

## Editorial

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10.3396/IJIC.v10i4.025.14

In the new issue of IJIC we have again articles from different countries, mixing up experiences in infection prevention and control from all over the world: Ethiopia, India, Nigeria, Sudan and The Netherlands.

Haenen and co-authors from The Netherlands describe a national system that performs surveillance of infections in nursing homes. The article includes four years data (2009-2012) about different infections. The participation of nursing homes was voluntary. This was an incidence study and infections were expressed as weekly incidence per 1000 residents. They have found that gastroenteritis and influenza were seasonal. They also report some risk factors for all infections – and this will be useful for planning infection control measures in the participating nursing homes.

Jaggi and Sissodia from Gurgaon, India, offer us very interesting study about increasing compliance of nurses working in ICU with hand hygiene and with checklist for device-associated infection prevention. They have first identified main barriers to the compliance, then performed behavioural training by a psychologist (as knowledge already existed), and measured compliance again. Compliance has been significantly higher, and in the same time, positive correlation between compliance and decrease of infections has been noticed.

Alemayehu and co-workers from Ethiopia in the study about HIV serostatus disclosure among HIV positive pregnant women have shown that almost 90% of HIV positive pregnant women out of 263 women included, disclose their HIV serostatus to their sexual partners. The factors associated with the disclosure were knowing the HIV serostatus of the partner, knowing the importance of the disclosure and being rural resident. As this disclosure is important for successful prevention of mother to child transmission of HIV, authors conclude that much more has to be done to increase the percentage of pregnant women who disclose their HIV serostatus.

Oluwantosin and colleagues from Nigeria have performed a questionnaire based study of 220 mothers of under-five year children attending three health centres about their knowledge, attitude and practice of infection control. The overall mean score of knowledge was 55.9%, attitude 42.4% and practice 31.1%. Family health practices were identified as important factor in children mortality, so the authors conclude that there is a need to find out strategies for improving health practices of mothers.

Next we have a questionnaire based study of sharp instrument injuries in dental school by Osman from

Sudan. In this study, 48 fourth and fifth year students were included, and as many as 69.6% of these students answered being exposed to sharp injury, but 78.1% did not report it. Only 76.1% were fully vaccinated against HBV, and as many as 91.3% of them practiced needle recapping. The findings of this study showed that much more has to be done for education and practical training of dental student before they enter to clinical part of their courses.

Sood and co-authors from India described their experience with an outbreak of potentially fatal encephalitis due to intrinsically contaminated intravenous anaesthetic agents with *Klebsiella pneumoniae*. The authors describe the workup of the outbreak which included eight postoperative patients in two departments: microbiology of CSF of three patients, microbiologic sampling of environment, staff hands

and different solutions. ESBL producing *K. pneumoniae* was found in the CSF of one patient and in a solution of bupivacaine of one manufacturer. As all patient involved received this bupivacaine solution, the authors conclude that it was the source of the outbreak.

Finally we have a review of the first edition of Challenging Concepts in Infectious Diseases and Clinical Microbiology, edited by Amber Arnold and George E Griffin, published by OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS in 2014. I would recommend to read this review – you might find it interesting and important source of knowledge in infectious diseases.

I thank all above authors for considering IJIC for their work, and hope this sharing of experiences will encourage new authors to send their work to IJIC. I also hope you find these articles informative.