



## Message from APIC

# APIC publishes new guide for infection prevention in long-term care facilities

To help long-term care facilities create and implement comprehensive infection prevention programs, APIC has published the *Infection Preventionist's Guide to Long-Term Care*.

Infection control professionals (ICPs) in long-term care facilities (LTCFs) face unique challenges due to the unique nature of this care setting and working with aging resident populations. An estimated 1.5 million infections occur annually in LTCFs, resulting in 350,000-400,000 deaths.

"APIC is committed to providing educational resources to advance knowledge and competencies of health care personnel working in long-term care settings that will ultimately benefit the residents under their care," says APIC CEO Katrina Crist, MBA. "With more than 15,000 long-term care facilities in the United States, and a national priority to prevent health care-associated infections, it is essential that LTCFs are guided through the components of an evidence-based infection prevention program."

The *Infection Preventionist's Guide to Long-Term Care* is accompanied by a CD-ROM disc with customizable forms, tools, and resources. Developed by a team of infection prevention experts, the book presents topic-specific information in a user-friendly format

that includes numerous examples, visuals, checklists, and references to help increase the understanding of:

- Regulatory requirements;
- Comprehensive infection prevention risk assessment and program development;
- Surveillance and reporting;
- Nursing assessment and interventions to prevent the most commonly occurring infections in long-term care;
- Environmental cleaning and disinfection;
- Unique long-term care issues such as care transitions and life-enrichment activities;
- Occupational health, immunization programs, and staff education; and
- Disaster and pandemic preparedness.

The new guide is available for purchase at the APIC Web site ([www.apic.org](http://www.apic.org)). Select "Store" in the Resources tab drop-down menu. Additional resources to assist members who work in long-term care include APIC Implementation Guides, monthly Webinars, online courses, an online community, and special publications.