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**CBIC Announces New Infection Prevention and Control Certification for Long-term Care**

*First-of-its-kind professional certification for infection preventionists in long-term care*

**Arlington, Va., April 26, 2022** – The Certification Board of Infection Control and Epidemiology ([CBIC](https://www.cbic.org/)) today announced a [new certification](https://www.cbic.org/CBIC/Long-term-care-certification.htm) for infection prevention and control professionals working in long-term healthcare settings.

CBIC currently offers the CIC® and a-IPC certifications which apply more broadly to all patient care settings. The new LTC certification is the first to specifically measure competencies necessary to protect long-term care residents from infection. According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, more than 1 to 3 million serious infections occur each year among residents in long-term care.1

“Infection preventionists in long-term care facilities play a crucial role in keeping vulnerable communities safe,” said CBIC 2022 President, Sandra Callery, RN, MHSc, CIC. “Certification is an important way to demonstrate competency in infection prevention and control and has been tied to better hospital patient outcomes.2 Now, for the first time, individuals with responsibility for infection prevention and control programs in long-term care settings can obtain certification that is more tailored to their role and signifies their commitment to providing safe care.”

Long-term care facilities provide a variety of services, both medical and personal care, to people who are unable to live independently and typically include nursing homes, skilled nursing facilities, and assisted living facilities. It is estimated that currently 61% of infection preventionists in nursing homes do not have specialized training and less than 10% are certified in the field.3

“The new certification represents a major step forward for long-term care quality and safety,” said Jessica Dangles, Executive Director of CBIC. “During the pandemic, more than 200,000 long-term care residents and staff members in the U.S. died from COVID-19.4 Our goal in developing the new certification is to ensure that infection preventionists working in these settings can demonstrate that they are well-equipped to build strong infection prevention programs to protect residents and staff.”

CBIC will begin accepting applications for the [new certification](https://www.cbic.org/CBIC/Long-term-care-certification.htm) in July 2022 with an initial testing period opening in September 2022. For more information visit the CBIC website.

**About CBIC**

The [Certification Board of Infection Control & Epidemiology](https://www.cbic.org/), Inc. (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, but does collaborate with three partner organizations (APIC, IPAC Canada and IFIC) to help promote the importance of being certified in infection prevention and control (CIC®).

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