

## Engagement Rationale:

In February 2018, I was contacted by the APIC CEO and APIC Board President, inviting me to chair the APIC Consensus Conference Steering Committee. The goal of the conference was to envision the future of the infection prevention (IP) profession and inform APIC's upcoming strategic plan. Always up for a challenge, I agreed!

Together with the APIC CEO, Executive Vice President, a consultant group member, and three steering committee members representing APIC's diverse practice areas, we began planning in earnest in March. Our bi-weekly meetings led to the identification of four major themes/workgroups for conference discussion:

1. Reimagining the IP role: the future of IPC in a transformed healthcare system
2. Preparing IPs for enhanced leadership roles across the continuum of care
3. Developing strategies to support the IP's practice across the continuum of care
4. Building the business case for an enhanced IP role

Quickly, we realized the importance of involving a broad range of invested stakeholders to lend credibility and increase the likelihood of success. As I mentioned at the time, we sought collective wisdom, diversity of thought and perspectives, and cross-fertilization of ideas that would benefit both individuals and APIC. Invitations were extended to representatives from medical centers, government agencies, ambulatory care, long-term care, dialysis centers, home care, academia, researchers, and professional societies. Each participant was assigned to one of the four workgroups and provided with information and materials in advance, including a curated collection of relevant articles.

In November 2018, 43 participants gathered for two and a half days in a hotel ballroom in Crystal City, Virginia, to craft a shared vision for the future of IPC. Through targeted strategy sessions, brainwriting exercises, affinity diagrams, and plenty of sticky notes, we were able to work collaboratively toward our goal. I had the honor of serving as program chair, and the engagement, energy, and commitment from all involved was truly inspiring. Hundreds of ideas were recorded and categorized, and by the third and final day, representatives from each workgroup presented their conclusions and proposed recommendations to the entire group. Everyone had the opportunity to ask questions and offer feedback. In total, 30 recommendations were presented, with 28 being accepted through a democratic voting process. The APIC Board of Directors had the responsibility to prioritize the recommendations and determine the best strategy for each. Conference proceedings and recommendations were published in: Crist, K., Murphy, D., Wright, M. O., Wallace, E., &

Manning, M. L. (2019). The role of the infection preventionist in a transformed healthcare system: Meeting healthcare needs in the 21st century. *American Journal of Infection Control*, 47(4), 352-357.

I am confident that this narrative, along with the accompanying evidence, effectively highlights the significant impact of my work and the outcomes achieved in this critical area. The Engagement evidence provided is an article appearing in *Prevention Strategist* titled “Crafting a Shared Vision of the Future of the Infection Preventionist” published in Spring 2019, Volume 12, Number 1.