



Opportunities for improvement



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“As the role of the IP grows, so do our opportunities to share our expertise with our colleagues and make an impact both within and beyond our own organizations.”

AS SUMMER COMES to an end and we head into the fall, it is time to ramp up again and refocus our activities. To those of you who are preparing for or contemplating certification or recertification, I encourage you to add this to your accomplishments for 2014. To those of you who have already certified or recertified this year, congratulations on becoming one of more than 5,700 CIC certified infection preventionists (IPs)!

Earlier this year, CBIC completed its practice analysis, which will shape the content outline and examination content for the next four to five years. Thank you to all of you who took the time to complete our survey, and also to those board-certified IPs who formed our Practice Analysis Task Force and volunteered their time to help us complete this. Watch for these results in the near future.

We also offered our first Certification Preparatory Course, held as a pre-conference session at the APIC Annual Conference in Anaheim in June. More than 200 IPs completed the course. We will use the valuable feedback we received from attendees to improve this offering in the coming years, in the hopes that it may encourage and enable more IPs to become certified.

This issue of *Prevention Strategist* highlights collaboration with the microbiology laboratory and C-suite, as well as antibiotic resistance with a particular focus on carbapenem-resistant Enterobacteriaceae (“the nightmare bacteria,” as deemed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention). These topics and issues reflect the increased awareness of infection prevention and control, and the expanding involvement of IPs in today’s healthcare systems. As the role of the IP grows, so do our opportunities to share our expertise with our colleagues and make an impact both within and beyond our own organizations. Board certification is the one objective indication of an IP’s expertise, and implies that the certified IP has the requisite skills and knowledge required for competent practice in today’s changing healthcare arena.

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References

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