

Guest editorial

Dr Michael Whitby • Chair, NABHCRS

The National Advisory Board on Healthcare Related Surveillance (NABHCRS) was established to promote a standardised surveillance strategy for Australia. The NABHCRS comprises members of the AICA Executive, representatives from the Australian Council on Healthcare Standards, the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons, and individuals with either the endorsement of their state governments or who have shown leadership in the area.

National numerator definitions for surgical site infection and nosocomial bacteraemia were developed by this group and published in the September 2000 edition of *Australian Infection Control*. Denominator definitions for surgical site infection and healthcare related bacteraemia have now been drafted, in addition to criteria for infection and colonisation with multi-resistant organisms.

These draft definitions will be mailed to all AICA members and distributed to key stakeholders in the next month for comment. This draft document will also be made available on the AICA website <www.aica.org.au>.

These consensus definitions represent an important step in surveillance in Australia. It is therefore vital that AICA members acquaint themselves with the document at this stage and make comment. It is also vital that AICA members provide other stakeholders with the opportunity to view the document and provide feedback. Comments can be submitted to the AICA Secretariat. Following this review process, the finalised definitions will be published in the June 2001 edition of the journal.

Expressions of Interest

The Australian Infection Control Association (AICA) Executive Committee has identified the need for a succession plan for the position of AICA President.

We are therefore calling for expressions of interest from financial members of AICA who may be interested in pursuing the role of AICA President. An expression of interest represents the commencement of an exploratory and informative process, not a commitment to undertake the nomination process.

Please send expressions of interest (name and contact details) to the AICA Secretariat PO Box 322 Wilston QLD 4051 or via the website <www.aica.org.au>.

Erratum – AIC Summer 2000, Vol 5 Issue 4

The editor wishes to apologise for the error in the Victorian State News. The authors for that article should have read Fiona Wilson and Joanne Cocks.

Erratum – AIC Spring 2000, Vol 5 Issue 3

Evolving and expanding: the scope of practice of the infection control practitioner.

The authors, E Jones, G Gardner and D Olesen, wish to acknowledge the Queensland Nurses' Council for provision of funding instrumental to the completion of the research project. The authors regret any inconvenience related to the omission of this acknowledgement.

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* Cobbett S & LeBlanc A. Minimising IV site infection while saving time and money. *Australian Infection Control (AIC) Winter 2000; 5(2): 8-14*

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