

## Results of Education Survey CHICA Canada NB-PEI Chapter

### Background

Ongoing professional development that meets the needs of Infection Prevention and Control Professionals (ICPs) and personnel with designated responsibilities for infection prevention and control is not usually available within facilities. The number of target personnel is small and expertise is limited. In-services directed to ICPs are not readily available; most likely ICPs are delivering education regarding infection prevention and control not receiving it.

Professional development opportunities are further limited secondary to recent fiscal constraints. Therefore the Executive is planning for regular education sessions to be associated with our Chapter meetings. To assist with planning Chapter members were asked at the May meeting to complete and return a simple education needs assessment survey.

### Analysis

A list of topics related to the practice of infection prevention and control was provided and members were asked to rank the items in order of importance to them. A total of 24 members responded returning 22 surveys (one survey was returned for 2 members twice):

- 12 acute care
- 8 long term care
- 3 acute and long term care
- 1 unable to determine origin

Not all participants ranked every topic. The experience of the participants ranged from novice to expert.

The results were collated and each topic was ranked by the number of participants who included it in their top 5 priorities for education. Five topics (see Table 1) were ranked in the top 5 by 50% or more of those responding to that topic.

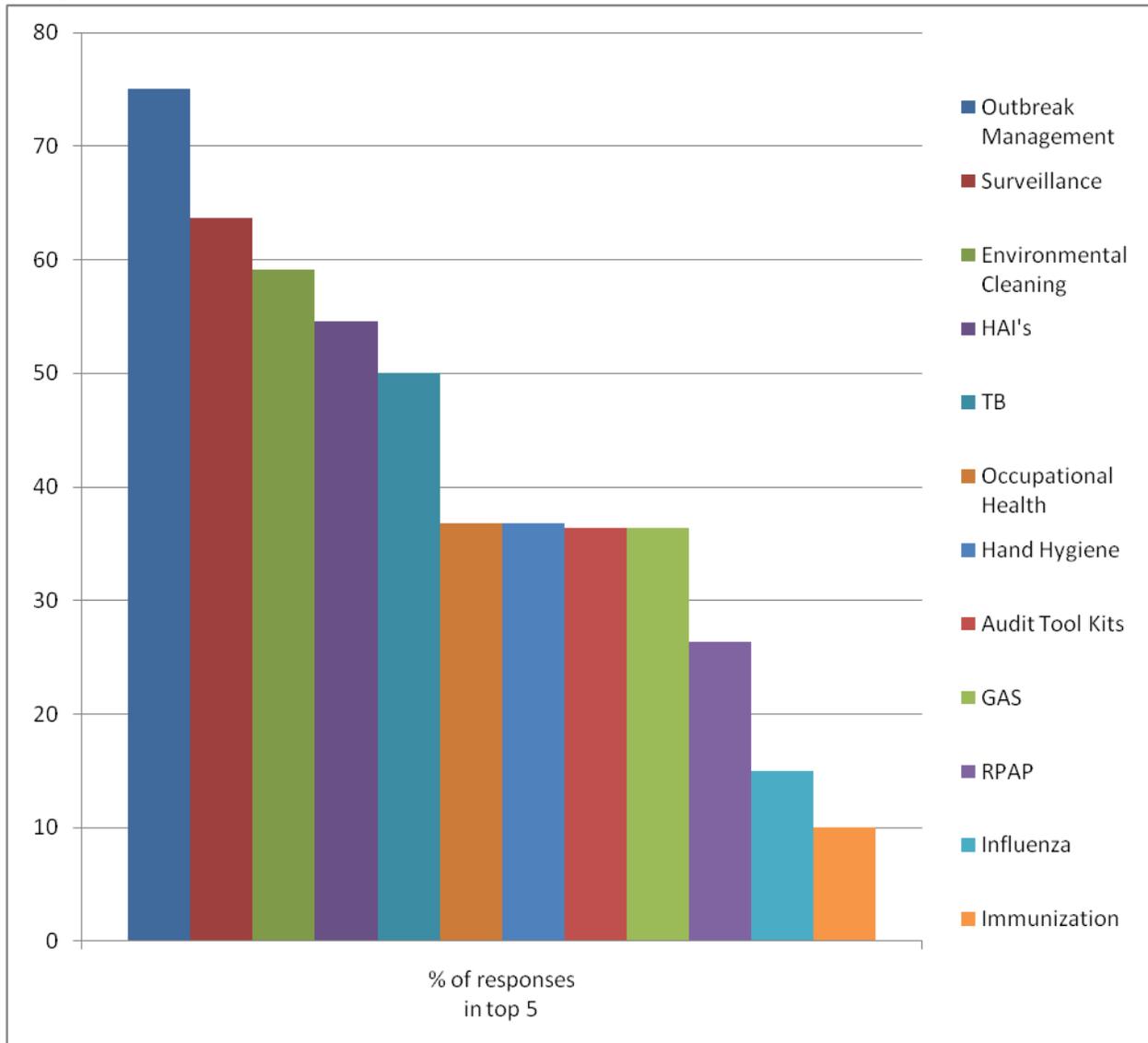
**Table 1**

<b>Topic</b>	<b>% of responders placing in top 5</b>
Outbreak Management	75%
Surveillance	64%
Environmental Cleaning	59%
Healthcare Associated Infections (HAIs)	55%
TB	50%

Chart 1 presents the percentage of responders for each topic who ranked it in categories 1 to 5 for all the categories.

**Chart 1**

**Each topic is ranked by the percentage of responders who included the topic in their top five picks**



Eight additional topics were suggested by the membership. Of significance, 7 members (29.1% of those who responded to the survey) suggested sterilization and reprocessing as a topic of need. Not enough to be in the top 5, but it would rank 10<sup>th</sup> in the top 10 topics. The suggested topics are presented in Table 2.

**Table 2**

<b>Suggested Topic</b>	<b>Number of Members Requesting</b>
Sterilization & Reprocessing	7
ESBL	3
Bed Bugs	1
Microbiology	1
AROs	1
Hemodialysis	1
Shingles	1
Norovirus Prevention & Management	1
Positive Deviance	1
<i>C difficile</i>	1

The final aspect of the survey was the opportunity for participants to provide comments. These comments are listed in Table 3 sorted by topic.

**Table 3**

<b>Comments</b>
<p><b>General</b> Like the educational sessions with Chapter meetings</p>
<p><b>TB:</b> We will be seeing more of this in the future. Are we prepared? Negative pressure room monitoring</p>
<p><b>Surveillance:</b> What, How often, How--computer? LTC and Community definitions, forms In relation to LTCF</p>
<p><b>Hand Hygiene</b> How to maintain compliance</p>
<p><b>RPAP</b> Reverse isolation myths and when to accord importance</p>

<p><b>Outbreak Management:</b>  We need more guidelines as we are spending more and more time on outbreaks  GI, influenza, and scabies  Bernadette willing to present re NICU <i>serratia</i>--ongoing problems  Outbreak Management guidelines should be same Zone to Zone</p>
<p><b>Environmental Cleaning:</b>  I need more education on what disinfectants kill what</p>
<p><b>GAS:</b>  What is definition for an invasive case?</p>
<p><b>Immunization:</b>  Recordkeeping  For patients</p>
<p><b>Occupational Health:</b>  What guidelines does Occ. Health use?  Ill employees, how long to be off?  Authority/responsibility to send home if ill at work?  Relationship to IPAC, what role should IPAC take  Would like to see work restriction guidelines for influenza, gastro, etc for IPAC and Employee Health</p>
<p><b>Audit Tool Kits:</b>  If required to do audits need education to ensure consistent application</p>
<p><b>Bed Bugs</b>  Implications for healthcare</p>
<p><b>Micro Lab</b>  New Trends in microbiology</p>
<p><b>Shingles</b>  Review of the precautions for all in LTC</p>

Clearly the topics of greatest need for our membership are Outbreak Management, Surveillance, Environmental Cleaning, Healthcare Associated Infections, and Tuberculosis. Some members are knowledgeable and experienced in these topics, but many are not.

Further detail must be elicited from the membership to focus the education efforts on these topics. Some education can be delivered formally after chapter business meetings and some more informally via email and NB/PEI Chapter website (soon to be up and running).