



# Australian Infection Control Association

# National News

## Issue 34

**November 2009**

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*The aim of this newsletter is to keep all members informed and updated with the activities of the AICA Executive team. This newsletter is distributed to members quarterly as an insert to Healthcare Infection.*

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### Mission:

*AICA provides infection control practitioners with a professional profile, identifies and promotes professional standards and lobbies with one voice on behalf of infection control practitioners*

## From the President's Desk – the year in review

In 2009 AICA has met some significant challenges, particularly an increasing demand for our input and expertise. The AICA Executive held 2 face-to-face meetings this year to discuss and plan our course of action for the next 2 years. Key areas for development and support include:

- credentialling
- development of a National Infection Control Research Agenda, lead by ICPs
- the Healthcare Infection journal
- production of key position papers
- review and revamp of the AICAList
- review of organisational structure and proposals for a way forward

### AICA works with International Partners

In 2009 AICA was invited to more actively participate with the International Federation of Infection Control (IFIC) and APIC. In October members of the AICA Executive and Deidre Edmonds from Austin health (who also took the best poster prize) presented in an AICA symposium on Communication during an outbreak. The session was a great success and 'standing room only' was reported. In conjunction with APIC, AICA worked to promote International Infection Prevention Week. More information on our involvement in these 2 activities is available via the AICA website.

### AICA develops links with corporate partners

2009 enabled AICA to work closely with several industry partners on a range of development initiatives. AICA extends a very loud thankyou to our following partners who have facilitated professional development options for ICPs in a variety of settings. Of note, thankyou:

- Covidien for their generous contribution to research and educational scholarships (applications for 2010 scholarships are now open and available via the AICA website)
- BD for the provision of the six sigma training in Sydney to 15 ICPs across Australia (case studies will be presented by participants at the Perth AICA2010 conference)
- 3M for facilitating Denis Maki's visit to Australia and working with AICA to develop a proposed Marketing Course for ICPs to assist in getting those key messages across

In 2010 AICA will work with Johnson & Johnson to target other areas of ICP skill development.

### An update on Credentialling.

This year members have shown terrific support for the credentialling process with more than 70 members across Australia successfully undertaking the process. I encourage all of you who have been contemplating the task to use any potential 'down time' over the Xmas/New year break to make a start (or finish) your application. 80% of the AICA Executive and 75% of your State/Territory representatives on the ACSQHC Implementation Advisory Committee (IAC) are now credentialled. In the New Year the Credentialling Committee will develop a framework for review and endorsement of Australian based education on Infection Control

### New look AICAList.

When the AICAList went offline earlier this year there was widespread disappointment however, the AICA executive used this 'downtime' to review this key area of member communication and is pleased to report that on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> December the AICAList will be relaunched with a new look, functionality and name. For more information on the new AICAList turn to page 7.

### Seasons Greetings

On a personal note I am 'defecting' from Victoria to take a position in the Torres Strait based on Thursday Island. My family and I will be relocating to the far north of Queensland in January. I will continue in my role as AICA President and can still be contacted via our secretariat on email: [admin@aica.org.au](mailto:admin@aica.org.au) Best wishes to all for the Festive Season.

Claire Boardman, AICA President

**AICA Newsletter proudly sponsored by**



## State and Territory News

### South Australia

#### **Wash, Wipe, Cover....don't infect another!**

ICASA congratulates the Infection Control Service, CDCB at the Department of Health for winning the State's Safer Communities award. The win now places the project in the national finals of the Safer Communities award. The winners will be announced in December. The project has also won the inaugural SA Health project awards in the Increasing Community Awareness category. ICASA supported the project by financially assisting with the production of a CD containing all the resources in a PDF format making the material accessible to a large number of people. The resources are also available on the Infection Control Service web site

[www.health.sa.gov.au/infectioncontrol](http://www.health.sa.gov.au/infectioncontrol)

#### **Infection Prevention and Control Awareness Week, 18-24 October 2009 – "Infection Prevention is everyone's business"**

ICASA encouraged all members to participate in promotion of the week. Activities included: hand hygiene stations at metropolitan and some country hospitals, promoting good hygiene practices amongst the visitor and patient population by providing "Wash, Wipe, Cover...don't infect another!" leaflets, pens, posters and CDs, newsletters and activities circulated to hospital staff.

#### **Membership**

ICASA continues to have a strong membership database and the committee is busy investigating ways to attract more members. One strategy which has been successful over the last 12 months is offering membership to Infection Control Link Nurses at a reduced rate during their training days. More advertising has also occurred at various forums e.g. workshops and the one day conference.

#### **AICA Credentialing**

The ICASA Executive would like to congratulate Marija Juraja (current ICASA President) on achieving credentialing. ICASA is continuing to promote credentialing among its members and last year offered a financial rebate for members who submitted a credentialing package.

#### **Education**

An evening seminar held in November at The Education Centre, was successful. The topic was *Food Safety – Guess who is coming to Dinner!* and included the aetiology of food safety, epidemiology and surveillance of food borne outbreaks, and food safety auditing.

#### **Linda Henderson**

**Committee member & Newsletter Representative – ICASA**

### New South Wales

Our Annual General Meeting was held in September. There has been no change in the Executive, so they continue to be:

- President – Barbara May
- Vice President – Paul Smollen
- Treasurer – Toni Schouten
- Secretary – Maureen McKenzie
- Executive Members:
  - Julie Gallard - Website
  - Lindy Ryan – Education
  - Julie Hunt
  - Helen O'Harae - Newsletter
  - Jo-anne Bendall

Consultant/Advisor on Aged Care – Judy Forrest

We are planning to have some education days in 2010, as we do not run a conference in the same year as AICA. We have booked one to be held in Orange in March and one in Sydney for advanced practitioners in May, and are looking at another couple of options for later in 2010. The regional education sessions are a wonderful opportunity for the area to decide exactly what they would like covered during the day.

Our website has been revamped and updated, and we are adding a members-only section. We encourage everyone to check out our site and offer any feedback they have.

ICANSW provided sponsorship to assist a Nurse from Papua New Guinea to come to NSW in August/September, including registration for our State conference. We had a great report from Schola prior to her returning home. An infection control program was started in 2008, and Schola was very happy to be able to come and see how some of our programs run, giving her much food for thought to take home with her. We wish her well in improving infection control at Goroka General Hospital.

We all look forward to 2010, to the challenges that are thrown at us, and the opportunity to visit Perth for the AICA conference. Terumo and Johnson & Johnson offered scholarships for members to go towards attending the conference. The 3 prizes from Terumo and 1 from J&J were drawn from members attending our State conference. Recipients will be given the funds when they show proof of registering for the conference.

**Helen O'Harae.**

**Newsletter Representative, NSW ICA**

### Tasmania

#### **TICA Conference – Evidence Vs Reality**

The TICA conference which was held in July proved to be very successful with over 140 delegates attending. We were also very pleased to report a complete sell out of industry support. Feedback from the day has been collated and it was very positive. TICA intends to continue to

provide affordable high quality educational support to its members. More details are posted on the TICA website. The TICA would like to thank the support of the invited speakers, industry and those who attended. Conference presentations are available on the TICA website (members only).

### **2009 Membership**

Membership of the TICA continues to grow receiving new memberships after the conference. This year's membership has exceeded last year with a record number of new members

The TICA Executive and members warmly welcome new members to TICA and look forward to their attendance at general meetings, discussion forums held 2<sup>nd</sup> monthly at Ross in the centre of the state.

### **Current TICA Developments**

TICA Executive has approved a range of new scholarship/awards/support for members. These include ProMedica TICA Education Scholarship (\$500), Support of \$800 each for 5 members to attend the AICA conference,

TICA "Peer of the Year" award - complimentary membership for a TICA member who has shown outstanding achievement, nominated by a fellow TICA member,

TICA President Award - cash prize and TICA membership for anyone working in infection control in Tasmania who has done something innovative or commitment in their own area,

Publication Award - \$250 for TICA members who have an article published in 'Healthcare Infection' in the next 12 months, \$50 for a letter to the editor. Conditions apply - all details are posted on the TICA website, [www.thetica.net.au](http://www.thetica.net.au) TICA members completed an online survey outlining their views on particular issues. This will assist the Exec to better represent TICA members when speaking on behalf of the association or responding to media issues.

### **Major rule Revision**

At a Special GM in July, major revisions were made to the TICA rules. Changes were centred on making the association more flexible, improving governance and putting measures in place to improve sustainability.

### **Strategic planning**

A strategic planning day is planned on the 20th November. The day will be facilitated and TICA members will be provided catering throughout the day. The strategic planning day is occurring the same day as the AGM and aims to set the goals for TICA over the next couple of years. All members are encouraged to attend.

### **HAI strategy.**

The TICA has commented on and supported a major new initiative against the prevention of HAIs in Tasmania - "Sharing the Responsibility" - DHHS Tasmanian HAI Prevention Strategy. In particular the strategy outlines key

governance and reporting arrangements and expectations regarding infection control practitioner's experience, skills and knowledge. Of note is the addition of AICA credentialing for ICPs working in the DHHS in Tasmania. The strategy is being published by the Tasmanian Infection Prevention & Control Unit (TIPCU), DHHS.

### **News About Members**

The TICA Executive would like to congratulate Annie Wells and Saffron Brown (TIPCU, DHHS), who were successful in obtaining a leadership scholarship from the Florence Nightingale Trust. The scholarship will enable them to travel to the US and the United Kingdom next year to learn more about infection control in other countries. They will also be attending the 5<sup>th</sup> Decennial International Conference on Healthcare Associated Infections in Atlanta. Brett Mitchell was also successful in a scholarship to assist with Doctoral studies.

**Jenny Stubbings,**  
AICA Newsletter Representative.

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## **Australian Capital Territory**

Welcome to all our members

### **Infection Prevention and Control Week 19-23 October 2009**

To help celebrate Infection Prevention and Control Week several companies held exhibitions on 20<sup>th</sup> October in the foyer at The Canberra Hospital (TCH). The displays were well attended and several lucky attendees won prizes. On 21<sup>st</sup> October as part of Infection Prevention and Control Week some of our members attended a celebratory breakfast at Vie restaurant in Kingston.

It was great to catch up with everyone in such a relaxed atmosphere.

### **Education Sessions**

Our breakfast meetings have continued to be a success. On Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November, Ms Della Joyce (CNC Thoracic Medicine, TCH) gave members and guests a very informative talk on TB. The focus of the lecture was on TB in Aged Care, which considering recent events, was very relevant. The feedback from the participants, both members and non-members was very positive with all enjoying Della's presentation.

### **Scholarships**

A reminder to members that scholarships are available to assist in furthering their education. Members applying for credentialing with AICA can apply for financial assistance from the association for 12 months. If you have previously received a scholarship you cannot reapply for 2 years. Scholarship application forms are available from the membership officer or the president.

**Kerry Gill**  
Newsletter Representative, ACT

## Victoria

### VICPA2009 – Biennial State Conference

The VICPA2009 Conference took place at the Grand Hyatt in Melbourne, 7 - 9 October 2009, attracting over 260 delegates, speakers, sponsors and exhibitors. The Conference provided a valuable forum for Infection Control professionals to meet and discuss topics relevant to their various practice fields. There was a full program with many speakers presenting on a variety of topics. The best oral presentation award went to Lesley Lewis for "How clean is my ultrasonic transducer?" and; best poster was awarded to Mary Smith for her poster titled "KISS proves popular – Simple infection control resources shared on the web". Congratulations to both.

The conference was preceded by three workshops: Introduction to statistical process control; blood and body fluid exposure management; and, changing behaviours. If enough interest is expressed in the statistical process control and/or changing behaviours workshops, VICPA is considering offering extended versions of these workshops in the future. Please contact Judy Brett at [enquiries@vicpa.org.au](mailto:enquiries@vicpa.org.au) if you are interested in attending either of these follow-up workshops.

Overall, the conference was a great success. Congratulations must go to the conference organisers, especially Jacqueline Kennon who organised the scientific program.

### VICPA Honour Roll

At the VICPA conference dinner, the first inductees to the VICPA honour roll were announced. They were Melissa Aberline, Mary McCrorie, Allan Perceval and Denise Chipper. All of these people have significantly contributed to infection control in Victoria. The aim of the honour roll is to recognise such contributions and it is anticipated that this system of recognition will continue at subsequent VICPA conferences. If you would like to read more about the first inductees and why they were nominated please go to the VICPA website [www.vicpa.org.au](http://www.vicpa.org.au).

### Congratulations

VICPA would like to congratulate Deidre Edmonds from Austin Health, Melbourne for winning the best poster presentation at the recent International Federation of Infection Control (IFIC) conference held in Vilnius, Lithuania. The poster, titled "Simple solutions for significant problems" discussed the introduction of a suite of safety devices to reduce needle stick injuries. Deidre's attendance at the conference was jointly funded by a Covidien scholarship, AICA and Austin Health.

### VICPA Scholarship 2009/2010

VICPA is again offering their annual scholarship. The scholarship may be used toward funding for:

- research in the area of infection control or a field closely associated with infection control;

- education expenses related to undertaking advanced tertiary study in a field relevant to infection control;
- Assisting Infection Control Professionals with expenses incurred in the presentation of a paper at an approved international or national conference or a study tour to a mutually agreed upon international destination and facility.

The scholarship is open to all financial members of VICPA who have been a member for at least one full year. For further details and application form visit the VICPA website [www.vicpa.org.au](http://www.vicpa.org.au).

### VICPA Strategic Plan 2009-2013

Following discussion and feedback the new strategic plan for VICPA has been finalised. It is now available on the VICPA website.

### Bi-monthly VICPA/VICNISS Journal Club

Date and venues for upcoming Journal Clubs are as follows:

11 <sup>th</sup> December 2009	Baptcare (Camberwell)
February 2010	Alfred Hospital
April 2010	Peter MacCallum
July 2010	Venue to be confirmed (to be held prior to VICPA AGM)

For speakers and articles to be discussed see the VICPA website [www.vicpa.org.au](http://www.vicpa.org.au) closer to the date.

VICPA Newsletter Editor: Donna Cameron

## Queensland

### ICPAQ Prevention in Paradise Conference a success!

This years conference 'Prevention in Paradise' was held at the beautiful Surfers Paradise, on the Gold Coast, and drew both Australian and International delegates. The Annual General Meetings for both ICPAQ and AICA were held during the conference.

There were many networking opportunities for delegates with fellow infection control practitioners, and our partners in medical industry. Trade displays and regular circulation opportunities allowed our delegates to spend time with trade representatives for information and updates on available products.

Conference Dinner had a very tropical feel, with the theme 'paradise', and for those who enjoy socialising there was plenty of opportunity between Dinner and the Welcome Reception.

For the early risers, there was a 6.30 am Breakfast Workshop on the second day, held due to the already busy scientific program, with a lucky door prize of an iPod as an incentive to attend. The conference finished up with a Panel Discussion on 'The Impact of the Recent H1N1 Pandemic on Infection Control'.



ICPAQ and the Conference Organising Committee would like to thank the following partners in medical industry for their generous support:

Major Sponsors [EBOS](#) and [Baxter Healthcare](#); Supporting Sponsor [Steri Health](#) and [Hospira](#); Conference Satchel Sponsor [Kimberly-Clark Professional](#); Final Program & Abstract Book Sponsor [Sanofi Pasteur](#); Breakfast Session Sponsor [BD](#).

#### **ICPAQ Management Committee Members for 2009/2010**

President – Michael Wishart

Vice President – Jodie Powell

AICA Representative – Jodie Powell

Secretary – Susie Nielsen

Treasurer – Sara Godden

Assistant Treasurer – Kathy Duggan

Membership Secretary – Dr Deborah Macbeth

Public Relations Officer – Jane Brooks

Editor – Meagan Hunter

Education Coordinator – Robyn Birch

Expression of Interest for the 2011 Conference Convenor will be developed and sent out soon.

#### **Education Scholarship**

Education Scholarship applications closed at the end of September and are currently being assessed by the Management Committee (at the time of submission).

**Meagan Hunter**

ICPAQ Newsletter Representative

## **Western Australia**

#### **ICAWA Membership**

In October 2009, the membership of ICAWA was 143. The Membership Secretary has recently surveyed non-financial members and has been diligent in maintaining an up-to-date E-mail database of members to ensure timely distribution of correspondence. This strategy has also resulted in reduced mail-out costs.

#### **ICAWA Quarterly Education Session and General Meeting**

"Pandemic Planning or Panic?" was the topic of the August education session which provided an overview of the preparedness, challenges and achievements related to Pandemic H1N1 (2009) influenza. Deidre Tame, Manager of Emergency Services at a tertiary hospital, presented the perspective from an acute care setting. Helen Rawlins, Infection Control Coordinator for Silver Chain, presented on the impact on community care services. Attendees gave positive feedback about the usefulness of the session and the delicious light refreshments supplied by trade sponsors were appreciated by all. The session was available to rural ICAWA members via video-teleconference. The quarterly general meeting was conducted prior to the education session.

#### **The 2009 ICAWA State Conference**

The annual one-day Infection Control Conference was held on 21st October 2009, during the National Infection Prevention and Control Awareness Week. The opening address by Dr Dorothy Jones, (Professor Clinical Safety and Quality, Curtin University), focused on the importance of clinical leadership in infection control and quality programs. The contribution to infection control by the late Professor Aileen Plant was again commemorated with a Memorial Lecture presented by Professor Geoff Shellam (Director of Post-Graduate Studies in Infectious Diseases, University of WA). Healthcare professionals from a range of settings presented a variety of topics including: Tuberculosis; pandemic H1N1 (2009) influenza; infection prevention issues with patients from the Ashmore Reef explosion; staff flu vaccination success in aged care; MRSA outbreak; Signal Infection Surveillance in a rural setting; issues with renovations; clinical safety and quality. A panel was also formed to discuss - "What are your experiences and challenges working in an Infection Control team?" ICPs from rural, aged care and acute settings were represented on the panel.

The trade displays were supported by 22 companies. The ICAWA Executive also set up a booth promoting membership, credentialing and the AICA 2010 conference.

#### **Infection Prevention and Control Awareness Week, 19 -24 October 2009 – "Infection Prevention is everyone's business"**

ICAWA promotions include: a media release; distribution of relevant information by E-mail and at the State Conference; directing members to the AICA "Infection Prevention Week" web page.

#### **Annual General Meeting (AGM) 2009**

The AGM will be held at the State Conference. Nominations have been requested for 4 outgoing Executive positions: Secretary; Conference Convenor; Newsletter Editor; Education Coordinator. Election of nominated office-bearers will be conducted at the AGM.

#### **Conference Scholarships**

ICAWA once again offered financial support to members to attend the 2009 State Conference. Two members accepted scholarships to cover the \$135 registration cost. Scholarship support has been made possible due to strategic measures by the ICAWA Executive to reduce Newsletter and mail-out costs.

#### **Credentialling**

There are currently 5 Infection Control Practitioners credentialed in WA. Credentialling was promoted in the October ICAWA Newsletter and was promoted by the ICAWA Executive at the October State Conference. Scholarships to assist ICAWA members with the cost of credentialling will be discussed at the 2010 strategic planning meeting in January.

### **Christmas Function**

The ICAWA Executive are currently preparing a trade sponsored Christmas function to celebrate and network with members.

*AICA Conference 2010, Perth WA - "The 2010 Infection Control Odyssey"*

**The conference organising committee is progressing well with planning of the 2010 conference to be hosted by ICAWA in Perth, 4-6 October (inclusive). An important focus of the committee's work at present is securing key note speakers.**

See conference website <http://www.aicaconference.org.au/> for further information: registration; abstract submission; key dates; sponsorship and trade exhibits.

### **Congratulations and Thankyou**

Welcome Benjamin Patrick, son of Tom & Dani Engelbrecht (ICAWA President), born 6 June 2009 at 32 weeks and 6 days 1615g (3lb 9 oz). Dani is on 12 months maternity leave from Infection Control at St John of God Murdoch and loving her new job! Dani returned to the President position in October and the ICAWA Executive thank Jane Ryan (Vice President) for her work as acting President in Dani's absence.

**Allison Peterson**

**Newsletter Representative – ICAWA**

## **The Northern Territory**

### **The Northern Territory joins AICA.**

AICA has recently invited Tain Gardiner from Royal Darwin Hospital to join the AICA Executive as an observer. As many of you would be aware the Northern Territory does not have an infection control association and with only 5 infection control professionals working in the Territory keeping abreast of National IC issues can be difficult. From February next year Tain will join the Executive for monthly meetings and will contribute a viewpoint often overlooked – the challenges of working in remote and indigenous communities.

## **The year in review - ACSQHC**

Steady progress has been made on a number of Australian Commission on Safety & Quality in healthcare projects in 2009 including initiatives of the IAC chaired by Cathryn Murphy. The final IAC meeting of the year discussed future directions and recapped on events of the past year. A full report is available via the *Member's only* section of the AICA website but in summary:

### **National Hand Hygiene Initiative**

- In August 2009 168 hospitals were participating in HHA this number has increased in November to 250 nationwide
- 2 staff have been appointed to manage, implement and educate staff in the Private Sector
- In February Queensland Health will transition from their State based program across to the HHA program. Several education days have been set for February
- It is expected that online data entry for HH will be available from April 2010
- Planning has commenced for the program beyond 2010
- HHA has written to all the undergraduate clinical schools regarding inclusion of the HHA program in their curriculum. Responses are currently being collated however; initial feedback demonstrates a wide variation in standard and amount of education provided.
- Data will be reported back to hospital/jurisdictions in the next quarter following submission of data in this quarter which is due 27/11/09
- The next meeting of the HH Advisory Committee will be held on 16/12/09

### **National Surveillance Meeting held 18/11/09**

- The SAB data dictionary and definitions has been finalised after much discussion with external groups. The Commission plans to hold a 'master class' for surveillance in this area for ICPs. A communication strategy is currently being devised.
- The Surveillance steering committee discussed a way forward for the next 3 years. Possible areas for attention include surgical site data in hips, knees, CAGS and CLABSI's.

### **Antimicrobial Stewardship**

- The summarised ABS in Australia document is going to print and will be tabled at the next IJC meeting in January. It is likely that this group will be disbanded however, key individuals will form part of the new overarching HAI steering group.

### **National Infection Control Guidelines**

- There was discussion on implementation strategies and resources required to implement the guidelines which may include leadership, link nurses, feedback and audit tools to assess compliance
- Guidelines are likely to be released for consultation in Jan/Feb 2010 and for final release in April

### **Update on Education Modules for the ICP**

- 10 modules for the novice ICP have been completed and feedback has been sought on content
- E3 learning has been appointed to put the modules into an electronic format and to make them available via the web.
- The assessment questions need to be evaluated and a process put in place to ensure that the module assessment section is only for use in Australia.

### Update on the HAI Standard

- Feedback is sought by January 2010. AICA had requested S/Ts to indicate the value in putting forward one feedback document coordinated by AICA on behalf of the S/Ts.

### Information of Interest:

- Sue Greig has been appointed part time to assist in the implementation of a number of Commission activities. Sue starts in January 2010
- The Commission seeking feedback on the way forward for the IAC. A change to the structure of all key committees is likely.

## AICAList launch – 21<sup>st</sup> December

December 21<sup>st</sup> marks the launch of the new look, new name and improved functionality of the AICAList. Some features for the new AICAList include:

- Full web interface:
  - subscription via email web interface
  - ability to send messages, read messages, view list archive, search list archive, all for web
- Full email control: send commands, review subscription options
- Fully moderated discussion list where the moderator can edit posts before sending them to list
- Digest mode with options for how often to receive digest

The AICAList now has the ability to easily send announcements to all members who have a registered email address. This has been provided to AICA previously through the State/ and Territory membership databases.

All the subscription information will be available via the AICA website so keep an eye out for details of how to register.

On behalf of the AICA executive I would like to extend sincere thanks to Michael Wishart (ICPAQ President and List moderator) who has remained committed to seeing this project through despite some significant hurdles.

**Claire Boardman (AICA President)**

## AICA works with the United Arab Emirates

AICA has been asked by a provider of education and the Ministry of Health (MOH) UAE to provide infection control education for nurses in the UAE. The course is planned to take place in January 2010. An initial course proposal was developed to respond to an invitation from MeduKnowledge, medical knowledge Management Company, to provide background information for a proposed Advanced Infection Control course to be held in

2010 in the United Arab Emirates. This proposal has since been amended based on the site visit to the UAE in November 2009.

Project update:

- In November Claire Boardman (Course Coordinator) met with MeduKnowledge, representatives from the MOH UAE and ICNs at 3 separate hospitals in the UAE. Based on this visit the target audience, number of participants, dates and program format were agreed upon.
- AICA has advertised for, and appointed 2 lecturers meeting the specified criteria; Paul Smollen (NSW) and Ramon Shaban (Qld). C. Boardman will also provide education and act as the course coordinator.
- The course structure and curriculum is currently being designed with input from the MOH and the appointed lecturers. Lecturers will take responsibility for allocated areas to ensure equal distribution of tasks.
- The courses will run in 2 locations in the UAE, Dubai and Ras Al Khaimah. The four day course is targeting ICPs and a one day course will target IC link nurses.
- The AICA credentialling committee is reviewing the final program with a view to providing AICA endorsement.
- It is envisaged that the course will run again in other locations at which point AICA will be seeking other suitably qualified ICPs to assist in the course provision

We extend our best wishes to the teaching team and look forward to hearing about participation in the New Year.

**AICA Executive**

## COVIDIEN INFECTION CONTROL SCHOLARSHIP 2010

Covidien is once again offering an Infection Control Scholarship, open to healthcare professionals across Australia and New Zealand.

A pool of \$40,000 is on offer to increase awareness and support/acknowledge some of the initiatives of our healthcare professionals.

Application forms can be accessed via the AICA website: [www.aica.org.au](http://www.aica.org.au)



# [ COVIDIEN WANTS TO RECOGNISE YOU! ]

**Applications for the COVIDIEN 2010 Infection Control Scholarship are now open, with total funding of \$40,000 to promote excellence in Infection Control being awarded across four categories:**

- **Major Research Project:** Awarded to one project requiring funding up to \$15,000.
- **Minor Research Projects:** Three grants for research projects requiring funding up to \$5,000.
- **Educational Grants:** \$6,000 in grants to further educational requests related to Infection Control such as conference oral/poster presentations at either national or international conferences.
- **Articles for Publication:** \$4,000 in grants to assist in writing articles for publication in 'Healthcare Infection', [the official journal of the Australian Infection Control Association] or any other peer reviewed journal.

**For further information or an application form:**

Email: [Aust.Infection.Control@Covidien.com](mailto:Aust.Infection.Control@Covidien.com)

Visit: [www.aica.org.au](http://www.aica.org.au)

Contact your local Covidien Product Specialist

*Applications close 1st June 2010*



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