

2024 CBIC Test Committee



Alejandra Zambrano Gonzalez, DPN, BSN, MSN, RN, CIC

Alejandra Zambrano Gonzalez earned her BSN and MSN degrees from Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile where she served as an assistant professor in the School of Nursing. During almost 20 years. Alejandra has occupied leadership positions as Associate Chief Nurse for Acute and Critical Care areas in Chile where she was one of the pioneers introducing the use of PICC lines inserted by Registered Nurses in adult patients obtaining a National Grant to train IV nurses throughout the country. Her practice also included positions as the Director of Infection Control and Hospital Epidemiology in Chile while I developed and implemented an online Infection Prevention professional Diploma at Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile. She also served as a 3M Key Opinion Leader for Latin America, during that period I trained clinicians in infection prevention and IV lines topics in many countries across Latin America.

In the US, Alejandra earned her DNP from Northeastern University in Boston, and she has worked as an Infection Control Practitioner in the Department of Infection Prevention and Control at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, MA, and more recently as an Infection Preventionist at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN. She has been an author and co-author of many papers published in the Infection Control and Hospital Epidemiology field.



Alida Merritt, CIC

Alida Merritt is the Manager of Quality and Infection Prevention at Bitterroot Health, Hamilton, Montana. She graduated from Georgetown University School of Nursing with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing in 1988. After graduation, she worked for several years at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland caring for patients participating in Phase 1 clinical trials for HIV, AIDS, and various cancers. After marrying in 1992, she and her husband returned to her home state of Montana. She began employment with Bitterroot Health in 1993 in home health and took her current position in 1998. She received her Master of Science in Nursing from the University of Phoenix in 2015 and has her CPHQ and CIC certifications.

She is a member of APIC National and APIC Montana Chapter 117, having served as the Montana chapter president in 2022. When the Montana weather allows, she is busy gardening and canning what she grows. When the snow blows, she makes cheese, reads, and spends time with her husband and four very busy canine children.

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Amanda Sivek, PhD, a-IPC

Since joining ECRI in August 2015, Dr. Sivek has worked on topics relevant to the field of infection prevention and control, including the completion of laboratory evaluations of disinfection caps for needle free intravenous connectors, ultraviolet mobile device disinfection boxes, hand hygiene compliance monitoring systems, and hand hygiene observation apps. She also led a human factors survey study of duodenoscope reprocessing workflow and ergonomics that was published in the American Journal of Infection Control in September 2022.

Dr. Sivek completed her PhD in Bioengineering in 2015; she is a board-certified Associate – Infection Prevention and Control (a-IPC) by the Certification Board of Infection Control and Epidemiology (CBIC). Dr. Sivek is an expert in environmental infection control; medical device cleaning, disinfection, and sterilization practices; infection control technologies; in vitro and in vivo use of ventricular-assist devices (VADs); hemodynamics; and flow-induced blood damage. During her graduate studies, Dr. Sivek worked as an Artificial Heart Biomedical Engineer at UPMC Presbyterian and Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh assisting in the care of adult and pediatric patients implanted with VADs.



Amy Cook, MHI, MLS.ASCP^{cm}, CIC

Amy Cook is a dedicated Infection Preventionist for WellSpan Health, a regional health system serving South-Central Pennsylvania. She is currently the Manager of Infection Prevention and Control for WellSpan York Hospital.

Amy holds a Bachelor of Science in Medical Technology, a Master of Healthcare Innovation, and a Certificate of Clinical Laboratory Sciences. She maintains both her professional ASCP Medical Laboratory Scientist certification as well as her CBIC CIC. She is a member of APIC and recently served on the board and as secretary for the regional APIC chapter she is a member of. Amy had the privilege of advancing her experience with epidemiology by participating in a field study in collaboration with CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention).

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Andrea Flinchum, MPH, BSN, RN, CIC

Ms. Flinchum works as the coordinator for the Healthcare-associated Infection/Antibiotic Resistance Prevention Program at the Kentucky Department for Public Health. She joined the state health department in 2011 and was promoted to the manager of the program in 2012. She was President of her local APIC chapter in 2014-2015 and the Education Chair in 2009-2010. In 2015, she was awarded the Sally Reeves Recognition Award by her local chapter, Bluegrass APIC. As the HAI Coordinator for Kentucky, Ms. Flinchum is a member of all three state chapters in the state. Since 2017, Ms. Flinchum has been a member of the Council of Outbreak Response: Healthcare-associated Infections/Antibiotic Resistant Organisms (CORHA), serving on one of the workgroups. She is a member of the Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE) and is a member of the CSTE/HAI Subcommittee.

Prior to joining public health, her career began at the University of Kentucky Healthcare in 1988. Ms. Flinchum provided bedside care to patients for 17 years, predominantly in the Neurosurgery Intensive Care Unit. In 2005, she joined the IPC Department. Working in this busy, every moving academic medical center, it was the perfect classroom for learning about IPC.



Andrea Levine, MLT(ASCP), CIC

Andrea Levine currently works for Jefferson Health in suburban Philadelphia PA. She has been an Infection Preventionist for 17 years & CIC since 2008. She has a background in Microbiology & previously worked in the pharmaceutical industry before Epidemiology piqued her interest. She specialized in Pediatrics for 12 years.



Anees Alhenn, CIC

Anees S. Alhenn is a Senior Infection Control Practitioner for Center of prevention and control of infection (CIPC) in the Medical Military services. He is also a Surveyor with Saudi central board for accreditation of health care institution (CBAHI) and enjoys using his qualifications and skills to contribute to the exciting infection prevention and control activities that happen every day at CIPC. Anees graduated from the University of Jordan in 2005 with a Master Degree in Public Health. He is inspired daily by his lovely wife and three children, two angels and fearless knight. In his free time, Anees likes to hike, swim and watch movies with his family.

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Anieca Ashley, RN, BSN, CIC, LTC-CIP

Anieca Ashley is the Infection Prevention Practitioner for Lakeland Village; Washington State DSHS state operated facility that provides care for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities in Medical Lake, WA. She has been recognized as a LTC Subject Matter Expert for WA State DOH.

Anieca is most honored by her COVID Drop Team Infection Prevention Specialist recognition for her development of partnerships with LTC facilities in her county 2020 - 2021. She also played a vital role in the IP practices for the Ronald McDonald House Corporation on a national level. She has received many awards and recognitions locally and nationally for her community outreach. Anieca has been appointed to the APIC Practice Guidance Committee. She is APIC Inland Northwest Chapter President, Chapter Board Member and Chapter Conference Lead. Anieca served as an APIC Professional Development Committee member 2019-2021. She has authored/coauthored articles and Toolkits for APIC publications, lectured and presented at various local, state and national conferences and webinars.



Anna Nutt, MPH, CIC

Anna Nutt, MPH, CIC has a combined infection prevention experience of 10 years in various healthcare settings and most recently with the Texas Department of State Health Services as a Healthcare-Associated Infection (HAI) Epidemiologist. Anna initially obtained her certification in infection control (CIC) in 2014 and recertified in 2019.



Arely Rego, MSN, BS/HSA, RN, CIC

Arely Rego has been an Infection Preventionist for thirty years, has served on different board positions and is currently president of her local Miami-Dade County APIC Chapter. She is also a member of the Florida Professionals in Infection Control (FPIC) and served as on their board as past secretary. She has held several leadership positions in Infection Prevention and Control and is currently employed in an academic acute care facility as Director of Infection Control. Arely is licensed as a clinical laboratory technologist and started her healthcare career in the clinical Microbiology laboratory. She became interested in the field of infection prevention after collaborating on projects and being mentored by an Infection Preventionist.

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Arely is a registered nurse and holds a Master of Nursing Science degree, and a baccalaureate degree in Health Services Administration. She is certified in infection control (CIC) and in nursing leadership (NE-BC). She is also a member of the Sigma Theta Tau Nursing Society, Omicron-Delta Chapter.



Belle Davis, MHL, BSN, RN, CIC

Belle is the Quality Improvement Manager of Houston Physicians' Hospital and is serving as the interim Quality Improvement director as well as a candidate for the position. Belle manages the development, implementation and evaluation of the hospital's overall quality improvement program that includes ancillary, nursing and medical staff departments to identify trends, prioritize and recommend improvement, decrease duplication and ensure compliance with accrediting agencies. Belle also provides primary oversight to the organizations Infection Prevention and Control Program as well as the Occupational Health Program.

Prior to joining Houston Physicians' Hospital, practiced nursing to patients across the continuum of care. Belle has had 18 years' experience in Infection Prevention and 7 years of experience in Occupational Health in the Memorial Hermann Health Care System as well as St. Luke's. During this time Belle has served as valuable resource through natural disasters, pandemics and process improvements to prevent healthcare acquired infections. Belle received the DAISY award for nursing excellence for her leadership and outstanding service during the COVID-19 pandemic.



Betsy Allbee, BSN, CIC, FAPIC

Betsy has been in healthcare for 40 years with 30 years of Infection Prevention and Control experience. She's been CIC certified for over 25 years and a FAPIC for 6 years. Betsy served as the APIC VA Chapter President in 2011 and has been an active member of the APIC VA Board for more than 20 years. She is currently serving her last year as a director.

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Bria Berry, a-IPC

Hailing from the vibrant city of Kansas City, MO, Bria Berry is a dynamic professional with a passion for public health, epidemiology, and making a positive impact on global health systems. Armed with a Master's in Public Health with a focus on epidemiology, Bria stands at the forefront of the battle against infectious diseases. As a certified Infection Prevention and Control Professional (a-IPC), she brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise to her role.

In her professional journey, Bria has been dedicated to the fields of infection prevention, education, mentorship, health equity, and health promotion. She has recently been on the front-line as a public health worker for the local public health department in Atlanta and now works as a Research Analyst and Special Projects Lead.

As a Section Councilor for the American Public Health Association's Public Health Education and Health Promotion (APHA-PHEHP) Section, she plays a pivotal role in shaping the future of public health education and promotion on a national level.

In every aspect of her life, Bria embodies a commitment to excellence, a dedication to public health, and an enthusiasm for lifelong learning.



Carra Hindberg, CIC, LTC-CIP

Carra is an Infection Preventionist who works with nursing home residents and employees to prevent, recognize, and control the onset and spread of infections in order to provide a safe, homelike environment.

Carra has served as a board member for the APIC Dacotah Plains chapter. She contributed to the development of the LTC initial examination from Certification Board of Infection Control and Epidemiology (CBIC). She is highlighted by the State Historical Society of North Dakota at the North Dakota Heritage Center as a community hero who responded to the 2020-2022 COVID pandemic in North Dakota and was interviewed for *The Power of a Question: Why North Dakota Developed the Greatest COVID Outbreak in the World and How Community Heroes Turned It Around*.

She has been featured by local news outlets for her infection prevention and control program success during the COVID-19 pandemic. Carra holds a Bachelor in Nursing from the University of Phoenix.

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Christie Piedmont, MA, BSN, RN, CIC

Christie Piedmont, BSN MA CIC, is a certified Infection Preventionist RN with 15 years of experience in Infection Prevention & Control in an academic Medical Center. She has a background in adult stem cell transplant bedside nursing. Christie's current foci include catheter-associated urinary tract and blood stream infection prevention; multi-drug resistant organism, COVID-19, and other pathogens of concern isolation management; and, infection control risk assessment in construction & renovation. Christie enjoys engaging with bedside care team members in field work and also working on interdisciplinary approaches to infection prevention.



Debora Dahl, MSN, RN, CIC

Debbie graduated from the University of Oklahoma with a Bachelors in Science. Being a life-long learner, she continued to Kramer School of Nursing and Oklahoma Baptist University with a Masters in Nursing in 2010. Her master's thesis: "Enhancing Professional Excellence through Nursing Certification" is the background to move infection preventionists towards certification. Certification insures standards in practice and to provide safe high-quality care. Debbie has been in Infection Prevention for 10 years. She currently works as Infection Preventionist at Cedar Ridge Hospital in Oklahoma City and is Treasure for OKLA APIC chapter 125.



Debra A. Hagberg, CIC

Debra Hagberg is a Director of Clinical Affairs for Professional Disposables International (PDI). She has worked as an Infection Preventionist for over thirty years with a background in clinical laboratory science specializing in clinical microbiology and infectious disease. Prior to joining PDI, Debra worked as an Infection Control Manager in a large ambulatory care practice, as a Director of IP and Performance Improvement within an acute rehabilitation hospital, and as a Director of Business Development for Clinical Solutions and a Clinical Program Manager both within the surveillance technology industry. Debra has a Bachelor of Science degree in Medical Technology from the University of Massachusetts (Dartmouth), achieving both certification as a Medical Technologist (MT) and Clinical Laboratory Scientist (CLS). She is board certified in infection control (CIC) through CBIC and has maintained certification for 29 years.

Debra's current role as a director within the PDI clinical team allows her the opportunity to become involved in research and development, education, communication, publication, and customer relations to promote evidence-based science within infection prevention especially as it relates to skin antisepsis, nasal decolonization, environmental disinfection, and hand hygiene.

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Denise Parr, BSN, RN, CIC

In 2015 Denise Parr progressed from bedside nursing to become the infection prevention nurse at a southeastern Michigan health center. The infection prevention program encompassed a level III special pathogen hospital, ambulatory surgery center, and physician offices. By 2017, Denise obtained her Certification in Infection Control through the Certification Board of Infection Control and Epidemiology. Utilizing lessons learned during the first waves of the COVID-19 pandemic Denise transitioned to Michigan Department of Health and Human Services as the Lead Manager to the Infection Prevention Resource and Assessment Team who provide infection prevention support to multiple types of congregate care settings.

Her committee work began at the local level with Denise being elected as the Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (APIC) Great Lakes 2022 Nominations Chair. In June of 2022 Denise co-presented at APIC regarding the diversity, equity, and inclusion work her team has implemented. Denise hopes to continue volunteering with APIC Great Lakes and is very excited to work with CBIC as well.



Doramarie Arocha, PhD, MT(ASCP)SM, CIC, FAPIC

Doramarie Arocha is the Director of Infection Prevention for UT Southwestern Health System in Dallas, TX. She graduated from The University of Texas at Arlington with a Bachelor of Science Degree. She attained a Master of Science Degree from Texas Woman's University in 1994 and her PhD in Public Health with a concentration in Epidemiology from Walden University in 2016. Dr. Arocha worked as a Medical Technologist in the Clinical Microbiology Laboratory for 11 years before transitioning into Infection Prevention. Dr. Arocha helped create a Special Pathogens Task Force at UT Southwestern which became the Assessment Facility for North Texas.

Dr. Arocha has been active in TSICP and APIC serving as a Director, President and Treasurer for TSICP and served on the Nominating and Awards Committee for APIC. Dr. Arocha was honored as one of APIC's 2011 Who's Who in Infection Prevention, was the recipient of the Rising Star Award from APIC-DFW in 2011 and was recognized for Outstanding Infection Prevention Support during the Hurricane Response in 2017. Dr. Arocha was selected as one of the COVID Heroes in DFW. Honored for her humanism (Gold Humanism Honor Society) during the COVID-19 pandemic.

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Doe Kley, RN, MPH, T-CHEST, CIC

Doe is the senior infection preventionist for Clorox Healthcare where she provides consultative services using her clinical expertise, and development of practice tools for clinicians. Doe also works several weekends a month as a nurse supervisor for Alameda County COVID shelters and teaches an infection control course for the Ohio State University.

She first earned a bachelor's degree in microbiology before pursuing her nursing degree. Doe holds a master's degree in public health from the University of Nevada, Reno. Doe has nearly 20 years of acute care infection prevention experience working in large healthcare systems such as Intermountain Healthcare in Utah and Kaiser Permanente in California. She was inducted into Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing in 2009. Doe also teaches an infection control course for Ohio State University and is a member of multiple professional organizations including APIC, AHE, AORN, SHEA, and ANA.



Elizabeth C. Dauch, BSN, RN, CIC, LTC-CIP

Elizabeth Dauch is the Director of Infection Prevention for the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources, Bureau for Public Health in the office of Epidemiology and Prevention Services. After graduating in 2002 with her Associate Degree in Nursing, Elizabeth spent the next 13 years gaining valuable experience in the medical/surgical/telemetry acute care setting and as a private nurse for endocrinology services. During this time, she also returned to school and obtained her BSN.

When Elizabeth left the acute care setting, and ventured into post-acute-long-term care, she was introduced to the Infection Preventionist Profession, as well as the roles of Nurse Practice Educator and Certified Nursing Assistant Instructor. This unexpected journey has provided opportunities for her to work as an IP in the post-acute-long-term care setting at the center, regional and corporate levels, and a valuable experience in a large hospital system over the last 7 years.

Elizabeth is a member of APIC and is a newly selected Director for the 2023 WV Chapter's Board. Through her career, Elizabeth, has been awarded the 2014 CAMC Nurse Excellence and more recently the 2022 McKnight's Women of Distinction, Veteran VIP Award.

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Emily Bouzek, RN, CIC, LTC-CIP

Emily Bouzek is the Infection Preventionist (IP) in an 80-bed Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) in Rural Western Wisconsin. She has been in long-term care for 19 years of her nursing career. Emily has worked in Infection Control and Prevention since 2011. She obtained her CIC in 2019. Emily has three daughters and has been married for 22 years. Currently, she is working on completing her Master's degree in nursing with a focus on Infection Control. She has worked for nearly 15 years with Morrow Home Community in Sparta, Wisconsin.



Erin M. Wilder, MPH, RN, CIC, CPHQ, LSSBB

Erin M. Wilder (formerly Beck), MPH, RN, CIC, CPHQ, LSSBB, has been a nurse for over twenty-five years and an Infection Preventionist for seventeen. She has overseen the infection prevention program for several hospital systems and has extensive experience including in the acute, outpatient, long term, and critical access settings. She has also had the privilege of mentoring many new infection preventionists and students to the profession. Ms. Wilder is an active APIC member and has served as President (2017-2018) and Board Member (2019) of her local APIC chapter. She also coauthored two poster presentations for the annual national APIC conference (2017). Ms. Wilder achieved her initial Certification in Infection Prevention and Control in 2008 and has maintained continual certification since. She also maintains her certification in healthcare quality (CPHQ) and is also a certified Lean Six Sigma Black Belt (LSSBB). Currently, Ms. Wilder is the Director of Infection Prevention at Kootenai Health in beautiful Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, and serves as author and subject matter expert for a New York State Department of Health approved training course in infection control and barrier precautions.



Giovanni Satta, MBA, MPH, DTM&H, CIC

Giovanni is a physician/scientist in infectious diseases/medical microbiology and the infection control doctor at University College Hospitals (London, United Kingdom). Giovanni is also an honorary Associated Professor at University College London with a specific research interest in new drug development against mycobacterium tuberculosis (MTB), non-tuberculous mycobacteria (NTMs), whole genome sequencing, multi-drug resistance and new rapid diagnostics.

Giovanni began his medical training in Italy before coming to the UK to study at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. He then undertook specialist training in both infectious diseases and microbiology and completed the majority of my UK training at the Royal Free Hospital. He was also an academic fellow at University College London (UCL) where he

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completed a PhD on whole genome sequencing and its applications to new drugs development against Mycobacterium tuberculosis. He also holds a MBA in Healthcare, a Master of Public Health, the diploma in tropical medicine (DTM&H) and I am board certified in infection and prevention control (CIC).



Heather Dixon, MSN, RN, CIC, CPHQ

Heather Dixon is the Director of Quality, Safety and Infection Prevention at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, UPMC Mercy. Located in Pittsburgh, UPMC Mercy is an academic medical center providing tertiary care specialized in trauma and burn, stroke and geriatric medicine. In Ms. Dixon's role, she leads the organizations COVID-19 pandemic response, infection prevention, regulatory, and quality improvement activities. In 2020 and 2021, UPMC Mercy has achieved an A Leapfrog Safety Grade. Over the years, Heather has mentored dozens of health care professionals to achieve their professional and academic goals. She is a site lead for the University of Pittsburgh MPH infection prevention practicum experience, along with many nursing students over the years. In her free time she appreciates time with friends, biking and travels.



Holly Scheideler, CRNP, APN, MSN, a-IPC

Holly Scheideler is a Nurse Practitioner and Clinical Advisor in the acute and long-term care settings for Optum Health. She earned her Master of Science degree in Nursing from Rutgers University and a Master of Arts in Communications from California State University at Fullerton. Holly's interest in infection prevention was piqued by the Covid 19 pandemic which prompted her to pursue the a-IPC certification. Since receiving her a-IPC over two years ago, she continues to share her infection preventionist experience with facility staff and internal Optum team members. She also served on Optum's internal Infection Preventionist Team.



Hu Xin, CIC

Hu Xin underwent her post-graduate medical training in Sydney and majored in Infection & Immunity. She began her professional career as an infection preventionist and took full range of IP practices since 2016. Currently, Hu Xin takes IP in charge of medical cluster in National University Hospital, Singapore. She also participates membership in Infection Control Association, Singapore.

Before moving to the field of Infection Prevention & Control, Hu Xin had over five years working experience as a registered nurse in Communicable Disease Centre, Singapore. Hu Xin enjoys discussing especially the prevention &

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control of outbreak in different contexts and global pandemic response, renovation design in an IC perspective, healthcare innovation and research.



Janene Gumz-Pulaski, MBA, BSN, RN, CIC, LTC-CIP

Janene Gumz-Pulaski earned a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Valparaiso University, minoring in psychology, and a Master of Business Administration from Indiana Wesleyan University, and she has more than 27 years of experience as an infection preventionist. She maintains a CIC credential from the Certification Board of Infection Control and Epidemiology (CBIC). Currently, Janene is contracted as the Indiana Department of Health Assistant Manager of the Infection Prevention Program and District 1 Infection Preventionist. She has been a mentor for novice infection preventionists at the IDOH and to others throughout her career. She has served as a Board of Directors member, Emergency Preparedness Liaison, and Scholarship Committee Chair for APIC-Indiana. She was an Infection Preventionist and Executive Board member for the District 1 Hospital Emergency Planning Committee and an acute care facility's Emergency Preparedness/Bioterrorism Coordinator. Janene received an Honorary Doctor of Medicine in 2007 while volunteering for a charitable organization in Honduras.



Joseph Tannous, MLS, MHRM, CIC

Joseph is an Infection Control Consultant at the Emirates Health Services (EHS), Dubai, UAE with 16 years of experience in Infection Prevention and Control. He has a bachelor's degree in Medical Laboratory Sciences and a master's degree in Hospital Risk Management. He embarked on his infection prevention and control journey in 2007 at the Ministry of National Guard Health Affairs (MNGHA), Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) as Infection preventionist and coordinator for the infection control program, which is also the Infection Control Centre for the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) and a WHO collaborating center. In 2016, he joined the American University of Beirut Medical Center (AUBMC) as Infection Control Professional and member of the medical center Infection Control Committee. During his appointment at AUBMC, he completed a master's degree in Hospital Risk Management. Internationally, he participated in many WHO missions as Infection Control advisor for assessment of Ebola Virus Disease preparedness and response capacities in Morocco, Lebanon, and Egypt. He joined the USAID/AUB nation-wide approach to strengthen the Infectious Diseases Emergency Preparedness and Response plans within hospitals across Lebanon. Furthermore, he joined WHO in standardizing the infection control practices among governmental and private hospitals across Lebanon. He attended multiple international Infection Control conferences where he

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presented IC related research and studies. He organized, moderated and presented in many Infection Control courses and workshops and has many IC related publications.



Kai Bryant, MPH, CLS, MT(ASCP), CIC

Kai is a specialist in Infection Prevention & Control program development, NHSN HAI surveillance and data validation, large Multidisciplinary Laboratory Operations, Environmental Hygiene, High-Level Disinfection, USP 797 & 800 Consultation, Compounding Sterility, Instrument Sterilization, Outbreak Investigation, Disaster Management, and Clinical Education. She is experienced in all aspects of infection prevention and control in acute care hospitals, home care, ambulatory settings, rehabilitation centers, and new construction. Kai is also skilled in the development and oversight of educational programs, policies, and initiatives to promote safety and mitigate risk as well as epidemiology, performance improvement, and microbiology.



Kali Crosby, MSN, RN, CIC

Kali currently serves as the Infection Prevention Program Manager at the Department of Veteran Affairs in Atlanta, Georgia. She has been a nurse for over 23 years. Kali earned her master's degree in nursing specializing in infection prevention and control. Her background includes working at the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, county health departments, and overseas for the Dept. of Defense. In these positions, she has provided leadership, public health preventive measures, and infection control management.

She has co-authored five published peer-reviewed journal articles. She is a member of several national professional nursing organizations, including the Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (APIC). During 2021- 2022 she served as a member of APIC's Health Inequity Committee.

Kali has been recognized by prominent healthcare leaders, including the US Secretary of Health and Human Services, for her role in the National Health Initiative for Combating Antibiotic-Resistant Bacteria. She was also acknowledged by the Executive in Charge of the VA Healthcare System for her leadership during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

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Karen Kistner, MPH, CHES, CIC

Karen is board certified in infection control and epidemiology and a certified health education specialist. Karen received bachelor degrees in Biology and Psychology from the University of Rochester and a Master of Public Health from the George Washington University. Her career has taken her from working as an epidemiologist in state health departments, infection prevention at acute care hospitals and most recently, as a Clinical Consultant with Premier, Inc. working to support infection practitioners, pharmacists and other healthcare providers optimize workflows and improve patient care and outcomes via utilization of clinical surveillance tools.



Kasey Gambeta, MN, RN, CIC

Kasey holds a BSc in Nursing from Queen's University, a Master of Nursing from the University of Toronto, and is currently working towards her PhD at the University of Guelph, where she is focusing on IPAC education, training and motivation of informal caregivers. She started her IPAC career at St. Michael's Hospital in Toronto in 2009. She is certified in Infection Prevention and Control and is currently working as an Infection Control Specialist at Public Health Ontario.



Kelley Tobey, MPH, RN, CIC

Kelley Tobey is an experienced infection preventionist with 13 years' experience focusing on infection prevention techniques to improve patient outcomes and staff safety. She was raised in Pennsylvania, where she obtained her Bachelor of Science degree in nursing from Gwynedd Mercy College. She has utilized her skills and experience as a Registered Nurse working in Med-Surg, Cardiology, and Neonatal Intensive Care, and obtained an MPH with a focus in Community Health Education. Prior to working in Public Health, Kelley was an infection preventionist at an Acute Care Hospital for two years. Her experience is an asset when working with facilities across the healthcare spectrum. She has been board certified in Infection Control and Epidemiology (CIC) since 2014. She is an active member of the Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (APIC) and served on the APIC Smoky Mountain chapter Board of Directors from 2010-2022.

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Kerri Huber, EdD, MSN, RN, CIC

Kerri Huber is the Manager for Hospital Epidemiology and Infection Control for the Johns Hopkins Health System. Kerri is a Lean Sigma Greenbelt and is also certified in Just Culture. Huber has a doctorate in education from Columbia University Teachers College in New York, NY and a master's of science in nursing from Wesley College in Dover, Delaware.

Huber's clinical nursing background includes both sub-acute care as well as burn trauma and wound acute care. She left clinical care to pursue her interest in infection prevention where she became nationally certified. She has over a decade of leadership experience in Infection Prevention and Patient Safety. She is also a member of the Johns Hopkins Critical Event Preparedness and Response team.



Kornelija Delibasic, CIC

Kornelija has over 18 years of comprehensive hospital/clinical and public health experience in the fields of health promotion and prevention programs/ strategies, investigations, infection prevention and control in long-term care/ childcare and personal services settings, communicable diseases, epidemiology, safe food handling techniques, analytical and research methodologies, and delivery of public health inspection programs, in the public and private sectors. She earned a Master of Science Degree in Food Safety and Quality Assurance from the University of Guelph, a Bachelor of Applied Science Degree in Public Health and Safety from Toronto Metropolitan (Ryerson) University, and a Graduate Diploma in Public Health from the Medical College of Applied Sciences, from Belgrade, Serbia.

Kornelija is currently an instructor at the Bay River College, Calgary, Alberta, where she developed, and is teaching Infection Prevention and Control Course (IPAC), endorsed by IPAC Canada, and accredited by Canadian Nursing Association CNA. In addition, as a Manager of IPAC, Kornelija is currently employed with Toronto Housing and Homeless Supports at the Salvation Army, Toronto, Ontario.

Kornelija is co-author of number of the articles/research published in medical journals, as well as presented at number of IPAC Canada National Conferences. She is a long-time advocate and volunteer in the IPAC community and associations. Kornelija volunteers with IPAC Canada as a Chapter Council representative from IPAC Greater Toronto Area (GTA). She also volunteers with IPAC Greater Toronto Area (GTA) in various roles, including the Education Committee and has been elected Treasurer for a 2-year term commencing 2023.

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Krista Doline, BS, MT(ASCP), CIC, FAPIC

Krista Doline has been an Infection Preventionist for seventeen years and is currently a member of the Infection Prevention Surveillance and Analysis team with Piedmont Healthcare in Georgia. Originally from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, her prior education and experience includes Hahnemann University Hospital, The Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania and Doylestown Hospital. Her background is in Microbiology where she received her BS from Hahnemann University Hospital (now Drexel University College of Medicine). Krista has been an APIC Fellow since 2017



Kristina Felix, RN, MSN, CRRN, CIC, LTC-CIP, FAPIC

Kristi has been the Infection Prevention Manager for Madonna Rehabilitation Hospitals and Madonna St. Jane de Chantal Long Term Care Services for 28 years. Madonna has hospital campuses in both Lincoln and Omaha Nebraska and provides care to patients who come from all over the United States, needing specialized rehabilitation services as well as long term acute care, and skilled long term nursing care. She has completed her Master's Degree in Nursing with a specialization in Infection Prevention. Kristi has worked in post acute care infection prevention for over 30 years mainly in rehabilitation settings and long term care. She is a Certified Rehabilitation RN, and holds Certification in Infection Control (CIC) as well as the Long Term Care Certification (LTC-CIP) through CBIC. She is a Fellow of the Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (FAPIC). Kristi serves on the Board for the Nebraska Infection Control Network, and is the long term care representative for the State of Nebraska Statewide HAI Advisory Committee. She has served as a board member for her local APIC chapter, and has been a subject matter expert and education instructor for National APIC project teams and courses, including the APIC LTC Certification Course. She recently worked as a committee member that developed the LTC certification exam for CBIC.



Kymberly Lengyel, BSN, PHN, CIC

Kymberly Lengyel is currently the Associate Administrator of Hospital Epidemiology and Infection Prevention at Keck Medicine of USC. She has worked in Infection Prevention for 19 years. With 35 years in healthcare, her experience includes Acute Care, Surgical Service, Oncology, Organ transplant, Ambulatory Care, and Pediatric Subacute, each unique. As a registered nurse, her experience included Medical-Surgical (Ortho), Critical Care, Post Anesthesia Care, Assistant Director Perioperative Services, and Director of Infection Prevention/Employee Health Services/Critical Care. APIC member

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since 2003, served the Inland Empire Chapter as Director 2-year term and President 1-year term. Currently President for California APIC Coordinating Council 3-year term. She presented at National APIC, local APIC chapters, Infection Prevention Basic CDPH HAI Training, Health Service Advisory Group HSAG "Infection Prevention Mentorship," and coordinated the AHMC HSAG webinar (All Hands-on Deck to Reduce COi). Kymberly obtained a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN), currently certified in Infection Control & Epidemiology through the Board of Infection Control and Epidemiology (CIC) and the State of California as a Public Health Nurse.



Lindsey Weir, MPH, CIC

Lindsay Weir currently serves as a Lead Infection Preventionist at Boston Children's Hospital. In addition to her work with the pediatric medical/surgical critical care population, she currently specializes in high-level disinfection/sterilization and water management within the acute care setting. She is also an active member of Boston Children's Biocontainment Team and oversees contact tracing initiatives for the enterprise. Prior to joining Boston Children's Hospital, she served as a CDC/CSTE Applied Epidemiology Fellow in the General Infectious Disease program. In addition to her Certification in Infection Prevention and Control (CIC®), Lindsay holds a Masters of Public Health degree in Hospital and Molecular Epidemiology and a Certificate in Healthcare Infection Prevention and Control (CHIP) from the University of Michigan School of Public Health.



Lisa Hannah, RN, BS, CIC

Lisa Hannah is an Infection Prevention Team Supervisor for the Washington State Department of Health's Healthcare-Associated Infections & Antimicrobial Resistance Section. She has over 22 years of experience in the field of nursing and infection prevention. Lisa has been Certified in Infection Control (CIC) since 2014 and a member and board member of the Puget Sound APIC Chapter since 2012.

Her many years of experience includes long term care, acute care, dental, ambulatory surgery, emergency medical services, behavioral health, and critical access hospitals. She has a Bachelor of Science Degree as a Paramedic from Central Washington University and completed her nursing education at Lower Columbia College. Lisa was awarded the 2022 McKnight Prize for Healthcare Outbreak Heroes in response to her leadership during the COVID-19 pandemic as an infection preventionist at the Washington State Department of Health.

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Luci Perri, MPH, MSN, RN, CIC, LTC-CIP, FAPIC, CSPDT

Luci Perri has extensive experience in infection prevention and control and is the owner/president of Infection Control Results, a consulting company that is dedicated to reducing the risk of healthcare acquired infections in acute, dental, and ambulatory medical settings. She is a registered nurse with a master's degree in community health nursing and a master's degree in public health from the University of South Carolina. She is board certified in infection prevention and control, sterile processing and dental infection control. Additionally, she is a Fellow of APIC (Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology) which recognizes outstanding achievement in the field.

Maria Vacca, MSN, RN, CIC, FAPIC

Maria earned her BSN and Masters of Science in Nursing from Drexel University, graduating Summa cum Laude for both degrees. She began her nursing career in Critical Care. She transitioned to the Infection Control Department in 2004. Infection Prevention and Control quickly became her passion. Over the course of her career, she's had the opportunity to provide oversight and obtain experience in numerous Infection Control roles including High Level Disinfection and Sterilization, Infection Prevention oversight of Ambulatory Practices and Regulatory Compliance Coordinator. Maria's Lean Six Sigma training helped her lead numerous successful performance improvement projects for which her teams have won several awards, presentations and publications. She was the principle investigator for a Covid-19 research study that was published in the June 2022 issue of American Journal of Infection Control. Maria received recognition as a Fellow of the Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (FAPIC) in 2022.



Mary Schimmel, a-IPC

Mary became the Quality Manager for the UNM Medical Group in 2021. It quickly became necessary for her to learn infection prevention and control and she received her a-IPC certification in August of 2022. She has been an RN since 2009 and prior to that was an elementary school teacher. During her time as an RN, she worked NICU, Pediatrics, Orthopedics, and a few others! Mary moved into Quality in January of 2020 and shared office space with Infection Control. The pandemic ignited her interest in Infection control and showed her how very important it is. When she's not working, Mary enjoys spending time with her family and pets; cats, dogs, and horse (yes, it's a bit overboard). Life can be crazy but it's fun!

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Mary Whitaker, CIC

Mary Whitaker is a Quality Improvement Infection Preventionist with the CDC. Prior to this, Mary served as Director of Infection Prevention and Employee health and other roles in infection prevention for approximately 20 years. Mary has served her local APIC chapter as Nominations Chair and currently is on the board of the Georgia Infection Prevention Network where she will serve as Secretary for the 2023 term. Mary received her Masters Degree in Nursing with a focus on Management and Organizational Leadership from American Sentinel University in 2016. Mary has been a registered nurse for over 30 years. She is passionate about ensuring that the safest and highest quality care occurs at the facilities she works with and that every employee is protected during their work with patients.



Meenakshi (Meenu) Malhotra, M.B.B.S, MD, CIC

Meenakshi (Meenu) Malhotra is a certified infection control practitioner, currently working at the Center for Addiction and Mental Health. She holds MD in Microbiology from the University of Delhi, India. She completed her Infection Control Certification from Queens University and has experience in infection control in acute care, long-term care, mental health, and physician offices across Canada. She has also worked in research, has publications in reputable journals, and has received the “Sardari Lal Memorial Award” for the best publication in the Indian Journal of Sexually Transmitted Disease and HIV, AIDS. In addition, she is serving as the Chair of the IPAC Environmental Hygiene Interest Group and member of the Education committee, IPAC Canada.



Megan Amerson-Brown, PhD, CIC, MLS

Dr. Amerson-Brown received her undergraduate degrees in Microbiology and Clinical Laboratory Science from the University of Texas at Austin and The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center School of Health Professions. She received a PhD in Human Pathophysiology and Translational Medicine from the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston. Her doctoral research focused on sexually transmitted infections and women’s health. In 2022, Dr. Amerson-Brown completed a medical and public health microbiology fellowship at Baylor College of Medicine. She has over five years of experience working as an infection preventionist. Currently, she is an Assistant Professor and the Assistant Director of Clinical Microbiology at the University of Alabama at Birmingham where she oversees the bacteriology, mycobacteriology, molecular infectious disease and antimicrobial testing. Though she is not currently a practicing infection preventionist, she has maintained her certification in Infection Control and Epidemiology and currently sits on the institutional Infection Control and Antimicrobial Stewardship committees.

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Megan Dethloff, RN, BSN, MPH, CIC

Megan is the St. Louis, Southern IL and Mid-Missouri Regional Manager of Infection Prevention for SSM Health, covering 10 hospitals and multiple outpatient facilities. She has a background in microbiology, nursing and also has her MPH in epidemiology from Saint Louis University. She is certified in Infection Control and has been an Infection Preventionist since 2013. She is also a member of her local Greater St. Louis APIC chapter where she has served in numerous roles, including President and is currently the Bi-State Infectious Disease committee chair.



Miki Gould, CIC

Miki has over 20 years of experience in IP and has been certified and has a fellowship in Infection Control and Prevention. She has experienced throughout the continuum of care - from the NICU to Hospice.

Miki loves learning (lets gamba) and holds degrees in nursing and medical laboratory science, health science research and healthcare administration. Miki believes we each have strengths and we are stronger as a team. When she is not fighting germs, you can find her outdoors or volunteering with the BSA Scouts.



Mohammad Mhawish, CIC

Mohammad Mhawish was born in Jordan, married with one daughter. He completed his bachelor degree in Nursing from the University of Jordan in 2005, and holding a master's degree in clinical nursing from the same university in 2007. He is certified in infection control since 2013 from Certified Board of Infection Control and Epidemiology. He is experienced infection control senior specialist with a demonstrated history of multifaceted work exposure in acute and long-term healthcare facilities. He is Skilled in hospitals epidemiology, infection control program management, education and training. Mhawish progressed in his infection control career over 12 years. He worked as infection preventionist in different hospital settings such as Critical Care, Pediatrics, Oncology, and Operating Room. He actively participated in infection control program activities which include but not limited to Health care acquired infections surveillance, developing infection control program risk assessment and plans, compiling policies and procedures, and constructing the infection control reports. He coordinated many infection control performance improvement projects and attended many local and nationwide conferences.

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Sobhan Qadir, MBBS, MPH, CIC, MCPS, CHQP

Dr. Sobhan Qadir was born in the small village of Indus Valley in Pakistan in 1992 and moved to the capital of the country to fulfill the dreams he saw in the eyes of his parents. Dr Sobhan Qadir is now a medical doctor working as a Technical Advisor in Infection Prevention and Control with Jhpiego-A John Hopkins University Affiliate supporting the Ministry of National Health and the National Institute of Health Pakistan in developing and implementing the IPC Program on the country level. He got his CIC from CBIC in Feb 2023, He is also a Certified Healthcare Quality Professional and has an MCPS/MS in Health care system management and a Master's in Public Health. He has been supporting the CDC country office as a Technical Consultant on Infection Prevention and Control and a Consultant Global Health Security Agenda. He has also worked as a COVID-19 Lead in the capital of the country and Additional Medical Superintendent at Mayo Hospital Lahore. His interests are in Infection Prevention and Control Programs, Healthcare-associated infection surveillance, and Global Health Policy/International Health Regulations.



Orji C. Okereke, MBBS, MPH, CPH, CIC

Orji C. Okereke currently serves as an Infection Prevention Program Manager at Centura Health – Longmont United Hospital in Colorado. Orji completed his medical education in Nigeria, then proceeded to obtain a Master of Public Health and Global Health Certificate from the University of North Texas Health Science Center in Fort Worth Texas. He has diverse experience across various healthcare settings and is board certified in Public Health and Infection Prevention and Control. He is passionate about infections of global health significance and was recently named a Superhero by the Colorado Hospital Association.



Paula St. Hill, MPH, a-IPC, CIC, DrPH(c)

Paula is a doctoral student with a diverse background in public health, infection control, epidemiology, and microbiology. She has always enjoyed public health and identifying ways to improve health outcomes, specifically those related to healthcare-associated infections. She has over ten years of healthcare experience.

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Rashida A. Conway, CIC

Rashida A. Conway is currently the Director of Kaiser Permanente San Bernardino County Service Area Infection Prevention and Control in Southern California. She is board certified in Infection Control, holds a Masters Degree in Nursing with an Emphasis in Leadership in Health Care Systems. She has been a Registered Nurse for 7 years with 3 years of background in Emergency Services and 4 years in Infection Control.

She has recently co-authored an article that has been accepted for publication by The American College of Chest Physicians (CHEST) for reducing Catheter Associated Urinary Tract Infections in the Intensive Care Unit. Her work has been recognized by her peers as a recipient of the DAISY Award for her numerous efforts at the height of and throughout the pandemic. Her passionate belief in preventing infections in the hospital environment has led to the significant decrease in hospital acquired infections for CAUTI, CLABSI, CDIFF, and SSI.



Richard Hayden, CIC, LTC-CIP

Richard Hayden is from Newfoundland but has called Ontario home for almost 30 years. He has been a certified public health inspector in Canada since 1996 and holds both CIC and LTC-CIP designations. He worked for Toronto Public Health, Canada's largest public health unit, for 13 years before moving to the Ontario provincial government where he held various positions with the ministries of Health, Labour and Long-Term Care. He is currently an IPAC Consultant with Extendicare (Canada) Inc., which owns or manages more than 100 long-term care homes in three Canadian provinces.



Sangeeta Das Patra, CIC, LTC-CIP, RPN, ARDMS, MPH©, MBBS

Sangeeta Das Patra currently serves as an Infection Control Partner at Sienna Senior Living, Canada. She has over 20 years of experience in various healthcare sectors as an Infection Control Practitioner, Nurse, Cardiac Sonographer, and a foreign-trained physician. She is pursuing a master's in public health from the University of Waterloo, Canada.

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Shannon Simmons, DHSc, MPH, CIC

Shannon is a Fort Worth, Texas, native and began her professional career as a clinical microbiologist. Shannon had the privilege of starting her infection prevention career at Parkland Hospital in Dallas, TX. She is currently a corporate infection preventionist for Christus Health.



Sindhu Pillai, MSc, RN, CIC

Sindhu Pillai is an experienced infection control practitioner, microbiologist, and an active healthcare leader aiming to provide a collective approach to ensure the implementation of quality IPAC practices at clinical settings. Passionate about her role in improving the quality of patient care and working hard to be an advocate for best practices by collaborating with key stakeholders. Research interests include infectious disease, epidemiology, clinical education, program evaluation, and quality of care.



Steven J. Schweon, RN, MPH, MSN, CIC, LTC-CIP, CPHQ, FSHEA, FAPIC

Steven J. Schweon is a seasoned, board-certified infection preventionist. He is the corporate infection preventionist for Healthcare Services Group, Inc. (HCSG). He first became interested with infectious diseases while serving as a microbiology department that specialized in sexually transmitted diseases. HE later worked on the high technology isolation ward at Ft. Detrick, Maryland, home of “The Hot Zone”. Prior to becoming an infection preventionist, he had 14 years of experience, and achieved certification, in critical care and behavioral health nursing. Steve was also a long-term care “orderly” prior to attending nursing school.

Steve has been an infection preventionist since 1995, achieving continual board infection control certification since 1998. Clinical experiences include the acute care and long-term care settings.

He has authored/co-authored articles in peer reviewed publications, lectured/presented posters at national conferences and presented national webinars. He has authored chapters in APIC’s “Infection Preventionist Guide to Long-Term Care”. Additionally, Steve has served as a faculty member for

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the AHRQ Safety Program for Long-Term Care: HAI/CAUTI. He is also an APIC EPI acute care/LTC faculty member.



Terri Rebmann, PhD, RN, CIC, FAPIC

Dr. Terri Rebmann is a Public Health Communications Specialist for the Public Health Company. She is also Director of the Institute for Biosecurity, and an adjunct Professor of Epidemiology in the Saint Louis University College for Public Health & Social Justice. She is a PhD Nurse researcher with an emphasis in infectious disease emergency preparedness. In addition, she is board certified in Infection Control and Epidemiology (CIC) and a Fellow of the Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (FAPIC). She publishes and lectures on bioterrorism, pandemic planning, emerging infectious diseases, and infection prevention practices on a national basis.

Dr. Rebmann has worked in infection prevention and held the CIC credential for almost 30 years. She has served at the national level with both APIC and CBIC for many years. At APIC she has served in a leadership position on the APIC Bioterrorism Working Group, APIC Emergency Preparedness Committee, APIC Ebola Task Force, APIC COVID-19 Task Force, and now the APIC Emerging Infectious Diseases Task Force. For CBIC, she has served on the Board and as a member of the Test Writing Committee and Job Task Analysis team.



Tara Favata, CIC

Tara Favata is employed by the Department of Veterans Affairs as an Infection Preventionist at the VA Medical Center in Wilkes-Barre, PA. She is a registered nurse and earned her bachelors degree from Penn State University and Masters degree from Wilkes University. Tara has worked as an Infection Preventionist in both the private and public sector. She is passionate about helping to prevent infections and protecting our nations hero.

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Tiffany Wiksten, DNP, RN, CIC

Dr. Tiffany Wiksten, DNP, RN, CIC has been a nurse for over 20 years and has worked as an Infection Preventionist for over 10 years. In her current role, she is an Infection Control Subject Matter Expert for an accrediting organization. Prior to joining her current organization, Dr. Wiksten was most recently the Manager of Infection Prevention at a major metropolitan medical center in Chicago and she has led infection prevention and control efforts in a variety of healthcare settings including large academic medical centers, a community medical center with associated long term care facility as well as various ambulatory healthcare sites.

She earned her Doctor of Nursing Practice in Transformational Leadership from Rush University and her Master of Science in Nursing from Loyola University, with a focus on Population Based Infection Control and Environmental Safety. She is certified in infection control and has her Lean Six Sigma Green Belt.



Yolanda Ballam, CIC

Yolanda is a certified Infection Preventionist at Children's Mercy Hospital, Kansas City, Missouri. She graduated from the University of New Mexico with a Bachelors degree of University Studies. For 10 years Yolanda conducted or coordinated bench research and transitioned to a Clinical Lab Scientist role in the virology lab at Children's Mercy Hospital for 15 years prior to becoming an IP. Yolanda has melded her research and IP experiences to serve as a contributing author in numerous abstracts and publications, including podium presentations at national APIC and ID Week conferences. Yolanda's research interests and leadership activities include examining the impact of NHSN definition changes on CLABSI rates, outbreak investigations in a neonatal intensive care nursery and serving as a content expert and improvement specialist on a facility-wide committee to reduce CLABSI events.

Yolanda is an active member in her local APIC chapter serving as Treasurer, President-elect, President, Board member, Secretary, and mentor; she has held CIC certification since 2008. As an experienced IP practicing in an academic medical center, Yolanda enjoys mentoring a diverse group of health professionals from nurses to medical fellows.