



INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL (IPC) | Volume 22 | August-September 2025

#### **IPC Sameeksha\***

#### **Highlights**

- India's first large-scale observational study and standardized surveillance report on CLABSI
- Indicators and targets for WHO global framework on infection prevention and control
- Evolving patterns of etiological profiles and susceptibility trends of healthcare-associated infections
- Systematic review of the cost-impact of sepsis care bundles
- MoHFW's guidelines for surveillance and reporting of healthcare associated infections
- E-learning on role of social and behavioural sciences in prevention and control of infectious diseases

### **Publications from scientific journals**

Profile of central line-associated bloodstream infections in adult, paediatric, and neonatal intensive care units of hospitals participating in a health-care-associated infection surveillance network in India: a 7-year multicentric study

- First large-scale observational study and standardized surveillance report to guide reduction of CLABSI.
- Describes the profile of central line-associated bloodstream infections (CLABSIs) in 200 intensive care units at 54 tertiary care centres across India.

The Lancet Global Health | Article | September 2025 | Online link

# Augmenting approaches to AMR prevention: a case for environmental sustainability within the WHO core components for infection, prevention, control

- Reviews integration of environmental actions in health facilities by leveraging WHO's core components for infection prevention and control.
- Proposes a One Health framework for using WHO core components for IPC to accelerate action against AMR.

The Journal of Hospital Infection | Full length article | 18 August 2025 | Online link

# The role of air pressure transients on the spread of bacteria from wash-hand basin sink traps in hospital en-suite bathrooms: a laboratory-based pilot study

- Investigates the transmission of bacteria from sink traps to wash-hand basins triggered by air pressure surges within drainage systems.
- Highlights the need to review the design and maintenance of hospital wastewater drainage systems to reduce the risk of contamination.

*The Journal of Hospital Infection* | Full length article | 12 August 2025 | Online link

# Identifying indicators and targets for the new World Health Organization global framework on infection prevention and control: an e-Delphi study

- Achieves consensus on the proposed indicators and targets to monitor IPC in all countries.
- Defines the core set of indicators and targets for the WHO global action plan and monitoring framework for infection prevention and control.

*The Journal of Hospital Infection* | Full length article | 30 August 2025 | Online link

# Beyond handrubs: QAC wipes as a water-sparing alternative for protein-contaminated hand hygiene with persistent dorsum challenges

- Compares the effectiveness of wipes with quaternary ammonium compound (QAC), traditional handwashing, and hydrogen peroxide-enhanced alcohol-based hand rubs in removing microorganisms from hands.
- Demonstrates that QAC wipes (if used as per wiping protocol for full 60 seconds) are as effective as handwashing with soap in reducing microbes, and better then hydrogen peroxide-enhanced alcohol handrubs.

*The Journal of Hospital Infection* | Full length article | 11 August 2025 | Online link

# Infection prevention and control research priorities: what do we need to combat healthcare-associated infections and antimicrobial resistance? results of a narrative literature review and survey analysis

- European experts (including from European Committee on Infection Control) define IPC research priorities to facilitate funding.
- Defines 16 IPC research priorities (including three urgent research gaps) under seven IPC sub-themes interventions, guidelines, trainings, surveillance & monitoring, facilities & staffing, behavioural science, and One Health.

Antimicrobial Resistance & Infection Control | Research | 24 August 2025 | Online link

# **Evaluating the implementation of a patient engagement mHealth application in clinical infection prevention**

- Evaluates the acceptability, barriers/facilitators for implementation and impact of a smartphone app to prevent catheter associated urinary tract infections (CAUTIs).
- Findings highlight the need to verify hidden barriers to engage patients in adopting mHealth tools to prevent CAUTIs.

Infection Control & Hospital Epidemiology | Original article | 26 August 2025 | Online link

# Evaluating infection prevention and control programs in Zambian hospitals using the WHO infection prevention and control assessment framework tool

- Evaluates the implementation of WHO Infection Prevention and Control Assessment Framework (IPCAF) tool in nine hospitals in Zambia.
- Finds overall intermediate implementation of IPC core components, and recommends a larger, nationally representative survey to identify barriers and impact of IPC implementation across hospital levels.

Frontier Public Health | Research | 29 August 2025 | Online link

# Evolving patterns of etiological profiles and susceptibility trends of healthcareassociated infections since inception: a meta-analysis

- Highlights a shift in HAI etiology over six decades from Gram-positive organisms to multidrug-resistant Gram-negative Enterobacterales, non-fermenters and fungi.
- Recommend sustained investment in surveillance, prevention, stewardship and new treatments.

Cureus | Review | 14 September 2025 | Online link

### A systematic review of the cost-impact of sepsis care bundles

- Evaluates evidence on financial outcomes of implementing sepsis care bundles across acute and sub-acute care.
- Finds clinical and economic effectiveness associated with sepsis bundle implementation in acute care despite the heterogeneity in reported cost outcomes, sepsis definitions, with limited patient level data and evaluation.

*The Journal of Hospital Infection* | Full length article | 15 September 2025 | Online link

### Aseptic technique in clinical nursing settings: a scoping review

- Maps the current literature to clarify key concepts and definitions of asepsis and aseptic technique in relation to clinical nursing for better IPC practices.
- Recommends consistent terminology and principles based on variations observed in definitions and application.

*The Journal of Hospital Infection* | Review | 8 September 2025 | Online link

#### **Guidelines**

# Technical guidelines for surveillance and reporting of healthcare-associated infections: district level health facilities

- Provides evidence-based, country-specific definitions and formats for identifying and reporting HAIs in district-level healthcare facilities, aligned with National Quality Assurance Standards and *Kayakalp* programme.
- Can be implemented by district hospitals without needing any separate specialised organisational structure or additional resources.

Ministry of Health & Family Welfare | Guideline | 28 August 2025 | Online link

# WHO global water, sanitation and hygiene: annual report 2024

- Annual WHO report on implementation of water sanitation and hygiene (WASH) to promote health, prevent disease and achieve UHC.
- Records global improvements in access to safely managed drinking water, sanitation and basic hygiene services.

WHO | Global report | 8 September 2025 | Online link

# **Anthrax: implementation guidance for clinicians**

- Provides practical, up-to-date clinical guidance for frontline healthcare workers.
- Focuses on diagnosis, antibiotic treatment, post-exposure prophylaxis, and infection prevention and control measures for anthrax.

WHO | Normative guidance | 26 August 2025 | Online link

# Behavioural and social drivers of influenza vaccination: tools and practical guidance for achieving high uptake

 Provides a range of tools on behavioural and social drivers of influenza vaccination – for immunization programme managers, implementers, researchers etc. for programme planning and evaluation.

WHO | Guideline | 15 August 2025 | Online link

### **Training / IEC resources**

### Role of social and behavioural sciences in the prevention and control of infectious diseases

Provides behavioural and social science principles in the context of infectious disease prevention and control.

**ECDC** | E-learning | August 2025 | Online link

#### **Infection Control**

 Reviews the types of infection control methods and their indications, highlighting the role of the interprofessional team in adhering to infection control principles to enhance patient outcomes.

National Library of Medicine | Continuing education activity | 9 August 2025 | Online link

### Infection prevention and control – for environmental cleaning in health care

 Online learning module – for frontline environmental service workers, management, and infection control professionals – working in all health care settings.

Public Health Ontario | Online learning | 21 August 2025 | Online link

#### Water Micro-Learn

Educates healthcare workers on infection control actions they can take to prevent the spread of germs in water.

CDC | User guide | 20 August 2025 | Online link

### **Quotable quote**

Infection prevention and control, and patient safety are not different agendas - they have to be together, and they are deeply interconnected.

Mr Lluis Vinals Torres

Director, Health Systems and Services WHO Western Pacific Region

<sup>\*</sup> Sameeksha is a Hindi word, meaning review. This compilation of recent open access publications and resources on IPC (with a bulleted summary and online link) are grouped under scientific journals, guidelines, and training/IEC resources. Kindly note: inclusion of publications/resources in this review does not imply an endorsement by WHO.