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2024 CBIC President

Springing Forward

Spring signifies new beginnings, and in 2024, many infection preventionists (IPs) will set out on their path to achieve their initial certification. I was first certified in January 2008, and my involvement with CBIC progressed as a member of the Test Committee, writing and reviewing test questions. I began my career in infection prevention and control (IPC) in a large academic hospital and have since moved into public health and healthcare-associated infection/antimicrobial resistant pathogen prevention.

As CBIC approaches the third year of our strategic plan, I am committed to ensuring that anyone who wants to can demonstrate competency through the different examinations we have. Alignment of certification opportunities along career path progression from novice to mid-career to expert is of top priority for CBIC.

As a hiring manager, I have seen interest increase in the Associate—Infection Prevention and Control (a-IPC) certification. This entry-level certification examination is a measure of basic infection prevention knowledge. It is intended for the novice IP and for those interested in pursuing careers in IPC. If you are interested in the field of IPC and are considering certification, the a-IPC is a great place to start.

Work continues on the Advanced Leadership Certification in Infection Prevention and Control (AD-CIP). We have a dynamic and diverse group of subject matter experts finalizing the practice analysis that will result in this portfolio-based assessment. The AD-CIP exemplifies the knowledge, skills, and abilities expected of individuals who demonstrate professional expertise working in IPC, and our work is being guided by the APIC Competency Model. We look forward to sharing updates with you at the APIC Annual Conference in June.

In 2024, CBIC launched its ambassador program. Shazia Irum, RN, MSC, MBA, CIC, CPHQ, was selected as our first ambassador. Shazia has been CIC-certified since 2019 and has over eight years of experience in IPC. Her current title is infection control specialist at King Salman Center for Kidney Diseases in Riyadh, Saudia Arabia. The role of a CBIC Ambassador is to embody the values, mission, and objectives of CBIC and advocate for certification. Additionally, an ambassador supports CBIC in building relationships and fostering strong connections with key stakeholders including health officials, strategic partners, and others. We are delighted to be working with Shazia in this exciting new role!

I look forward to continuing our journey, and CBIC is prepared to meet you where you are in your professional career with the a-IPC, CIC, LTC-CIP, or the upcoming AD-CIP. Our vision remains a world free of infections through demonstrated professional competency. I am excited to see everyone at the annual conference in San Antonio.

Happy Spring!

Sincerely,

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