

**Infection Control Champions: Made ... Not Born**  
**Ivan W. Gowe, Pardee Hospital, Hendersonville, NC**  
**A Webber Training Teleclass**

## **Infection Control Champions: Made ... Not Born**

**Ivan W. Gowe, MS, MLS(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>, CIC**  
Pardee Hospital  
Hendersonville, NC



*Certification is Commitment*

[www.webbertraining.com](http://www.webbertraining.com)

October 11, 2018

### **Objectives**

- Explore how regular and paced education and development can create an Infection Control (IC) champion
- Describe resources for the Infection Preventionist's (IP) development
- Understand the central role of IC certification in developing champions
- Discuss the certification process

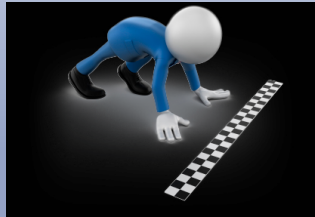


2

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## We all start somewhere

- Nursing
- Medical technology
- Epidemiology
- Public Health
- Physicians



3

## Resources

- Certification Board of Infection Control and Epidemiology (CBIC) Core competencies
- Roadmap for the Novice Infection Preventionist
- Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (APIC) Competency Model
- Certification in Infection Control (CIC)



4

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## Certification Board of Infection Control and Epidemiology (CBIC) Core competencies

- Identification of infectious disease processes
- Surveillance and epidemiologic investigation
- Preventing and controlling the transmission of infectious agents
- Employee/occupational health
- Management and communication
- Education and research
- Environment of care
- Cleaning, sterilization, disinfection, and asepsis



5

## Roadmap for the Novice IP

- APIC resource
- Aimed at first time IP
- Details necessary tasks and skills for the first two years
- Broken down by CBIC core competency
- Systematic, exhaustive
- A useful assessment tool for the seasoned IP



6

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## Roadmap for the Novice IP

- Stage 1 verbs (Days 0-60)
  - Familiarize/Locate/Identify
  - Assess/Review
  - Introduce/Subscribe/Meet
- Stage 2 verbs (Days 61-120)
  - Learn/Continue
  - Understand/Differentiate
  - Develop/Utilize/Contribute



7

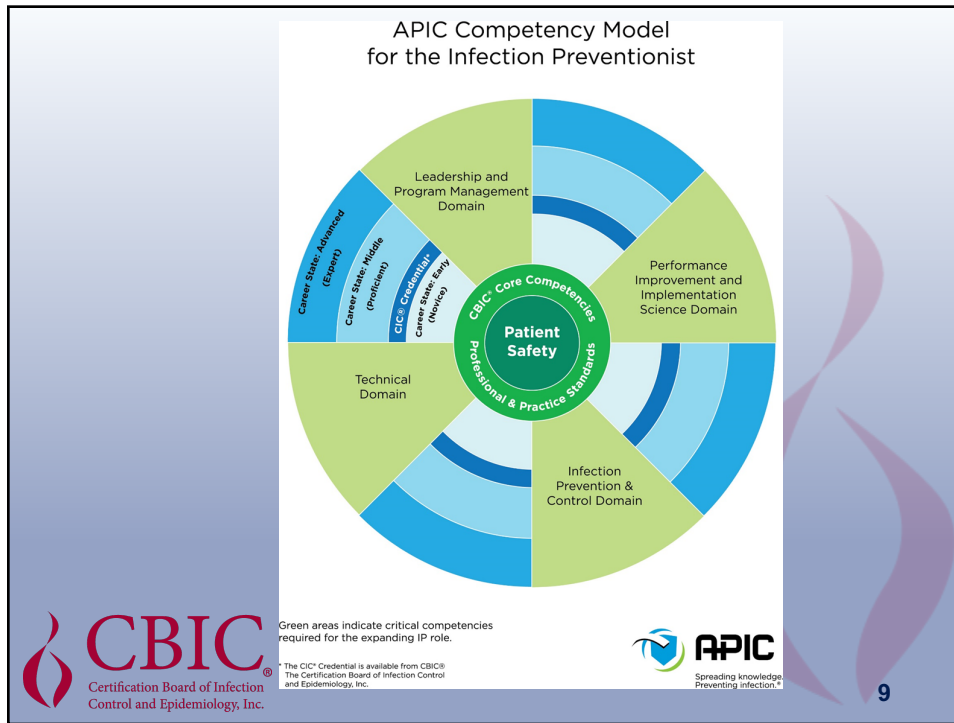
## Roadmap for the Novice IP

- Stage 3 verbs (Days 121-365)
  - Network/Participate/Facilitate
  - Reassess/Review
  - Create/Incorporate/Perform/Monitor
- Stage 4 verbs (Year 2-CIC)
  - Volunteer
  - Prepare
  - Explore



8

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# Certification

**CBIC**  
Certification Board of Infection Control and Epidemiology, Inc.

10

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## Why Certify?

- Reaffirms that through study and hard work, certificants attain an internationally recognized level of knowledge in the infection prevention and control field
- Supports future knowledge and skills
- Enhances professional credibility and prestige
- Grants personal satisfaction



11

## Objectives of Certification

- Provides standardized measure of current knowledge required for persons practicing infection prevention and control
- Encourages individual growth and study, thereby promoting professionalism
- Formally recognizes professionals in infection prevention and control who fulfill the requirements for certification and recertification



12

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## Why The CIC®?

- Represents commitment to continual improvement of infection prevention and control functions and their contribution to healthcare and patient safety
- Fosters a recognized professional community that helps to reduce infections in healthcare settings
- Moves the profession forward



13

## What is CBIC?

- Voluntary, independent, multidisciplinary Board
- **Mission:** To protect the public through the development, administration and promotion of an accredited certification in infection prevention & control. CBIC maintains and promotes professional certification of the highest quality through the accomplishment of key objectives.



14

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## What is CBIC?

- Established by the Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology, Inc. (APIC) in 1981; CBIC is an affiliate of APIC
- Accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA)
- Member of the Institute for Credentialing Excellence (ICE), formerly National Organization for Competency Assurance (NOCA)



15

## Board Composition

*(Minimal Requirements per Bylaws, 2014)*

- Medical Doctor: (1)
- Medical Technologist: (1)
- RNs: (3)
- Canadian Infection Preventionist (IP): (1)
- IP non-hospital setting: (1)
- IP long-term care setting: (1)
- IP 4 years or less experience as IP: (1)
- Public Consumer\*: (1)



\* All but consumer director & administrator must be CIC®

16



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## CBIC Strategic Priorities

- Maintain and improve the accredited certification program
- Increase recognition/value of certification
- Increase the number of certified IP/ICPs
- Establish/maintain partnerships with APIC, IPAC Canada and other organizations to accomplish goals



17

## Certification

### The Application



18

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## Eligibility Requirements

- Accountable for infection prevention and control activities in *your setting*, reflected in your job description
  - Includes, but is not limited to hospitals, ambulatory surgery centers, long-term care facilities
- Have a post-secondary degree
  - Associate's degree or higher
  - Diploma RNs if applying before Dec 31, 2020
- Sufficient experience in Core competencies
  - Recommend at least two years



19

## Eligibility Requirements

Sufficient experience (recommended: two years) in all three (3) of the following core competencies:

- Identification of infectious disease processes
- Surveillance and epidemiologic investigation
- Preventing and controlling the transmission of infectious agents



While there is no specific time requirement that defines "sufficient experience"; the certification examination is geared toward the professional who has had at least two years of full-time experience in infection prevention and control.

20

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## Eligibility Requirements

**And** at least two (2) of the remaining five (5) components:

- Employee/occupational health
- Management and communication
- Education and research
- Environment of care
- Cleaning, sterilization, disinfection, and asepsis



21

## Eligibility for Certification

- Candidates who are self-employed must submit additional documentation (See ***Candidate Handbook*** on our website for details)

## Eligibility for Recertification

- Individuals who are currently certified are ***automatically eligible*** for recertification every 5 years.



22

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## Lapsed Certification

If you fail to recertify when you are due and later decide that you would like to, you:

1. Must meet the criteria for *initial* certification
2. May no longer be eligible if you have changed positions to one where infection control is **NOT** your main area of responsibility



23

## Applying for the Certification Examination

- Ensure eligibility requirements are met
- Review the ***Candidate Handbook*** for additional information, applications and suggested reference materials
- Apply online at [www.cbic.org](http://www.cbic.org) or submit a paper application to the CBIC office



24

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# Certification

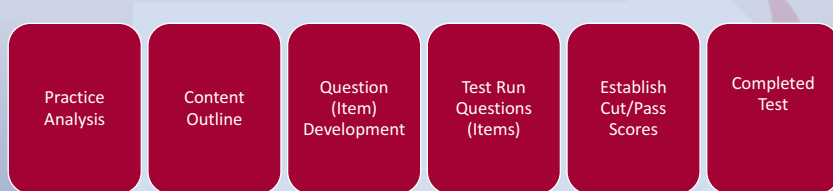
## The Examination



Certification Board of Infection Control and Epidemiology, Inc.


25

## Developing the Test



```
graph LR; A[Practice Analysis] --> B[Content Outline]; B --> C[Question (Item) Development]; C --> D[Test Run Questions (Items)]; D --> E[Establish Cut/Pass Scores]; E --> F[Completed Test]
```

Estimated timeline 18-24 months



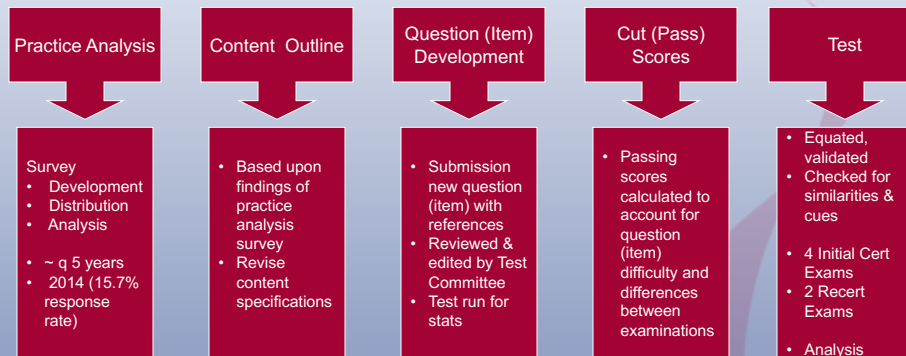
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26

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## Developing The Test



## Test Questions

Each content area includes test questions that target different cognitive levels:

- Recall** (simple recall or recognition)
- Application** (comprehension, interpretation or manipulation of concepts/information)
- Analysis** (integration of a variety of concepts, problem solving, making judgments)

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Sample Question: *Recall*

In investigating an epidemic, cases should be categorized according to:

- A. time, place, and person.
- B. agent, host, and environment.
- C. agent, host, and date of onset.
- D. time, person, and date of onset.



Answer: A  
29

Sample Question: *Application*

The lengths of stay for patients with nosocomial infections are 12, 12, 12, 13, 15, 15, 16, 20, and 30 days. What is the median length of stay?

- A. 12 days
- B. 15 days
- C. 16 days
- D. 25 days



Answer: B  
30

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Sample Question: *Analysis*

The risk of healthcare associated urinary tract infections in spinal cord injury patients is BEST reduced by:

- A. prophylactic antibiotics.
- B. bladder instillation of antiseptic.
- C. intermittent catheterization.
- D. placement of all patients with urinary catheters in the same area.



Answer: C

31

Validity of the Certification Examinations

- Exams based on practice analysis to ensure content is current, practice-related and representative of the responsibilities of infection prevention and control professionals
- The practice analysis, examination development and examination process adhere to nationally recognized standards for validation, educational, and psychological testing



32



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## Validity of the Certification Examinations

- Developed under the guidance of a psychometrician and test development specialist from an independent testing agency
- The testing agency oversees scoring of the examination
- Each test question undergoes both expert and statistical scrutiny before use



33

## Validity of the Certification Examinations

- Passing scores are determined for each version of the test to ensure equivalency between the different forms at all times
- Acknowledged by The Joint Commission as an important element of an effective infection control program



34

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## Confidentiality of Examination Scores

- Both CBIC and Prometric (testing company) maintain complete confidentiality of individual test scores
- Only summary statistics are provided at open forums and published periodically in the infection prevention and control literature



35

## Methods of Certification & Recertification

### Initial certification:

Proctored initial certification examination

### Recertification:

Self-paced, open book recertification examination\*

*\*If candidate fails the recertification examination, they must take the proctored certification examination*



Certification/recertification is valid for 5 years

36

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## Certification Examinations

- Comprehensive, job-related, objective tests
- 150 multiple choice questions; 135 of which are scored
- Developed from a practice analysis of Infection Prevention and Control Professionals in the U.S., Canada and other countries
- Recognized by APIC and IPAC Canada as the standard for certification in infection control
  - French-Canadian exam available
- Recognized by TJC as a measure of competence



37

## Certification Examinations

- Aligned with recognized practice standards for Infection Control and Healthcare Epidemiology
- The *only* standardized measurement of essential knowledge, skills, and abilities expected of infection prevention and control professionals in North America
- All content is applicable to multiple healthcare settings
- International testing centers
- ALL examination questions are the copyrighted property of CBIC



38

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## Initial Examination

- Proctored examination
- Required for initial certification
- Administered at assessment centers throughout the United States, Canada and other international sites
- 90-day window from application approval to exam completion



39

## Recertification Examination

- Self-administered (non-proctored), multiple choice, internet-based from any location
- Questions are based on the most current CBIC practice analysis
- The purpose of the recertification examination is to demonstrate continued knowledge mastery in the field of infection prevention and control



40

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## Recertification Examination

- Unlimited access before submission
- Must be done alone; do not discuss with colleagues
- Deadline to purchase: December 1
- Deadline to submit: 11:59pm GMT/6:59pm EST on December 31\* (same calendar year)

*\*CBIC strongly recommends submitting the recertification no later than December 30<sup>th</sup> to be sure that the exam is submitted successfully in time.*



The sooner you purchase the exam, the more time you have to complete it!

41

## Certification

### The Preparation



42

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## Preparing for the Examination

### Current Content Outline

Content Domain	Items
Identification of Infectious Disease Processes	22
Surveillance and Epidemiologic Investigation	24
Preventing/Controlling the Transmission of Infectious Agents	25
Employee/Occupational Health	11
Management and Communications	13
Education and Research	11
Environment of Care	14
Cleaning, Sterilization, Disinfection, Asepsis	15



43

## Preparing for the Examination

- Assess Core Competencies for your strengths and weaknesses
- Create a study plan
- Review reference material (as listed in the candidate handbook), journals and standards, including APIC and IPAC Canada's Practice Standards
- Form/join a study group amongst your peers
- Contact your local APIC or IPAC Canada chapter for support.



44

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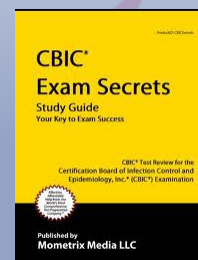
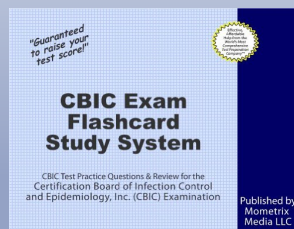
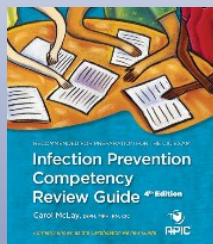
## Preparing for the Examination

- Listen to our webinars
  - "Road to CIC Certification"  
<https://webbertraining.com/recordingslibraryc4.php>
  - "How to Prepare for the CIC exam"  
<http://www.cbic.org/certification/media>
- Take the practice exam
- Review practice questions on CBIC social media



45

*CBIC neither produces nor endorses products or materials related to preparing for the certification examination.*



46

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## Exam References

### Primary References:

- *APIC Text of Infection Control and Epidemiology*, 4th ed., Volume I, Volume II and Volume III, APIC, Washington, DC, 2014.\*\*
- Kulich P, Taylor D, eds. *The Infection Preventionist's Guide to the Lab*, APIC, Washington, DC, 2012.
- Heymann, D., ed. *Control of Communicable Diseases Manual*, 19th ed., Washington, DC: American Public Health Association; 2008.
- Brooks, Kathy. *Ready Reference for Microbes*, 3rd ed., APIC; 2012.



47

## Exam References

### Secondary References:

- Current Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP).
- Current guidelines, standards, and recommendations from CDC, APIC, SHEA, and Public Health Agency of Canada.
- Pickering, Larry K, ed. *Red Book*, 29th ed., Elk Grove Village, IL: American Academy of Pediatrics; 2012.

\*\**The 2015 recertification examination was written using the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of the APIC Text of Infection Control and Epidemiology, Volumes I and II.*



48



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## Resources

Check CBIC Web site [www.cbic.org](http://www.cbic.org) for:

- **Online Candidate Handbook** (*all application and order forms for the examinations are included*)
- Background information on CBIC and the certification process



49

**Certified**  
What next?



50

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## Use of the CIC<sup>®</sup> Credential

- Only individuals who have successfully passed the proctored, initial certification examination and have maintained current certification, through the recertification examination\* may use the CIC<sup>®</sup> credential.
- The CIC<sup>®</sup> credential may be used on resumes, business cards, letterhead, and other professional communications.
- The CIC<sup>®</sup> credential may not be used for product or other endorsements.

\*CICs may maintain certification through the proctored examination, only if they receive a failing score on the recertification exam.



51

## From Certified to Champion

- Volunteer – APIC, IPAC-Canada, CBIC boards, committees
- Attend/present at education conferences
- Mentor
- Network
- Research
- Review



52

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## Resources

**Association for  
Professionals in Infection  
Control and Epidemiology  
(APIC)**

1275 K St., NW  
Suite 1000  
Washington, DC 20005  
(202) 789-1890  
[www.apic.org](http://www.apic.org)

**Infection Prevention and  
Control Canada (IPAC  
Canada)**

PO Box 46125 RPO Westdale  
Winnipeg, MB R3R 3S3  
(866) 999-7111  
[www.ipac-canada.org](http://www.ipac-canada.org)



53

## Resources

**CBIC Executive Office:**

555 East Wells Street  
Suite 1100  
Milwaukee, WI 53202  
Phone: (414) 918-9796  
Fax: (414) 276-3349  
Web site: [www.cbic.org](http://www.cbic.org)

**Testing Company:**

**Prometric**  
Phone: (800) 278-6222 (toll  
free U.S., U.S. Territories, and  
Canada)  
Website:  
[www.prometric.com/cbic](http://www.prometric.com/cbic)



54

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<a href="http://www.webbertraining.com/schedulep1.php">www.webbertraining.com/schedulep1.php</a>	
October 17, 2018	<i>(South Pacific Teleclass)</i> <b><a href="#">BIOFILMS IN THE HOSPITAL ENVIRONMENT - INFECTION CONTROL IMPLICATIONS</a></b> Speaker: <b>Prof. Karen Vickery</b> , Macquarie University, Australia
October 18, 2018	<b><a href="#">INFECTION PREVENTION CORE PRACTICES: RESETTING THE BAR FOR SAFE PATIENT CARE</a></b> Speaker: <b>Prof. Ruth Carrico</b> , University of Louisville  Sponsored by GOJO ( <a href="http://www.gojo.com">www.gojo.com</a> )
October 25, 2018	<i>(FREE Teleclass)</i> <b><a href="#">"AHEAD" – A CONSOLIDATED FRAMEWORK FOR BEHAVIOURAL INFECTIOUS RISKS IN ACUTE CARE</a></b> Speaker: <b>Prof. Hugo Sax</b> and <b>Dr. Lauren Clack</b> , University of Zurich Hospitals
November 1, 2018	<i>(FREE South Pacific Teleclass - Broadcast live from the 2018 IPCNC conference, New Zealand)</i> <b><a href="#">THE HAWTHORNE EFFECT IN HAND HYGIENE RESEARCH AND ROUTINE AUDITS</a></b> Speaker: <b>Prof. Dinah Gould</b> , Cardiff University
November 8, 2018	<b><a href="#">MYTHS AND FACTS REGARDING INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL IN OUTBREAK SETTINGS</a></b>

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