

Special Education issue A Foreword from IJIC's Editor in Chief

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To all our readers:

Welcome to this special issue of the International Journal of Infection Control (IJIC). Special because we cover one of the most important aspects of infection prevention and control: education.

In this issue, entirely dedicated to education, the Chair of the International Federation of Infection Control (IFIC) Education Committee (G Gilmore) has set the scene by presenting an overview on how adults learn, and how those principles of adult learning can be applied to teaching in Infection Prevention and Control.

This is followed by a world wide view, through the eyes and initiatives of the WHO (C Kilpatrick) which we hope will help put into context some of the current international initiatives.

However, all of us realise that there are still some serious gaps in undergraduate education, and these are discussed by Humphreys and Richards, highlighting the work that still needs to be done if we are to see future generations of doctors and nurses better informed, and able to apply best practices for the prevention of infection.

Educational initiatives from around the world show that we all encounter similar and yet slightly different problems when trying to create and implement good educational and training activities. We hope that the examples from South America, Croatia, Egypt and South Africa will stimulate and encourage all of you to develop similar programmes.

IFIC is proud of its role in facilitating networks across the globe. Please do not hesitate to contact any of our authors to discuss further any practical aspects of their experiences, and seek help in taking forward your own initiatives.