

The Certification Corner

Welcome to *The Certification Corner* – CBIC's electronic newsletter, bringing you timely information about your organization.



CBIC: *The Certification Corner*
Volume 1; Issue 3
November 2008

CBIC

President's Corner—Deanie Lancaster

APIC

CHICA



Certified? Let the World Know

It takes commitment to become Certified in Infection Control (CIC®). Show your professional achievement with the official CIC® insignia pin. This 14K gold-filled CIC pin sells for \$35.00. We encourage chapters to purchase CIC® pins to present to chapter members who are certified or newly certified. It is a great way to recognize their achievement. Please contact the CBIC Executive Office for a product order form.

Welcome to all of you who are reading our third E-Newsletter from CBIC. CBIC has been very busy in 2008. The Test Committee has created a new computerized Self-Achievement Recertification Examination (SARE) that will be available as an option for those who are recertifying during spring of 2009. See article below for more details.

CBIC members voted unanimously to eliminate the 2-year practice requirement for taking the initial certification examination. The initial examination will still be aimed at the 2-year Infection Preventionist (IP) actively employed in infection prevention. Infection Preventionists who have recertified this year will notice a change in the wording on their certificates. The phrase "Board Certified in Infection Prevention and Control" replaces the previous wording as a step toward congruency with the changes made by APIC this past summer.

CBIC receives many questions about why the certification examination is required every 5 years rather than through the use of continuing education. Continuing education is not the same as competency; competence is an ongoing process requiring repeated measurement. There are advances in treatment and technology we must be familiar with and no oversight system exists to ensure continued growth in knowledge, skills, and performance.

Our practice is changing at warp speed and we find we must continually reassess and update our knowledge of what is included in our day-to-day activities related to infection prevention and control. Due to the evolving nature of our work, CBIC is considering soliciting your participation in a Practice Analysis during 2009. The importance of your participation in this project cannot be overemphasized because the findings of the Practice Analysis are used to develop the certification examination questions.

During 2009, I encourage you to consider taking the certification examination. As always, I also encourage chapters to recognize and celebrate their chapter members who have been certified.

Coming in February 2009: A New Web-Based Self-Achievement Recertification Exam

A new SARE exam for recertification is developed and released every other year. The next SARE will be released in February 2009 and will be web based. The eighth edition of the SARE will no longer be available in a paper-and-pencil format. The technology of hand scoring the paper and pencil answer sheets has become obsolete.

You will be able to enter and exit the exam as many times as you wish and will be able to access the exam from any computer. CBIC encourages you to purchase the SARE as early in the year as possible. An updated Candidate Handbook will be available with the new web-based SARE information and instructions by early 2009 via the CBIC web site or by calling the Executive Office at (913) 895-4607. Please contact the CBIC Executive Office for any additional questions.

APIC Annual Conference 2009
Fort Lauderdale, FL
June 7, 2009–
June 11, 2009

Greetings from CHICA-Canada: Preparing to Prepare Marion Yetman

CHICA-Canada is offering a special half-day session at its 2009 national education conference targeting potential CIC® candidates. The session titled "Preparing to Prepare" is unique in that it does not review topics such as microbiology or infectious diseases: instead it offers special advice to candidates on how each individual can prepare for this CIC® examination. There are four topics which include the following: 1) an overview of the CIC examination provided by the 2009 CBIC President, Sharon Krystofiak, 2) study tips, 3) study group versus independent study, and 4) multiple choice questions - tricks and pitfalls. The focus of the study tips will be to discuss how to get the most out of studying and it will review study skills and tools.

In Ontario, a study group was successful in helping members attain CIC® status. Ten of 15 participants who wrote the examination within 6 months of completion of the course were successful. This topic, Study Group vs Independent Study, will provide an overview of strengths and challenges of group study. In the final topic, an experienced teacher will provide advice on how to approach the multiple question examination and will include an interactive illustration of writing a multiple-choice exam. Multiple-choice questions are often a source of frustration to candidates and often ridiculed as "multiple guess" questions. At the end of this half day session, the participants should have an understanding of the quality and comprehensiveness of the CIC® examination and recognition that preparation is the key to success. An American founding father said "by failing to prepare, you are preparing to fail".

– Benjamin Franklin



CBIC is a voluntary autonomous multidisciplinary board that provides direction for and administers the certification process for professionals in infection control and applied epidemiology. CBIC is independent and separate from any other infection control-related organization or association. CBIC is accredited by the National Commission on Certifying Agencies (NCCA), a committee of the National Competency Assessment Organization.

The Certification Corner is an e-letter from the Certification Board of Infection Control and Epidemiology, Inc. All rights reserved 2008. If you would like to contribute or comment to this E-newsletter, please contact the CBIC

New 2009 CBIC Officers

President: Sharon Krystofiak
President-Elect: Fran Feltovich
Treasurer: Craig Gilliam
Secretary: Barbara Russell

CBIC also welcomes new Board members:

Kathryn McGhie
Kathryn Suh

APIC Liaison
Michelle Farber

CHICA-Canada Liaison
Catherine Munford

Framing Success

Need a beautiful frame for your certification certificate? Check out the frames at **Framing Success**. CBIC has negotiated a discounted price for these high-quality, custom-made frames. Please contact the CBIC Executive Office for a special **Framing Success** order form.

CBIC Mission Statement

The mission of CBIC is to improve the quality of healthcare by increasing the number of professionals whose knowledge mastery in infection control and applied

would like to contribute or comment to this E-newsletter, please contact the CBIC Executive Office at (913) 895-4607 or via e-mail at cbic-info@goAMP.com.

CBIC Mission Statement

The mission of CBIC is to improve the quality of healthcare by increasing the number of professionals whose knowledge mastery in infection control and applied epidemiology has been demonstrated by certification.

Elevating the professional. Elevating the profession.

To remove your name from our mailing list, please [click here](#). Questions or comments? E-mail us at cbic-info@goAMP.com or call (913) 895-4607. For more information regarding CBIC, visit our web site at www.cbic.org.