

A new  
year, a new  
sense of  
hope



BY JANET GLOWICZ

**WHEN THE WORLD** came to a halt in 2020, infection preventionists (IPs) operated around-the-clock to fight the pandemic. I would like to express my appreciation to the infection prevention and control community for your tireless efforts to keep the public and your colleagues safe during these trying times. With the announcement and initial administration of SARS-CoV-2 vaccines, a sense of hope is on the horizon.

My gratitude goes out to past President Linda Goss, the CBIC Board of Directors, and CBIC staff for remaining available and focused on promoting infection prevention competency throughout the year. We launched and promoted several new initiatives, including recertification by Infection Prevention Units (IPUs) and the Associate – Infection Prevention and Control (a-IPC) entry-level examination in 2020.

### New opportunities in 2021

Many CICs submitted their portfolios, along with questions, insights, and support for the new IPU recertification pathway. CBIC has implemented this feedback into a revised 2021 IPU manual<sup>1</sup> for those individuals due to recertify in 2021. We have adjusted the categories to reflect the new changes and added examples of acceptable activities for each category.

We recognize that passing the CIC® examination is a professional milestone and showing off your credential is about to get easier. CBIC is thrilled to announce that digital badging through Credly is coming in 2021. Digital badging will allow CICs to promote themselves and their certifications through social media, email, PDF, and print. When your digital badge is displayed on professional social media sites, potential employers will be able to view and verify your credential.

### On the horizon

2020 put the spotlight on infection prevention and control and accomplishing the goal of health-care without infection through verifiable competency continues to be critically important. If you lost a colleague, friend, or family member to COVID-19, please accept our heartfelt condolences. If you held window visits for family members, taught personnel how to don and doff N95s, if you worked late at night to acquire needed PPE, or any of the other thousands of needed tasks, we thank you. Your resilience and commitment to save lives is demonstrated in your competent performance. The CBIC Board and staff applaud your service and recognize your strength.

I hope that we move into 2021 with a sense of optimism for the future. Our community is needed more than ever before and our commitment to infection prevention will continue to give us strength as we work towards the CBIC mission to provide pathways to assess and maintain infection prevention competency in all healthcare settings.

With appreciation,

Janet Glowicz, MPH, PhD, RN, CIC, FAPIC  
2021 CBIC President



#### Reference

<sup>1</sup> Recertification by Continuing Education: Infection Prevention Units (IPUs) Criteria Chart. <https://www.cbic.org/CBIC/Recertify/Recertification-by-Continuing-Education/IPU-Criteria-Chart.htm>. Accessed February 1, 2021.