



**IPS - members information about the  
workings of the society**

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## **Who we are**

The Infection Prevention Society has been in existence since 1970 when it was first formed as the Infection Control Nurses Association. The Society has a broad membership base and welcomes practitioners, managers and scientists from any area of healthcare or industry that impacts on the prevention and control of infection. The IPS is proud of its pioneering and professional history and continually works to ensure that it remains a trusted, relevant and effective membership-led society.

## **IPS Vision**

Our vision is that no person is harmed by a preventable infection.

## **IPS Mission**

To make this vision a reality the IPS will inform, promote and sustain expert infection prevention policy and practice in the pursuit of patient/service user and staff safety across any setting where care is delivered.

## **10 Reasons to become an IPS member**

As a member of the IPS you will:

1. Be part of a strong network of infection prevention and control (IPC) practitioners across the UK and Ireland
2. Share best practice advice for delivering more effective health, social care and patient safety;
3. Benchmark activity and performance in your work setting both locally and across the UK, Ireland and internationally;
4. Contribute to national consultations on matters of major scientific and/or Governmental importance;
5. Receive regular electronic and social media communication regarding national and international IPC issues and IPS events;
6. Apply for educational and research and development grants and become involved in IPS projects;
7. Access high quality continuing professional development through the Journal of Infection Prevention, branch/Special Interest Group (SIG) study days and webinars/ teleclasses;
8. Receive a discount on registration fees for the annual IPS conference;
9. Gain valuable leadership experience as an active branch member or representative on National working groups;
10. Link with our growing number of international members.

## Benefits of Corporate Membership

1. Get access to Technology Focus Groups and Product Surgeries
2. Receive invitations to Corporate Networking Days with industry colleagues, IPS members, members of the IPS Board and NHS opinion leaders
3. Use of IPS Corporate Member Logo on company headed paper, compliment slips and business cards for the period of corporate membership
4. Obtain IPS approval of educational and training materials which may be may be submitted to the Education and Professional Development Committee
5. Use the IPS website to showcase products and technologies that demonstrate efficacy and practical in-use features
6. Get priority choice of exhibition space - three weeks priority booking
7. Corporate members are acknowledged in the IPS Conference and Exhibition Handbook on a specific 'thank you' page.
8. Use the corporate member's link in the IPS Web Site –
9. Use the access to an online directory of IPS members without charge

Find out more about the benefits of becoming a corporate member now:

[www.ips.uk.net](http://www.ips.uk.net)

# Membership of IPS

There are 8 categories of membership.

## **1. Full Member.**

Individuals employed in health or social care with a demonstrable interest in the field of infection prevention and control.

## **2. Associate Member.**

Any person not eligible for full membership.

## **3. Student Member.**

Open to students training to become registered practitioners.

## **4. Institutional Member.**

Open to accredited academic institutions providing health and social care training; registered voluntary aid societies or charities that provide aspects of health or social care; state healthcare providers and independent commercial organizations that provide health or social care.

## **5. Corporate Member.**

Open to commercial organisations working in the field of infection prevention and control that support the IPS's charitable objectives. IPS Board approval is required.

## **6. Honorary Member.**

Honorary membership is bestowed on an individual who has contributed significantly to the society.

## **7. Retired Member.**

Open to those who would have been eligible for full or associate membership but have retired from employment in the field of infection prevention.

## **8. Special Access Member (SAM).**

IPS offers a free Special Access Membership (SAM) for overseas members living and working in countries with limited resources.

## IPS is a registered Charity

IPS is registered with the Charities Commission and is a limited company. As a charity IPS cannot distribute profits to anyone, member or otherwise, and must spend any money it holds, both centrally and at branch level, in line with the 'objects' stated in the IPS Memorandum and Articles of Association. The Society has a powerful commitment to the advancement of education and the benefits this brings to the wider community.

The Objects of IPS are to promote the advancement of education in infection control and prevention for the benefit of the community as a whole, and in particular the provision of training courses, accreditation schemes, education materials, meetings and conferences.

## IPS Patrons

The Society appoints Patrons to act as ambassadors and raise the profile of our work and activity. Our current Patrons are

- Professor Tricia Hart, former Chief Executive of South Tees NHS Trust having previously been the Director of Nursing at South Tees and Oxford Radcliffe university Hospitals NHS Trust;
- Professor Didier Pittet who is the Director, Infection Control Programme, University of Geneva Hospitals and Faculty of Medicine and the External Programme Lead, WHO First Global Patient Safety Challenge: Clean Care is Safer Care.
- Dame Gillian Morgan. Although now officially retired from full time work she is currently Chair of NHS Providers. Prior to this, Dame Gillian Morgan held the posts of Chief Executive, North and East Devon Health Authority, Chief Executive, NHS Confederation and then Permanent Secretary, Welsh Government. Gill was also Chair of the Alzheimer's Society for a number of years.

## Annual General Meeting

The Society holds its official annual general meeting (AGM) each year in September coinciding with the Annual Conference and Exhibition. The AGM is open to all members and enables the board of directors to formally update the membership on new appointments; present a summary of progress and plans including the financial position of the Society; and gain members agreement to any proposed changes to the Articles.

## **The Board of Directors**

The IPS Board is led by the President of the Society and supported by 19 officers; face-to-face Board meetings occur four times a year with virtual meetings in-between.

## **The obligations of the IPS Board**

The Board leads on the strategic direction of the society in order that it meets the objects of the Articles of Association. The Board is responsible for all aspects of the society's business and monitors progress in achieving its aims whilst ensuring that the Society complies with the requirements of the Charity Commission.

## **Responsibilities of board members**

Members of the IPS Board are all:

- Company directors as defined under the Companies Act
- Trustees of the Society under the Charities Act
- Responsible for ensuring that the society is run in line with the rules and regulations stated in the constitution.

## **Honorary Officers – voted into office**

The Board of Directors, consists of six honorary officers who are elected by the membership and includes the following posts: *President; Vice President; Secretary; Deputy Secretary; Treasurer; Deputy Treasurer*

## **Ordinary Member without Portfolio**

Also elected to the IPS board by the membership are two trustees with no defined portfolio who provides distinct 'members voice' on the board. The individuals in this role may initiate a program of work during their tenure.

## **Country Leads**

Country Leads are appointed by each country branch to represent their country at UK and Ireland national level to inform and advise the Board on the needs, differences, concerns and opinions relating to their country and the IPS membership.

# Standing Committee Coordinators

The remaining members of the board are appointed to the following six Standing Committees or business groups of the Society: *Conference Scientific Programme Committee Coordinator; Editorial Board Coordinator; Research and Development Committee Coordinator; Educational and Professional Development Committee Coordinator; International Engagement Committee Coordinator; Corporate Affairs Group Coordinator.*

## **1. Scientific Programme Committee (SPC)**

SPC leads on the annual IPS conference, using their knowledge of the latest developments, best speakers and key topics to develop a successful annual conference with a high quality scientific content.

## **2. Editorial Management Group (EMG)**

EMG leads on all work associated with the development and publication of the Journal of Infection Prevention.

## **3. Education & Professional Development Committee (EPDC)**

EPDC advises on and implements the society education strategy to support and provide quality education and professional development opportunities for Infection Prevention and Control Practitioners (IPCPs) within the IPS.

## **4. Research & Development Committee (R&D)**

R&D leads on the Society's research and development strategy to generate and support implementation of new infection prevention science.

## **5. International Engagement Committee (IEC)**

IEC leads on increasing the Society's international membership and the provision of support/resources to infection prevention practitioners collaborating/working in resource limited countries.

## **6. Corporate Affairs Group (CAG)**

The CAG is the focal point and interface between the IPS and its corporate members. It provides opportunities to associate with a wide range of infection prevention and control opinion leaders, network with industry colleagues and get 'expert' advice on product design, development and adoption.



# How we engage members

The Society has a strong network of 14 branches, defined by geographical area and serving approximately 2000 members. They are the engine room of the society – providing its active, visible face. Members can join any branch regardless of their place of employment or residence. The branches provide educational activity, professional development and peer support through face to face events, branch conferences and increasingly social media commentary and virtual sessions such as webinars.

The Branch Coordinators are members of the Consultative Committee, which provides the opportunity for discussion and feedback from the membership to the Board on the Society's strategic direction and national and local infection prevention and control issues. Becoming a Branch Officer also offers leadership opportunities for members. You can find out more about branches on the IPS website here <http://www.ips.uk.net/membership/branches/>

## The 14 IPS branches

- East of England
- Ireland
- London North
- London South
- North East
- Northern Ireland
- North West
- Scotland
- South West
- Trent
- Wales
- West Midlands
- Wessex
- Yorkshire

# Special Interest Groups (SIGs)

IPS currently has six special interest groups.

## Purpose of a SIG

Special Interest Groups are communities of purpose with an interest in advancing knowledge and learning around a specific area of infection prevention and control in addition to providing a supportive network for members.

Each SIG is led by a coordinator and deputy and in some cases a secretary and deputy. You can find out more about SIGs on the IPS website here

<http://www.ips.uk.net/membership/special-interest-groups/>

## The six current SIGs:

1. Ambulance Forum
2. Audit and Surveillance Group
3. Care Home SIG
4. IV Forum
5. Mental Health and Learning Difficulties Forum
6. Paediatric SIG

## Annual International Infection Prevention Conference

Our Scientific Conference is held at the end of September each year and combines a focus on education, research and practice in the fields of infection prevention and patient safety. The conference is also the venue for the largest exhibition of technology and equipment related to our speciality. The Scientific Programme brings together world leading practitioners and researchers to discuss current issues and challenges and provides the opportunity for networking and professional development.

## IPS Annual Awards

The Annual Awards recognise innovation in practice and educational activity and include the IPS Branch or SIG of the Year, the IPS Team of the Year, the IPS Link Practitioner of the Year and Infection Prevention Practitioner of the Year.

# Journal of Infection Prevention

The *Journal of Infection Prevention* (JIP) is the professional publication of the Infection Prevention Society. It is provided as a benefit to members of the Infection Prevention Society, members have full access to the journal through the members' only section of the IPS website:

<https://www.ips.uk.net/index.php/membership/members-area/members-access-journal-infection-prevention/>

The aim of the journal is to advance the evidence base in infection prevention and control, and to provide a publishing platform for all health professionals interested in this field of practice.

*JIP* welcomes papers that address aspects of infection prevention and control and contribute to development and understanding of relevant theory or practice. To find out more on how to submit a manuscript please visit:

<http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/jips>

For more information on the journal please visit:

<http://jip.sagepub.com/>



We hope you enjoy the benefits of being a member of the IPS and will contribute to the Society achieving its vision, mission and strategy over the coming years. More detailed information is available on the society website [www.ips.uk.net](http://www.ips.uk.net)

The IPS will only be successful with your effective and energetic participation.

We look forward to working together to stop preventable infection.

If you have any feedback on this Pack or just want to get in touch, contact us at [IPSPA@fitwise.co.uk](mailto:IPSPA@fitwise.co.uk)

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Further copies of the IPS Members' Pack are available on the IPS website:  
[www.ips.uk.net](http://www.ips.uk.net)