

# GREY BRUCE PUBLIC HEALTH IPAC

Official Newsletter of the Grey Bruce Public Health IPAC



**Grey Bruce  
Public Health**

The World Health Organization has recommended the following vaccine strains be included in the northern hemisphere's 2023-2024 influenza vaccine:

- A/Victoria/4897/2022 (H1N1) pdm09-like strain
- A/Darwin/9/2021 (H3N2)-like strain
- B/Austria/1359417/2021-like strain
- B/Phuket/3073/2013-like strain

The 2023-2024 Publicly funded influenza vaccine products will include:

#### Quadrivalent

- Flulaval Tetra
- Fluzone Quadrivalent

#### High-dose Quadrivalent (65+ years)

- Fluzone - High Dose Quadrivalent

#### High-dose Trivalent (65+ years)

- Fluad

## This issue:

- Influenza / COVID-19 Vaccines

PAGE 01

- CIC Preparation

PAGE 02

- Reprocessing

PAGE 03

- IPAC Programs

PAGE 04

- Auditing / Evaluation

PAGE 04

- New, Updated Documents
- Upcoming Events

PAGE 05



Beginning in the fall of 2023 for those previously vaccinated against COVID-19, NACI recommends a dose of the new formulation of COVID-19 vaccine for individuals in the authorized age group if it has been at least 6 months from the previous COVID-19 vaccine dose or known SARS-CoV-2 infection (whichever is later).

Immunization is particularly important for those at increased risk of COVID-19 infection or severe disease, for example:

- Adults 65 years of age or older
- Residents of long-term care homes and other congregate living settings
- Individuals with underlying medical conditions that place them at higher risk of severe COVID-19
- Individuals who are pregnant
- Individuals in or from First Nations, Métis and Inuit communities\*
- Members of racialized and other equity-deserving communities
- People who provide essential community services



Grey Bruce  
Public Health



Website:  
[www.greybruceipachub.ca](http://www.greybruceipachub.ca)



Contact:  
519-376-9420



Email:  
[ipachub@publichealthgreybruce.on.ca](mailto:ipachub@publichealthgreybruce.on.ca)

# CIC CERTIFICATION PREPARATION

Some Things You MUST know



## CIC OUTLINE

- Identification of Infectious Disease processes
- Surveillance and Epidemiologic Investigation
- Preventing / Controlling Transmission of Infectious Agents
- Employee / Occupational Health
- Management and Communication
- Education and Research
- Environment of Care
- Cleaning, Disinfection, Sterilization of Medical Devices and Equipment

## LTC CIP OUTLINE

- LTC Settings
- Management and Communication of Infection Prevention Programs
- Identification of Infectious Diseases
- Surveillance and Epidemiologic Investigation
- Prevention / Control of Infectious Diseases
- Environment of Care
- Cleaning, Disinfection, Sterilization of Medical Devices and Equipment
- Antimicrobial Stewardship
- Employee / Occupational Health

## A-IPAC OUTLINE

- Processes to Identify Infectious Diseases
- Surveillance and Epidemiologic Investigation
- Preventing / Controlling Transmission of Infectious Agents
- Employee / Occupational Health
- Management and Communication
- Education and Research
- Environment of Care
- Cleaning, Disinfection, Sterilization of Medical Devices and Equipment

## RESOURCES AND TOOLS TO PREPARE FOR CIC AND A-IPC

### Primary References

- APIC Text Online (ATO). Available at: <https://text.apic.org/>
- Meehan, AK, Campbell, EA, Dudeck, MA, Edwards, JR, & Herzig, C. Fundamental Statistics & Epidemiology in Infection Prevention, 1st ed., APIC, 2016.
- Kulich P, Taylor D, eds. The Infection Preventionist's Guide to the Lab, APIC, Washington, DC, 2012.
- Brooks, Kathy. Ready Reference for Microbes, 4th ed., APIC; 2018.

### Secondary References

- Current Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP).
- Current guidelines, standards, and recommendations from [CDC](#), [SHEA](#), [HICPAC](#), and Public Health Agency of Canada.
- [AORN guidelines](#) for perioperative practice.
- [The Pink Book](#) - Epidemiology and Prevention of Vaccine Preventable Diseases.
- American Academy of Pediatrics "Red Book Online". Available at: <https://publications.aap.org/redbook?autologincheck=redirected>
- Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion (Public Health Ontario), Provincial Infectious Diseases Advisory Committee. Best practices for environmental cleaning for prevention and control of infections in all health care settings. 3rd ed. Toronto, ON: Queen's Printer for Ontario; 2018.
- Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion (Public Health Ontario), Provincial Infectious Diseases Advisory Committee. Interim guide for infection prevention and control of *Candida auris*. Toronto, ON: Queen's Printer for Ontario; 2019.

## FOR LONG TERM CARE EXAMINATION

### Primary References

- 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

### Secondary references

- 10 Ethical Principles in Geriatrics and Long Term Care  
<https://www.hmpglobelearningnetwork.com/site/altc/content/10-ethical-principles-geriatrics-and-long-term-care-2>
- Position on Ethics Committees in Long Term Care  
<https://paltc.org/amda-white-papers-and-resolution-position-statements/position-ethics-committees-long-term-care>



# Medical Devices, Equipment and Instruments

Assess your home for all medical devices, equipment to ensure they meet best practice standard, considerations include:

- Single use disposable
- Does it require sterilization? Do you have a process for this?
- Check for expiration
- Is it Health Canada approved?
- Do you have and are you following manufacturer instruction for use (MIFU)?
- Do external agencies enter your home with medical devices? What is their process?

## Reprocessing of Medical Devices and Instruments

How do you or your external providers manage medical devices? You have 3 options:

- Outsourcing Medical Device Reprocessor (MDR)FDA-Approved 3rd Party Reprocessor: An establishment (outside of a health care facility) that reprocesses single use medical devices according to guidelines established by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. There are currently no approved 3rd party reprocessors in Canada.
- Single Use / Disposable Medical Devices
- In house MDR

If you are considering an onsite medical device reprocessing, considerations include:

- Education and training
- CSA Standard Z314:23 for reprocessing (new Jan 2023) and PHO Best practice recommendations
- CSA approved space for a medical device reprocessing (Distinct and separate work areas (2 rooms))
- Auditing and checklists
- Chemical / enzymatic cleaning agents
- Processes and documentation:
  - a recall process
  - contingency plan
  - reprocessing log book
  - chemical, biological, indicators

## Reprocessing Resources

Public Health Ontario Reprocessing Resources

<https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/health-topics/infection-prevention-control/reprocessing>.

CSA Standard Z314:23 for reprocessing (new Jan 2023)

IPAC Canada Resources

[IPAC\\_Spring2020\\_Barry.pdf \(ipac-canada.org\)](#)

[Webinar - Best Practices in Foot Care | IPAC Canada \(ipac-canada.org\)](#)



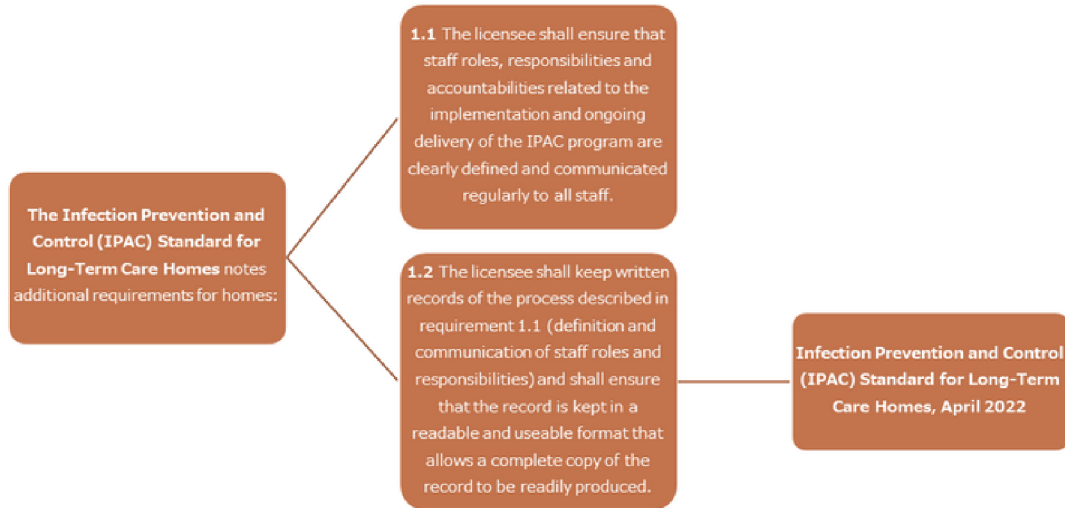
# IPAC - Legislation

## What is an IPAC Program?

A program formed by a set of activities, processes and services for infection prevention and control that is run by IPAC experts in the home

## Goals of an IPAC Program

- 1) To optimize safety in the home to mitigate risk of resident infections and to reduce morbidity and mortality; and
- 2) To prevent the spread of infections among those inside the home (including residents, staff and others) and transmission from the community into the home



## IPAC Lead & Interdisciplinary Team

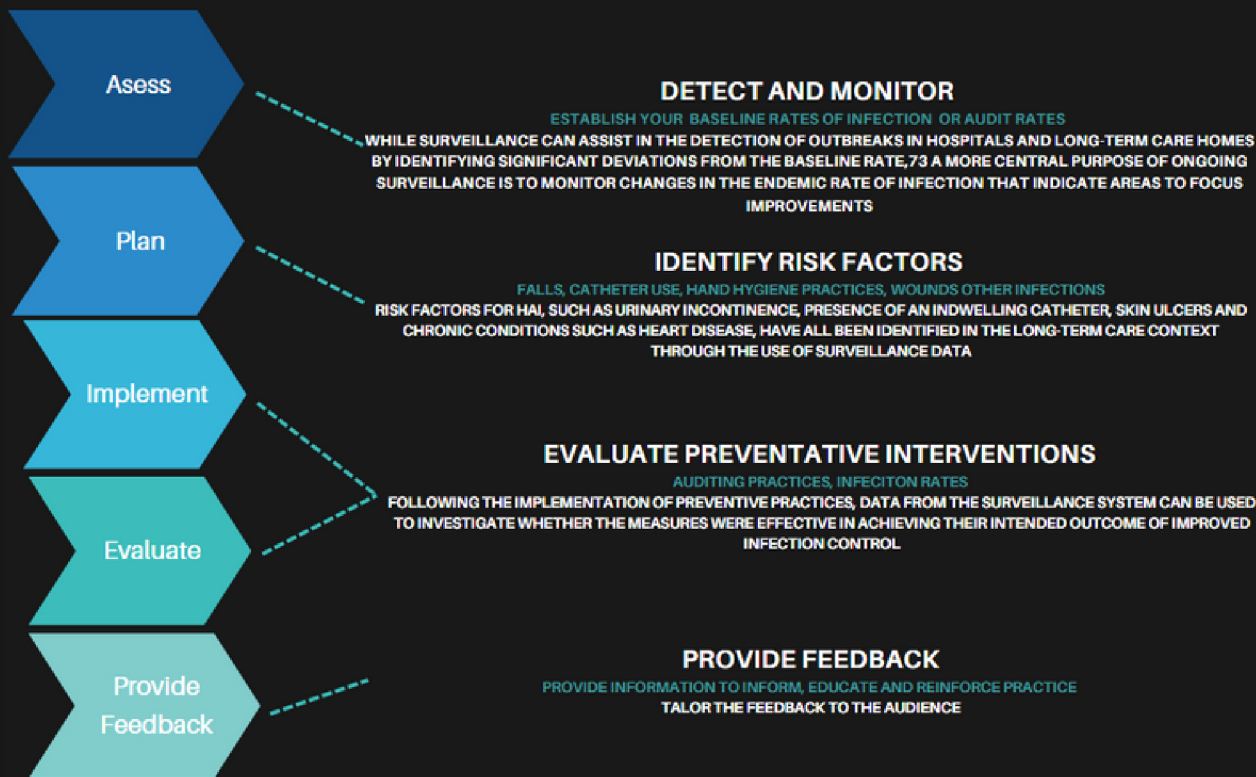
- Work in the IPAC role for the appropriate number of hours as per the number of beds in the home
- Have education and experience covering many aspects in IPAC practices from cleaning and disinfection to reporting protocols, Asepsis, adult education and epidemiology to name a few
- Some responsibilities include completing auditing throughout the home, surveillance activities, bringing together the outbreak management team (OMT)
- Ensure the home has a hand hygiene program in place
- The IPAC team should have representation from different areas of the home

## IPAC Program Components

Program component
a) IPAC Lead and interdisciplinary team
b) Evidence-based policies and procedures
c) Training and education
d) <b>ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENT UNDER THE STANDARD: Routine Practices and Additional Precautions</b>
e) Infectious Disease Surveillance
f) Outbreak Management (OM) system
g) Hand Hygiene program
h) <b>ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENT UNDER THE STANDARD: Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)</b>
i) Quality program and evaluation
j) <b>ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENT UNDER THE STANDARD: Ethical framework</b>
k) Application of the precautionary principle

## IPAC Program Policy and Procedures

- Must have evidence-based policies and procedures (s.23(2)(a) of the Act), that are from all departments involved with IPAC and they are to be reviewed at least annually
- Policies and procedures for the IPAC program will include the implementation of Routine Practices and Additional Precautions including but not limited to (See the standard for others as well): Point of Care Risk Assessments; Respiratory Etiquette; Contact transmission and precautions; Droplet transmission and precautions; Airborne transmission and precautions; Combinations of Additional Precautions; Management of antibiotic-resistant organisms (AROs); and Cleaning and disinfection.
- Regular evaluation and quality improvement is also part of an IPAC program that is reviewed and updated annually with records including the dates, names of those involved and the evaluation with a summary of noted changes and record of when the changes were made



## What could your home audit?

- Hand hygiene
  - compliance
  - locations and expiration dates
- IPAC practices / preparedness
  - signage
- Outbreak control measures (when in outbreak)
- PPE compliance
  - PPE stockpile
- Environmental Cleaning



## What could your surveillance data capture?

- Antibiotic resistant organisms
- Infections (UTI, wound, respiratory, gastroenteritis)
- Antibiotic usage
- Vaccine rates





## New / Updated Documents

Updates to current guidance and development of new documents continues across our Ministries and Public Health Ontario. Keep update by visiting their websites frequently.

- COVID-19 Guidance: Long-Term Care Homes, Retirement Homes, and Other Congregate Living Settings for Public Health Units (June 2023)  
[https://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/docs/LTCH\\_RH\\_guidance\\_PHU.pdf](https://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/docs/LTCH_RH_guidance_PHU.pdf)
- Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility COVID-19 Guidance Document for Retirement Homes in Ontario (March 2023)  
<https://www.rhra.ca/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/MSAA-COVID-19-Guidance-for-RH-V3-March-2023-FINAL-1.pdf>
- COVID-19 Guidance Document for Long Term Care Homes in Ontario (March 2023)  
[https://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/docs/contact\\_mgmt/management\\_cases\\_contacts.pdf](https://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/docs/contact_mgmt/management_cases_contacts.pdf)
- COVID-19 Guidance for Public Health Units: Long Term Care, Retirement Homes and Other Congregate Living Settings (June 2023)  
[www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/docs/LTCH\\_RH\\_guidance\\_PHU.pdf](http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/docs/LTCH_RH_guidance_PHU.pdf)

## Ontario Respiratory Pathogen Bulletin

Public Health Ontario (PHO) monitors and analyzes the spread and intensity of respiratory pathogen activity and influenza in Ontario to support local, provincial, federal and global surveillance efforts.

A weekly summary is posted here: [www.publichealthontario.ca/en/data-and-analysis/infectious-disease/respiratory-pathogens-weekly](http://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/data-and-analysis/infectious-disease/respiratory-pathogens-weekly)

[Click Here!](#)



## Upcoming Events and Newsletters

IPAC SWO - Education Day September 22, 2023 London ON (registration to follow)

IPAC SWO - IPAC Fundamentals Education Day October 24, 2023 London ON (registration to follow)



Website:  
[www.greybruceipachub.ca](http://www.greybruceipachub.ca)



Contact:  
519-376-9420



Email:  
[ipachub@publichealthgreybruce.on.ca](mailto:ipachub@publichealthgreybruce.on.ca)