



Message from APIC

APIC's role in the national implementation of CUSP to eliminate HAIs



Through its partnership with the Health Research & Educational Trust (HRET), APIC is participating in several national collaborative projects focused on reducing healthcare-associated infections (HAIs) in a variety of healthcare settings. These projects, described below, are funded by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ).

1. On the CUSP: Stop CAUTI. With a focus on the acute care setting, this initiative is aimed at reducing CAUTI rate in participating hospitals by August 2015, and making decreased CAUTI rates sustainable in the long term by fostering a culture of safety. Collaborative participants focus on implementing the Comprehensive Unit-based Safety Program (CUSP) model, an evidence-based culture improvement strategy.

This spring, APIC will release an infographic for intensive care unit (ICU) healthcare personnel to highlight strategies for preventing CAUTI in critically ill patients. The infographic will be released with the spring 2015 issue of *Prevention Strategist* in March. Other resources that will be available this year include a CAUTI prevention video, educational webinars, and a sustainability guide. Additionally, a special session highlighting this work will be held at the APIC 2015 Annual Conference in Nashville.

2. AHRQ Safety Program for Long-Term Care (LTC). The main focus of this initiative is to improve the safety and quality of life for residents and their families by reducing CAUTI rates in participating facilities via the CUSP model. As one of the partnering organizations for this project, APIC provides national faculty members, strategic insight, and educational resources for this multi-year program.

Late last year, APIC produced the *AHRQ Safety Program for Long-Term Care: CAUTI* supplement to the winter issue of *Prevention Strategist*. The supplement included articles highlighting success stories of participating facilities, a Q&A feature with the

collaborative's APIC faculty members, case studies on antibiotic resistance in long-term care, strategies to help LTC facilities prevent CAUTI and protect residents, and details on how to join the program. Also included with the winter issue of *Prevention Strategist* was a "Power of 10" infographic, highlighting ten actions long-term care residents and their families can do to prevent CAUTI.

This year, APIC will produce new educational infographics and a long-term care pocket guide resource, which will complement APIC's recent long-term care publication, *Infection Preventionist's Guide to Long-Term Care*.

3. AHRQ Safety Program for Ambulatory Surgery. This initiative focuses on interventions to prevent harm and promote a culture of safety in ambulatory surgery centers (ASCs). Collaborative partners use resources and tools, such as surgical safety checklists and targeted education, to prevent infections and related complications.

Participating ASCs have access to APIC expert faculty and receive guidance on how to effectively use all of the ambulatory surgery safety tools. In addition, participating ASCs receive ongoing coaching and support with data collection reporting and monitoring from the National Program Team (NPT). Participants are able to network on a national level with other ASCs enrolled in the program for peer-to-peer learning through educational webinars, learning groups, coaching sessions, and supplemental videos. Participants also receive extensive project management support, one-on-one coaching and mentoring from a Quality Improvement Advisor (QIA).

Cohort 5 for multi-specialty ASCs is launching on March 30, 2015. For more information about the program or to enroll, please visit ascfsafetyprogram.org.

Learn more about these programs and how to get involved.
Visit www.apic.org/Resources/On-the-cusp.