV-responsive powder, dust some high-touch areas of the room with the powder. We suggest door handles, backs of chairs, pens, the milk or sugar container by the staff coffee machine, etc.
2. Make everyone sanitize their hands on the way into the room. Then have them do some kind of random activity (ideally, one using your powdered pens!).
3. Have them check their hands under UV light – in only a couple of minutes, without touching anything we usually think of as “dirty”, look at what they have picked up!
4. Next, have them wash their hands with soap and water.
5. Do a second UV light inspection to see how well they washed their hands.
6. Award prizes to the best hand washers!

J-parody games

Preparation: ●○○○○
Cost: None

Resources:
Computer with PowerPoint
Projector and screen (depending on room)

PICNet has several PowerPoint-based Infection Control J-parody games that you can download and play with your staff.

You can download the game files from <http://s.picnet.ca/games>.

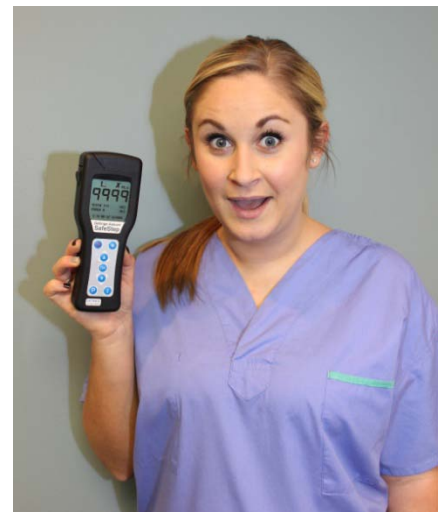
Don't Eat Poop	Clean Me Up Scotty	Those Nasty Critters	Stop The Spread	CD Champions
100 pt	100 pt	100 pt	100 pt	100 pt
200 pt	200 pt	200 pt	200 pt	200 pt
300 pt	300 pt	300 pt	300 pt	300 pt
400 pt	400 pt	400 pt	400 pt	400 pt
500 pt	500 pt	500 pt	500 pt	500 pt

Germ CSI

Preparation: ●○○○○○	Cost: ●●●●○	Resources: Swabs and testers
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This activity requires almost no preparation, but does require an investment in an Adenosine Triphosphate (ATP) bioluminescence device, which detects the presence of ATP, which is an indicator of residual contamination. If your facility is able to purchase one (or more) of these readers, they are great training devices... read on!

1. Remind your staff of how germs are transmitted... most often, via hands and high-touch surfaces such as door handles, elevator buttons, etc.
2. Give each member of staff one of the swabs that is designed to be tested with your device. Show them how to use the swab (take the cover off; swab a surface without touching the swab stem or tip with your finger; replace the cover). If you have a limited number of swabs, divide your staff into 2 or 3 teams and give each team a swab.
3. Ask each team to go find what they think would be the germiest area in your facility (or ward, or floor)... and swab it. The team (or staff member) that has the highest germ reading wins!
They are only allowed to swab ONE surface (so no swabbing an elevator button AND a door handle).
4. When they bring back the swabs, test to see which has the highest ATP reading.
5. The lessons:
 - Any object that is frequently touched will likely be covered in germs.
 - If an elevator button has a high germ reading, this is not housekeeping's fault; they cannot keep up with the number of people touching the buttons with gummy hands! The answer (besides regular cleaning) is **hand hygiene!**



There are many brands of these devices available; these are just a few. Please note, PICNet does not officially endorse any of these products.



Guess the number of bugs

Preparation: ●●○○○	Cost: Jar and candy – about \$15	Resources: Jar, gummy worms, plastic bugs Chits and box
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Fill a jar with candy and/or plastic bugs... and have people guess the number.

Costco sells big jars of gummy worms (and you may have to explain to your entrants that the worms do count as bugs!). You can also find gummy tarantulas in some stores, and most of the Loonie Stores and Halloween stores will have plastic bugs of some sort.



Costumes

Preparation: ●●●○○	Cost: Varies	Resources: Costume pieces
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Costumes get everyone's attention! Whether you're presenting a workshop or trying to attract people to a display... costumes will make people stop and look. It's lucky for us that Infection Control Week is so close to Halloween, because there are lots of great costumes and accessories—and not just in costume stores! Home-made outfits cost even less; if you're trying to create a costume on a minimal budget and don't have time to hunt through thrift stores, post on Facebook letting your friends know what kind of clothes/items you're looking for... you'll be amazed how much great stuff you can borrow for free.





If you want to create a home-made version of the bug costumes above, pool noodles or pipe insulation make great bug legs!

Word Games

Preparation: ●○○○○	Cost: None	Resources: Computer and printer
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You can download infection control crosswords, word scrambles, and scrabble from <http://s.picnet.ca/games>.

I ₁	N ₁	F ₄	E ₁	C ₃	T ₁	I ₁	O ₁	N ₁	P ₃	R ₁	E ₁	V ₄	E ₁	N ₁
T ₁	I ₁	O ₁	N ₁	A ₁	N ₁	D ₂	C ₃	O ₁	N ₁	T ₁	R ₁	O ₁	L ₁	

Set Up: Print these two pages. Above are your Scrabble letters. Using a pen or pencil, write your scrabble words on the game board. You can re-use any the above letters as many times as you like. If you want a challenge, add a rule that all the words must be medical or health related!

Triple Word Score			Double Letter Score				Triple Word Score				Double Letter Score			Triple Word Score
	Double Word Score				Triple Letter Score			Triple Letter Score					Double Word Score	
		Double Word Score				Double Letter Score		Double Letter Score					Double Word Score	
Double Letter Score			Double Word Score				Double Letter Score				Double Word Score			Double Letter Score
				Double Word Score							Double Word Score			
	Triple Letter Score				Triple Letter Score			Triple Letter Score					Triple Letter Score	
		Double Letter Score				Double Letter Score		Double Letter Score				Double Letter Score		
Triple Word Score			Double Letter Score				★				Double Letter Score			Triple Word Score
		Double Letter Score				Double Letter Score		Double Letter Score				Double Letter Score		
	Triple Letter Score				Triple Letter Score			Triple Letter Score					Triple Letter Score	
				Double Word Score							Double Word Score			
Double Letter Score			Double Word Score				Double Letter Score				Double Word Score			Double Letter Score
		Double Word Score				Double Letter Score		Double Letter Score				Double Word Score		
	Double Word Score				Triple Letter Score			Triple Letter Score					Double Word Score	
Triple Word Score			Double Letter Score				Triple Word Score				Double Letter Score			Triple Word Score

Germ Bowling

Preparation: ●●●●○	Cost: \$10-\$40	Resources: Rubber or plastic balls Bowling pins Craft materials Table or other surface for “bowling alley”
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How to create the game:

1. Dress up your bowling pins as germs
2. Label different size/weight balls with different infection control practices where the most important practices are the heaviest/largest balls (and therefore can knock over more pins).
3. Set up your bowling lane, and any staff walking by can play the game!

Some infection control practices you can use:

- hand hygiene
- vaccination
- environmental cleaning
- correct use of PPE



Thanks to Ericka-Jade Mulherin, Hand Hygiene Auditor with PHSA Infection Prevention & Control Service, for creating this game!

Quick-Reference Cards

Preparation: ●○○○○	Cost: 80 cents per card, plus postage	Resources: None – we will mail the cards to you
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PICNet has infection control quick-reference lanyard cards for sale. (These aren't an activity by themselves... but they are useful when reviewing risk assessment, routine practices, and additional precautions. Also, these make great prizes!) There are two different versions of the cards:

Card A - Risk Assessment and Routine Practices

<p>Risk Assessment</p> <p>What is the infectious risk to you, other staff, patients, and residents from a patient, situation, or procedure?</p> <p>Note the person's symptoms (e.g. cough, vomiting, fever, rash)</p> <p>What activity/procedure are you about to do with the patient?</p> <p>Are they in the correct physical space, given their symptoms?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What are the infectious risks to you and other patients/residents, staff, visitors? 2. What personal protective equipment should you be wearing? 3. What should you tell the patient? (e.g. cover their cough, wash their hands) 4. Is the patient/resident in the right place for this, or should they be moved to a private room or isolation room? 	<p>Routine Practices</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td style="background-color: #fff2cc;">Other</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Private toilet/commode Patient hand hygiene Patient hand hygiene Keep separate from others 2m separation from others Private room (if possible) Teach cough etiquette Private room Negative pressure room if possible </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="background-color: #fff2cc;">PPE</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gloves and gown (Consider mask) Gloves Gown if close contact Surgical mask Gloves N95 respirator Gloves Gown </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="background-color: #fff2cc;">Symptom(s)</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nausea/vomiting/diarrhea Itchy rash Open wound or skin patches Coughing with or without fever Fever with rash </td> </tr> </table>	Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Private toilet/commode Patient hand hygiene Patient hand hygiene Keep separate from others 2m separation from others Private room (if possible) Teach cough etiquette Private room Negative pressure room if possible 	PPE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gloves and gown (Consider mask) Gloves Gown if close contact Surgical mask Gloves N95 respirator Gloves Gown 	Symptom(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nausea/vomiting/diarrhea Itchy rash Open wound or skin patches Coughing with or without fever Fever with rash
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Private toilet/commode Patient hand hygiene Patient hand hygiene Keep separate from others 2m separation from others Private room (if possible) Teach cough etiquette Private room Negative pressure room if possible 						
PPE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gloves and gown (Consider mask) Gloves Gown if close contact Surgical mask Gloves N95 respirator Gloves Gown 						
Symptom(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nausea/vomiting/diarrhea Itchy rash Open wound or skin patches Coughing with or without fever Fever with rash 						

Card B - Routine Practices and Additional Precautions

Symptom(s)	PPE	Other	Routine Practices	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nausea/vomiting/diarrhea 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gloves and gown (Consider mask) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Private toilet/commode Patient hand hygiene 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Itchy rash Open wound or skin patches 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gloves Gown if close contact 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Patient hand hygiene Keep separate from others 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coughing with or without fever Fever with rash 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Surgical mask Gloves N95 respirator Gloves Gown 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2m separation from others Private room (if possible) Teach cough etiquette Private room Negative pressure room if possible 		
Provincial Infection Control network of BC www.picnet.ca				
Precautions	Contact	Droplet	Airborne	Additional Precautions
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> gloves gown 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> gloves gown surgical mask eye protection 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N95 respirator 	
Common Infections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gastro infections C. difficile MRSA Scabies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Influenza Common cold Whooping cough Bacterial meningitis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tuberculosis Measles Chicken pox Rubella 	
Examples of symptoms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diarrhea or vomiting Open wounds Patches of open skin 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coughing Sneezing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chronic cough Fever with unidentified rash 	

The cards can be ordered from the [PICNet website](http://www.picnet.ca).

Webber Teleclasses

Preparation: ●○○○○	Cost: None	Resources: Computer with PowerPoint and speakers (and for the live classes, you need to phone in)
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Webber Teleclass Education is an international lecture series on infection prevention and control topics. The objective is to bring the best possible infection prevention and control information, to the widest possible audience, with the fewest barriers to access.

The Webber Training service is purchased by PICNet and made available to the infection prevention & control community of practice in British Columbia who have registered for this professional development and educational service.



If you're in BC and not already signed up to receive notifications of upcoming Webber teleclasses, you can do so at www.picnet.ca/join (people outside of BC will have to ask their organization about subscribing to this service).

PICNet also has [archived recordings](#) available on the PICNet website, so you can listen to past classes.



Online Education Modules

Preparation: ●○○○○	Cost: None	Resources: Computer with internet access
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PICNet and its partner organizations have created several online education modules that you and your staff can take for free. They are accessible via the [PHSA Learning Hub](#). If you don't already have a LearningHub account, it's easy to [create one](#) (and you don't have to work for PHSA in order to use the LearningHub). The infection prevention and control modules are:

[Infection Control Basics](#)

Subject: the practice of basic infection prevention and control for the healthcare system. For: all healthcare professionals. (Duration: 25-45 minutes)



[Hand Hygiene Module](#)

Online training module covering hand hygiene basics. This can be used by any level of staff, including housekeeping, kitchen, and security. (Duration: 15-20 minutes)

[Protect Patti: Practicing Personal Protection](#)

Subject: key principles of occupational health and infection prevention and control, to help healthcare workers practice selecting personal protective equipment (PPE) in healthcare settings. For: all healthcare providers. (Duration: 25-30 minutes)

[Prevention of Surgical Site Infections \(SSI\)](#)

Subject: practices that prevent the development of a surgical site infection. For: any healthcare provider who is employed in any type of peri-operative service, including home care. (Duration: 45-60 minutes)

[Workplace Audit Training for Infection Control Practitioners](#)

Subject: how to identify infection control and occupational health deficiencies, and resolve them. For: all healthcare workers in acute care sites (although those who work in other areas would also benefit). Duration: 40 minutes

[Central Venous Catheter \(CVC\) Care & Maintenance](#)

Subject: management and prevention precautions as part of daily practice for CVCs. For: nursing staff and appropriate for all health care professionals who work with CVCs. (Duration: 25-45 minutes)

[Central Venous Catheter \(CVC\) Insertion](#)

Subject: theory and practice involved in preventing Central Line-Related Bloodstream Infection (CR-BSI) when inserting CVCs. For: all health care professionals who work with CVCs. (Duration: 25-45 minutes)

You can access the PHSA LearningHub at <https://learninghub.phsa.ca/>.

Video Message

This message can come from your CEO, Director of Care, or head of infection control

Preparation: ●●○○○	Cost: None	Resources: Script Video camera (or any camera that has video capability) Computer to play back the video
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Ask your speaker to give a short speech about Infection Control Week and the importance of infection control in your facility.

Then, post the video on your facility's intranet, or burn it to DVD and play this as an introduction to any staff workshops. (And if this person is available to give the message in person, even better!)



Sample script:

“The third week in October is designated as National Infection Control Week. It is an opportunity for infection prevention control professionals from across Canada to teach healthcare workers and members of the community about the importance of infection prevention, and to promote it in a visible and fun way. In 1989 the Canadian government proclaimed National Infection Control Week as an annual event.

This year's theme developed by Infection Prevention and Control-Canada is “**Infection Prevention - Staying Ahead of the Game**”.

Imagine a healthcare setting where everyone **cleans their hands before and after providing patient care** – no exceptions – or a community where everyone **coughs or sneezes into their elbow** rather than into their hand (which only spreads germs further).



The majority of infections could be prevented if everyone adopted these two simple practices.

National Infection Control Week is a great opportunity to remind your staff and colleagues of the importance of infection prevention and control, engage them in some fun activities that review best practices, and build a culture of infection prevention that can be sustained year round.

Together, we can reduce infections!”

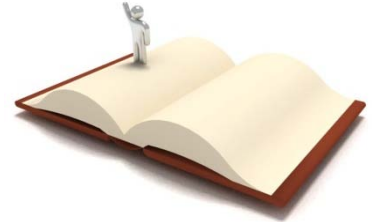
Communications Toolkit

Following are communications tools you can use to promote Infection Control Week. You can modify any of the following messages to best suit your organization.

Backgrounder

About Infection Control Week

Infection Control Week is an international event that takes place every year in October; this year it is **October 19-25, 2015**. The purpose is to raise awareness and educate people about healthcare-associated infections, and how to prevent them.



About PICNet

The Provincial Infection Control Network of British Columbia (PICNet) is a provincial program of the Provincial Health Services Authority (PHSA) that works to improve the prevention and control of healthcare-associated infections. PICNet's key areas are surveillance, guidelines, and education.

Infection Control Facts and Statistics

Every year, an estimated 8,000 Canadians die of healthcare-associated infections; many of these infections could be prevented through good infection control practices.

Hand Hygiene Facts and Statistics

Since 2011, the Provincial Hand Hygiene Working Group has been working with the BC Health Authorities to improve hand cleaning compliance. The provincial compliance rate is currently 82%. Congratulations on reaching the provincial target of 80%. Well done!

About your organization

- Statement about your commitment to infection control
- Announcement of your infection control week activities

Key Messages

- Infection Control Week is a national event that highlights the importance of infection control.
- Infection control is everyone's responsibility: staff, volunteers, visitors, patients, and residents... but staff must lead the way!
- Infection Control week is a great time to remind everyone about hand cleaning, flu shots, and other ways to protect themselves and their patients.
- PICNet has lots of resources to help plan your activities and train your staff.



Newsletter Article

National Infection Control Week takes place October 19-25, 2015. The purpose of this week is to highlight the importance of infection prevention and control – particularly with flu season approaching!

Infection Control Week was launched by Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC)-Canada in 1989, and the week is now celebrated in several countries around the world.



There are many ways you can remind your staff, colleagues, students, and volunteers about infection control best practices: poster displays, workshops, online education modules, blog posts, and fun activities aimed at stirring up some creativity and enthusiasm!

At your organization, we will be your activities. You can find out more details about this on website, posters, staff room, etc..

This is a great time to brush up on hand hygiene, routine practices, additional precautions – and to make sure all your immunizations are up to date! We will have a flu shot clinic on date.

Looking for some more things to do during Infection Control Week? You can get some great ideas from PICNet's Infection Control Week Planning and Communications Toolkit; and there are also downloadable posters and games on the PICNet website.

Blog/Facebook Posts

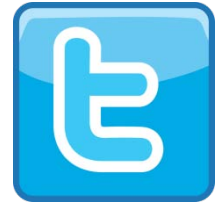
- Infection Control Week is October 19-25, 2015, and there are lots of tools to help you plan your activities! <https://picnet.ca/icweek>
- What are you doing for Infection Control Week? PICNet has lots of ideas and resources available at <https://picnet.ca/icweek>.
- PICNet has a booklet to help you plan your Infection Control Week activities: <https://picnet.ca/icweek>
- If you're looking for a fun and easy way to train your staff in infection control, check out PICNet's "Let's Go Viral!" game kit! www.picnet.ca/letsgoviral.
- Are you and your staff trained in infection control? Infection Control Week (Oct 20-26) is a great time to give your staff a refresher, and PICNet has online education modules: <http://s.picnet.ca/edmodules>
- PICNet's guidelines and resources are used around the world; check them out for Infection Control Week! <http://s.picnet.ca/icresources>
- Infection Control Week is a great time to check that all your vaccinations are up-to-date. You can find the list of immunizations for healthcare workers here: <http://s.picnet.ca/immunization>
- Need some hand cleaning and infection control reminders in your workplace? PICNet has free, downloadable posters at <http://s.picnet.ca/posters>
- PICNet has downloadable brochures and info sheets on hand cleaning and how to stay healthy at work: <http://s.picnet.ca/brochures>



- Infection Control Week is a great time to remind your staff about the importance of hand cleaning! <https://www.picnet.ca/guidelines/hand-hygiene/>

Tweets

- What are you doing for Infection Control Week? Here are some great ideas: <https://picnet.ca/icweek>.
- Let's Go Viral! is a fun game to educate your staff in infection control: www.picnet.ca/letsgoviral
- Infection Control Week is Oct 19-25, 2015. Looking for ideas? PICNet has lots: <https://picnet.ca/icweek>
- Are your staff trained in infection control? Here are some fun ways to make sure they are: <https://picnet.ca/icweek>
- Flu season is almost upon us - time for a refresher in infection control! PICNet has lots of resources: <https://picnet.ca/icweek>
- PICNet offers free online training modules in infection control: <http://s.picnet.ca/edmodules>
- Infection Control Week is a great time to check that all your vaccinations are up-to-date: <http://s.picnet.ca/immunize>
- PICNet has free, downloadable Infection Control posters at <http://s.picnet.ca/posters>
- Want to avoid colds and flus? Download a How To Stay Healthy At Work brochure: <http://s.picnet.ca/brochures>
- Infection Control Week is a great time to remind your staff about the importance of hand cleaning!
- Watch some fun infection control videos at <http://s.picnet.ca/youtubevids>
- Have you ever seen an infection control flash mob? Check them out at <http://s.picnet.ca/flashmobs>
- It's easier than you think to create infection control messages that are short, powerful – and funny! Watch this one from Northern Health: <http://s.picnet.ca/NHfightvirus>
- Need posters for Infection Control Week? PICNet has downloadable ones: <http://s.picnet.ca/posters>



More Web Resources

[IPAC-Canada](#) has lots of great planning resources for Infection Control Week.

[Public Health Ontario](#) has produced a great book of ideas for IC Week activities.

[Canadian Patient Safety Week](#) follows hot on the heels of Infection Control Week... and this year's theme is infection control! See what other organizations across the country are doing... and roll your efforts into one!

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PICNet

PROVINCIAL INFECTION CONTROL
NETWORK OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

A program of the Provincial Health Services Authority



**Provincial Health
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Province-wide solutions.
Better health.