



Editorial

Gabby Robathan • Editor
and
Glenn Gardner • Assistant Editor



This is the second issue of *Australian Infection Control* that I have had the pleasure of editing. Since its inception in 1995, the journal has evolved into a broadly distributed and renowned publication, and those Australian infection control practitioners (ICPs) who have contributed to its content over the last 3 years can be justifiably proud of their contributions to this exciting development. I would like to invite all ICPs and other health-care professionals to submit for publication in this journal their research findings, surveillance reports, infection control experiences, book or article reviews or any other topics of interest to the readership.

To further address the needs of ICPs in Australia, the journal has responded by incorporating some changes in style. Further, an editorial review board – comprising Australian peer reviewers who are experts in infection control, clinical microbiology, virology, epidemiology and infectious diseases – is about to be formed. Subsequently, all articles submitted will be forwarded to the relevant reviewer(s), to ensure a scientifically sound and high standard of final publication.

Another exciting development in the journal's management is the appointment of an assistant editor to the editorial team. I am delighted to welcome Glenn Gardner to this new position and have invited her to introduce herself.

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A dedicated journal is a sign of the 'coming of age' of an industry or specialty. In March 1995, the first edition of the AICA journal marked the coming of age of the specialty of infection control in Australia. Alison Pyper, in her President's Message in that issue, stated that the journal was the members' voice, "a medium for updating knowledge, sharing experiences, uniting members and raising the profile of AICA."

Since then, *Australian Infection Control* has achieved this and more. It has also been a vehicle for communicating change and a witness to the expanding practices and interests of ICPs everywhere. Now it is the journal's turn to respond to these changes by taking on a new style, a style which positions it to further the needs and interests of all Australian ICPs.

I am most pleased to be working with Gabby and the state sub-editors as assistant editor of *Australian Infection Control*. The appointment allows me to further contribute to the work of AICA and, in a sense, repay my colleagues for the support I have received from ICPs in ICPAQ since becoming involved in the industry. As a nurse academic, my primary association with infection control is through my teaching and research activities. While I do have many years' experience in clinical nursing, I have worked in the university sector for the past 14, first at La Trobe University in Melbourne and now at Griffith University in Brisbane. My research interests include infection control practice, surgical wound infection and the interface of hospital and community. I also teach infection control to our pre-registration students and convene the graduate courses in infection control offered through distance education at Griffith University.

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ERRATUM

In the rush to get the first issue of the new-look *Australian Infection Control* out before Christmas, a small but significant error slipped through the proofreading net.

That edition was actually Volume 2 Issue 4. Unfortunately, on the front cover only it was noted as being Volume 3 Issue 4.

The editor and the publisher's production staff apologise for this error and hope it has not caused readers any inconvenience.