

WHO Infection Prevention and Control Global Newsletter



19 October 2022

News from WHO headquarters

Consultations on the Global IPC strategy

Following approval by the Seventy-fifth World Health Assembly of [a resolution calling for the development of a Global strategy on infection prevention and control \(IPC\)](#) a series of global and regional Member State and IPC expert consultations have been held and are still ongoing to gather inputs.



SEVENTY-FIFTH WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY
Agenda item 14.6

A75/A/CONF.5
25 May 2022

Global Strategy on Infection Prevention and Control

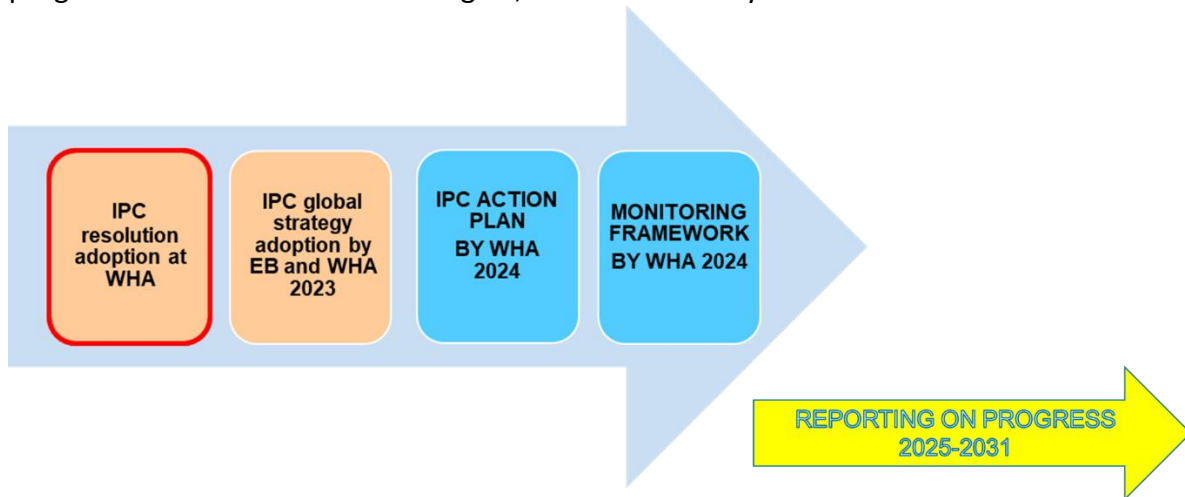
Draft resolution proposed by Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Colombia, Jordan, Kenya, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Lebanon, Norway, Oman, Philippines, Qatar, United Arab Emirates, United States of America and Vanuatu

The Seventy-fifth World Health Assembly,

PP1 Having considered the report by the Director-General on infection prevention and control as part of the universal health coverage and communicable disease agendas towards 2030¹;

PP2 Recalling the resolutions: WHA48.7 (1995)² on the International Health Regulations, WHA58.27 (2015)³ on infection prevention and control as objective 3 of the Global Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR), WHA69.1 (2016)⁴ on quality care for all, WHA70.7 (2017)⁵ on infection prevention and control as part of prevention of sepsis, WHA72.6 (2019)⁶ on infection prevention and control as strategy 3.3 of the global patient safety action plan 2021–2030, WHA72.7 (2019)⁷ on infection prevention and control as part of water, sanitation and hygiene, WHA73.1 (2020),⁸ WHA73.8 (2020),⁹ and WHA74.7 (2021)¹⁰ on infection prevention and control as

As a reminder, the resolution includes 15 recommendations to Member States aimed at improving IPC at the national, subnational, and/or facility levels. These are based on the WHO-recommended core components and minimum requirements for IPC programmes. The resolution also includes five requests to the WHO Director-General, including the development of a global strategy and action plan for IPC, and a framework for tracking progress with clear measurable targets, to be achieved by 2031.



The IPC Technical and Clinical hub at WHO headquarters, is leading the process of co-developing these critical documents, in close consultation with all WHO regional offices, country offices and Member States, and involving all relevant areas of work, such as health emergencies, antimicrobial resistance (AMR), patient and health workers' safety, quality of care, and water, sanitation and hygiene. Nine global and regional consultations with Member States, regional offices, and relevant stakeholders, have been conducted since August to develop the *Global strategy on IPC* which will be discussed at EB152 in January 2023, and thereafter, will be considered for approval at WHA76, in May 2023.

We are living in unprecedented times for IPC! This year the topic also received attention from the [ministers of the G7 countries](#) and will also be discussed this week at the [World Health Summit](#) in Berlin.

Global Health Summit, Berlin 16-18 October 2022



The World Health Summit took place in Berlin from 16-18 October 2022 and was co-hosted by WHO. Among top priority topics for global health, IPC was discussed in a dedicated session on [18 October](#). In this session, WHO and OECD will present a new [Briefing paper on IPC](#), which addresses the burden of health care-associated infections and AMR and provide a demonstration of the effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of IPC. The paper also offers some strategic directions for the future, with a focus on G7 countries.

World Hand Hygiene Day 2023

SAVE LIVES
Clean **Your** Hands

The theme of World Hand Hygiene Day 2023 will be announced in the November 2022 edition of this newsletter. We can already let you know that it will relate to the new WHO Global strategy on IPC, mentioned above.

Launch of new web page on country IPC stories

Home / Teams / Integrated Health Services / Infection prevention & control / Country stories

Country stories

< Infection prevention & control

Country stories

Hand hygiene

Core components

Surgical site infection

Injection safety

IPC and AMR

Sepsis


About

Strong, effective infection prevention and control (IPC) programmes have the ability to influence the quality of care, improve patient safety and protect all those providing care in the health system. The implementation of all WHO recommendations on core components is required to build functioning programmes leading to the effective reduction of health care-associated infections and antimicrobial resistance.

The guidelines describe what is necessary to effectively improve IPC, according to the available evidence and wide-ranging expert consensus. A requirement for implementation success is to gain a solid understanding of each of the core components and, at the very least, assuring implementation of the IPC minimum requirements – IPC standards that should be in place at the national and facility level to provide minimum protection and safety to patients, health workers and visitors.

To help inspire your IPC implementation journey, WHO is and has been collecting country stories to showcase exemplars of IPC implementation as they relate to the WHO core components. Take a read below and see what IPC programmes are doing from around the world.


Core components for effective IPC programmes



IPC country stories from around the world

18 October 2022

Infection prevention and control in Germany



We have just launched a new web page on our website dedicated to [country stories](#). We want to highlight the journeys, challenges and successes of countries as they endeavour to strengthen IPC programmes at their national, subnational and local levels and in accordance with the WHO IPC core components. We will be featuring new country stories every few months and we hope that they will inspire others to strengthen their own IPC programmes. Launched yesterday is a story from [Germany](#). Highlights of a story from Bangladesh story are given below.

Focus on Bangladesh

Turning the COVID-19 crisis into an opportunity for stronger national and health care facility preparedness in IPC

Establishing an effective infection prevention and control programme takes time. However, as we have all witnessed, this can be accelerated when there is an outbreak or pandemic demanding it. In Bangladesh, the COVID-19 crisis turned into an opportunity for strengthening IPC using an approach which cut right across the health system, involving staff at national, district and facility level, and including community health workers too.

How and where did they start?

In Bangladesh, the COVID-19 global pandemic provided a strong impetus to the development of the *National preparedness and response plan for COVID-19*, as well as a national guideline on IPC for both private and public health care facilities. Since 2020, multisectoral and multi-stakeholder cooperation rapidly scaled up the implementation of IPC due to the continued commitment of top-level political and health care facility leadership.

WHO has supported the Government of Bangladesh in its development of their IPC guideline and to establish IPC committees both at district and “upazila” (facility) level to

prevent and control health care-associated infections, by setting policy and monitoring practices to reduce these risks. These committees are working with clearly defined objectives and workplans to oversee IPC performance in all the health care facilities across all districts.

IPC monitoring/auditing and feedback in the spirit of improvement

The Government health sector, together with WHO, has also developed assessment tools and checklists to monitor IPC standards, using a monthly scorecard to enable the visualization of IPC implementation by each health care facility. These assessments are done in the spirit of improvement and used to identify gaps and breaches regarding adherence to guidelines, and better align training initiatives to ensure delivery of the best care possible.

First piloted in Cox's Bazar, this programme has led to improvements in 120 health care facilities, which were assessed in terms of their IPC preparedness and readiness. Findings were shared with policy makers and reviewed for further improvement. By using an IPC scorecard, significant improvements were recorded in the following areas: IPC personnel (from 8% to 100%), training (from 22% to 100%), monitoring (from 18% to 70%).

The monthly scorecards displayed in health care facilities have been an incentive, which is clearly promoting accountability and helping to track progress in the implementation of IPC measures. WHO, together with other health sector partners, have been working on developing a central dashboard for the visualization of IPC in health care facilities in the Rohingya camps, which could be accessed globally. This initiative is timely given the current development of a pool of IPC master trainers supporting eight divisions to roll out training in sub-district facilities, scaling up their monitoring as far as the community level.

Bangladesh's approach to IPC training

A "Master Training and Education in IPC" programme for health workers and a "Master Training Programme for Monitoring and Auditing of IPC Activities and HAIs" were conducted at the national level and then cascaded to district hospitals, targeting some 12 000+ health workers. The training consisted of theoretical and practical sessions on donning and doffing procedures for personal protective equipment and IPC practices aimed at preventing the transmission of infections.

The Government of Bangladesh also prioritized the improvement of infrastructure to provide a clean and hygienic environment, by ensuring the availability of appropriate IPC materials and equipment. Priority was given to establishing functional hand hygiene stations with clean, running water, soap and alcohol-based handrub for all health care facilities, as well as escalating the provision of personal protective equipment.

News from our partners

Centers for Disease Control (United States)

[Is Antimicrobial Resistance the next big thing?](#) Jhpiego joins the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to study this global threat, answer the question and encourage antibiotic stewardship.



The US CDC [environmental Cleaning Toolkit](#) was recently published and is to accompany their [Best Practices for Environmental Cleaning in Resource-limited Settings](#), which was developed in collaboration with Infection Control Africa Network (ICAN). This toolkit is a practical guide, with achievable stepwise actions, for health care facilities in low- and middle-income countries to be able to implement best practices for environmental cleaning.



World Antibiotic Awareness week 2022

[World Antibiotic Awareness Week \(WAAW\) 2022](#) is from 18-24 November and the WHO theme is *Preventing antimicrobial resistance together.*

For US CDC-related information please see the links below:

- [partner toolkit](#)
- [social media posts](#) and [visuals](#) (including details on the Global Twitter Storm at the bottom of the “social media posts” section)
- [educational resources for both patients/families and healthcare professionals](#)
- [patient print materials page](#)
- [educational resources for HCP materials page](#)

International Infection Prevention Week 2022 (16-22 October 2022)



COVID-19 continues to show the world what we’ve always known, namely that infection preventionists (IPs) play a crucial role in keeping our communities safe and healthy. In addition to fighting a global pandemic, the infection prevention and control community is protecting us from surges in health care-associated infections, measles outbreaks, the ‘flu season, and so many other day-to-day battles with infections.

[International Infection Prevention Week \(IIPW\)](#), which was first established in 1986, aims to shine a light on infection prevention each year. Last year’s IIPW focused on making infection prevention our intention in 2021. This year’s theme is “The Future is Infection Prevention: 50 Years of Infection Prevention”. It will highlight the five decades of infection prevention throughout APIC’s existence years and inspire the next generation of IPs to join the fight.

[Read more about the history of IIPW.](#)

APIC and IFIC Fireside chat: The role of national and international IPC associations/societies and individuals in supporting global IPC strategies – 18 November 2022 at 10:00 EST.



The COVID-19 pandemic brought much attention to infection prevention and control programmes around the world. Recently, the World Health Assembly (WHA) passed an important resolution concerning IPC programmes, and as current IPC experts, we find ourselves in the position of participating in a meaningful way. During this event, Dr Allegranzi, Head of WHO's IPC Hub, will present an overview of the Global report on IPC, published by WHO, as well as future directions for IPC. The central role of the Global Infection Prevention and Control Network (GIPCN) will also be discussed in terms of achieving global IPC goals going forward.

The learning objectives are:

- to discuss the importance of WHO's Global report on infection prevention and control;
- to outline global strategies for successfully addressing key issues in IPC;
- to explain how an infection control society or individual can get involved in supporting global strategies for improving IPC in the future.

[**REGISTER NOW**](#)

Brazilian Association of Professionals in Infection Control and Hospital Epidemiology
 The [18th Brazilian Congress of Infection Control and Hospital Epidemiology will be held from 26–29 October 2022](#) promoted by the [Brazilian Association of Professionals in Infection Control and Hospital Epidemiology \(ABIH\)](#). The Congress will be held in São Paulo, organized by the [São Paulo Association of Epidemiology and Healthcare-Associated Infection Control \(APECIH\)](#). Among the invited international speakers, we look forward to welcoming Drs Benedetta Allegranzi, April Baller, Denise Cardo and Didier Pittet.

During this congress, and specifically on 27 October, we will be launching the Brazilian Network of Nurses to Tackle Antimicrobial Resistance, a joint initiative of nurses from several academic and health care organizations, and lead by the School of Nursing, University of São Paulo and the Nursing Department at the Federal University of São Carlos. Please see attached the programme (in Portuguese only, however).



XVIII
 CONGRESSO BRASILEIRO
 DE CONTROLE DE INFECÇÃO
 E EPIDEMIOLOGIA HOSPITALAR
 26 A 29 DE OUTUBRO DE 2022
 SÃO PAULO/SP

27 DE OUTUBRO
SAVE THE DATE

LANÇAMENTO:
 REDE BRASILEIRA DE ENFERMEIROS
 PARA ENFRENTAMENTO DA
 RESISTÊNCIA ANTIMICROBIANA

LOCAL: SALA 01
 HORÁRIO: 12H30MIN ÀS 14H00MIN

PROGRAMAÇÃO FINAL

HORÁRIO	TÓPICO	RESPONSÁVEL
12:30 às 12:35	Abertura	Maria Clara Padoveze - SP Rosely Pigueiredo - SP
12:35 às 12:50	Contribuições dos Enfermeiros para o Enfrentamento da Resistência Antimicrobiana.	Adriana Félix - SP
12:50 às 13:00	Resultados do Workshop de Pesquisa: O Papel da Enfermagem nos Programas de Gerenciamento de Antimicrobianos.	Viviane Gusmão - DF
13:00 às 13:20	Apresentação do Termo de Referência da Rede de Enfermeiros para o Enfrentamento da Resistência Antimicrobiana.	Ligia Abrão - SP
13:20 às 14:00	Quais os Temas Prioritários da Agenda da Rede de Enfermeiros para o Enfrentamento da Resistência Antimicrobiana.	Caroline Silva - SP Elaine Krummehauer - RS Elana Costa - BA
14:00 às 14:05	Encerramento	Maria Clara Padoveze - SP Rosely Pigueiredo - SP