



# IPS Annual Report 2017-18

## Summary

# IPS Board



## IPS Officers January 2017 – March 2018

### Officers

|                  |                                   |
|------------------|-----------------------------------|
| President        | <a href="#">Neil Wigglesworth</a> |
| Vice President   | <a href="#">Pat Cattini</a>       |
| Secretary        | <a href="#">Carole Hallam</a>     |
| Deputy Secretary | <a href="#">Valya Weston</a>      |
| Treasurer        | <a href="#">Philip Pugh</a>       |
| Deputy Treasurer | <a href="#">Claire Chadwick</a>   |
| Ordinary Member  | <a href="#">Craig Bradley</a>     |
| Ordinary Member  | <a href="#">Jacqui Prieto</a>     |

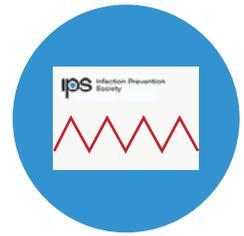
### Other Board members

|                                      |                                                                                                           |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Research & Development               | <a href="#">Emma Burnett</a> (up to December 2017)<br><a href="#">Lisa Ritchie</a> (from January 2018)    |
| Education & Professional Development | <a href="#">Helen O'Connor</a> (up to December 2017)<br><a href="#">Andrea Denton</a> (from January 2018) |
| Scientific Planning Committee        | <a href="#">Karen Wares</a>                                                                               |
| Journal Editor                       | <a href="#">Jennie Wilson</a>                                                                             |
| International Engagement Committee   | <a href="#">Debbie Xuereb</a>                                                                             |
| Corporate Affairs Group              | <a href="#">Paul Cryer</a> (from September 2017)                                                          |

### Co-opted Board members

|                                        |                                              |                                                |
|----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| England: <a href="#">Janet De'Witt</a> | Ireland: <a href="#">Toney Poovelikunnel</a> | Northern Ireland: <a href="#">Colin Clarke</a> |
| Scotland: <a href="#">Elaine Ross</a>  | Wales: <a href="#">Tracey Gauci</a>          |                                                |

# 2017/18 Highlights



## President's Introduction



NEIL WIGGLESWORTH  
IPS President

It is my pleasure to introduce the 2017 Infection Prevention Society Annual report on behalf of the members of the Board. The report summarises the activity of the Society, activity that is maintained by our Branches, Business Groups, Special Interest Groups and individual members. All of us acting to support the Society vision, that no person be harmed by a preventable infection.

The pressures on healthcare systems, healthcare workers and infection prevention teams in particular, have been relentless. We have experienced a particularly challenging winter period, due to a volume of Influenza cases that has been greater than for a number of years; and of course the spectre of antimicrobial resistance continues to loom large over all we do as infection prevention practitioners and other professionals in related specialities. Membership of a professional society of peers and colleagues such as ours, is more and more important in such times. The networks we create and the resources we provide to our members, help us all to deal with these pressures and develop as practitioners and experts in our respective fields.

In 2017 the Society continued to grow, we increased our membership, both individual members and also with our corporate partners; an increasingly important and valuable relationship for the society. As well as growing as an organisation we also expanded our activities across a range of work, both within the Society and, as always, with a range of partner organisations, professional, corporate and governmental/regulatory. The reports and highlights from Business Groups, Special Interest Groups, Branches and other constituent parts of our society are given in the rest of this annual report, but I will describe a few headlines and highlights here to give you a taste of another exciting year for the Infection Prevention Society:

We continued to make progress with the objectives as set out in our Strategic Plan for 2017 to 2020. In response to members' feedback about influencing, we began some work to improve our external communications and engagement with local and national media. Hopefully you will have seen or heard some of the print and radio coverage of IPS responses to national and local infection-related news issues; such as the influenza season and *Candida auris* – or the 'Japanese Fungus' as some of the media styled it. We want IPS to be 'the voice of choice' when expert commentary is needed on healthcare associated infections. For our members we launched the latest iteration of the IPS Competencies Toolkit for Practitioners in IPC – I hope you have logged on and made use of this valuable professional development resource. In England we collaborated with NHS Improvement in the launch of the revised "High Impact Interventions" and across our five countries we have started work on two important research projects – DO IPS (Defining an Optimal Infection Prevention Service) and the community urinary catheter care prevalence study; we look forward to their completion and publication of the results. Work on the Credentialing Framework for IPC practitioners has also begun and this landmark work should be completed during 2018. Internationally we launched 'Special Access Membership' which gives on-line access to our membership to IPC practitioners in resource limited countries; we know that a number of our members in the UK and Ireland support these settings in a voluntary capacity. The Journal of Infection Prevention has also continued to grow, with increasing numbers of submissions and plans to increase the number of pages to accommodate more original research papers.

Finally we took our annual conference to Manchester for the first time in 2017 and Infection Prevention 2017 was a huge success. Feedback on the event was overwhelmingly positive and our Scientific Programme Committee surpassed themselves to provide us with a fantastic event. We also took the opportunity to say goodbye and thank you to one of the Society's greatest friends, Professor Graham Ayliffe (1926 – 2017).



# Membership and Financial Health



Financial management is one of the many critical functions of an effective Society to ensure the Society operates a robust governance structure in meeting its obligations.

IPS activity has continued across a range of endeavours and continues to grow in an ever challenging healthcare arena however these activities do not come without cost. Whilst Society activity has continued to develop and make successful progress, Society income generation has reported a general decline over the past seven years.

The Board of Trustees recognise the risk and are fully aware that the Society needs to closely examine its income and expenditure given that the Society is reporting a second year of budget deficit which has been discussed extensively by the Board of Trustees.

A two year financial strategy was developed and accepted by the Board of Trustees to provide a financial framework for the achievement of the Society's core strategic objectives. Two key strategies are identified expressed through three core financial principles and twelve priorities.

The Board of Trustees agreed to constitute a short term Financial Scrutiny Review Group to consider the policy/strategic position, consider actions to be implemented and think creatively about how a deficiency reduction programme would be introduced and managed. Improved income generation remains a key financial strategic priority.

The Society Trustees report and financial statement were extended and made up to 31st March 2018 reporting a 15 month accounting period to enable the Society to improve its business and financial forecasting/planning operations for the future.

The Society will report an expected net (loss)/income of (£184K) for the 15 month reporting period of 2017/18. Although the loss was not unexpected, the Board of Trustees recognise that the Society cannot continue to make a loss year on year.

Despite this reported loss due to a continued decline in income, the Society remains in good financial health with reserves of £682K in unrestricted funds and remains active promoting the objects of the Society.

Total membership at 31st March 2018 increased to 1967 members demonstrating a successful 9% increase (168 members) against the previous financial year.

# Education and Professional Development Committee (EPDC)



The EPDC focuses on developing and supporting the education and professional development of members and the advancement of infection prevention knowledge in the wider healthcare and education sectors. This is achieved by the development of resources and collaborative working and competency-based education activities:

- Continued collaborative working with Branch Education officers (EO);
- Published first of Guidance at a Glance on website (Standard Precautions) following collaboration with Yorkshire Branch (first developed the Guidance at a glance) and other EO Group to formalise the presentation and layout to enable endorsement;

- IPS competences revised and piloted and are now live from Jan 2018 and available as an online development for members. Article for JIP in Sept 2018;
- Roadshows across 5 countries commenced to market and highlight both competences and guidance at a glance;
- Developed education grant award – 3 successful applicants this year. We will look to involve corporate members for sponsorship in future years (currently IPS funded);
- Supported commercial members through the review and endorsement of educational material;
- Management of the QIT tools;
- Supporting conference;
- Members of EPDC team involved in JIP editorial Board, R&D committee and Credentialing.

## Journal of Infection Prevention: Editorial Management Board



The EMG focuses on publishing a high-quality peer reviewed publication that advances professional knowledge and skill in the art and science of infection prevention and control practice. The EMG is responsible for supporting the publication of high quality original papers and increasing the profile of the journal.

Activity highlights include:

- We have seen a steady rise in submissions of original papers to the journal and this year and as a result have increased the number of pages per issue;
- JIP is developing a strong International profile with authors from around the world choosing to publish in our Journal;
- JIP papers were downloaded more than 70,000 times in 2017 and we have more than 10,000 subscriptions to the Journal worldwide;
- We ran another successful Writers Workshop for IPS Members to support novice writers to publish their work in JIP.

## Research and Development Group



The R&D Committee focuses on building research capability and capacity among the IPS membership through education, initiating collaborative research projects and awarding annual research grants. In addition they work with other external groups to further the evidence base for infection prevention and control.

### R&D Network:

Two research projects are well underway with a number of IPS members involved in each:

#### 1. Defining an Optimum Infection Prevention Service (DOIPS)

This study comprises of four phases:

*continued overleaf >>>*

- Phase 1: Survey questionnaire to IPC leads (UK and Ireland)
- Phase 2: Policy document analysis (UK and Ireland)
- Phase 3: focus groups with IPC practitioners
- Phase 4: Delphi survey

Phases 1 and 2 are complete and draft papers of results have been written up and shared with the DOIPS team for comment/feedback.

## 2. Community Urinary Catheter Management Study (CCAMA)

The aim of this study was to investigate the prevalence of indwelling urinary catheters managed in the community by the District Nursing service, and for patients recently discharged from hospital with a newly placed urinary catheter, evidence of documentation of the reason for the catheter and a management plan for its removal.

Data collection and analysis is complete and the study team are currently working on the conclusions and final version of the paper.

Further information about these studies can be found on the R&D webpage of the IPS website.

### Research Grants:

We were delighted to be able to fund a research grant in 2017:

- Our collaborative small projects grant was awarded to Mrs Sharon Daniel of Carmarthen, who is looking at 'Infection Prevention Control and Organisational Patient Safety Culture within the Context of Isolation'.

For those of you looking to undertake a research project and interested in applying for the 2018 IPS R&D Annual Research Grants the application pack and further details are available via the R&D web page.

## Scientific Programme Committee



The SPC focuses on creating robust and topical scientific programmes for the IPS annual conference and works in parallel with Fitwise, the events company, to deliver a high quality, well evaluated professional networking and learning event for members and the wider national and international infection prevention and control community.

Key achievements for 2017/18 include:

- Infection Prevention 2017 held at Manchester Central, Manchester with 451 delegates attending and 90 exhibitors;
- 149 abstracts submitted;
- 7 nationally funded registrations for IPS members.

# International Engagement Committee

The IEC focuses on increasing international IPS membership and providing support/resources to infection prevention practitioners collaborating/working in resource limited countries (RLC).

Key achievements for 2017/18 include:

- Launched Special Access Membership for members from Resource Limited Countries;
- Continue to promote IPS internationally resulting in an increase in the number of international members;
- Continue to develop online resources for Resource Limited Countries;
- Exploring the possibility of on-line access of the JIP for international societies;
- Engaging with international delegates at the annual conference.

# Corporate Affairs Group

The Corporate Affairs Group (CAG) was launched in September 2016 with the intent of providing a robust and effective foundation upon which to conduct relations with IPS corporate members – and also to promote membership of the Society to new members. The IPS Board has consistently acknowledged the outstanding contribution made by corporate members to the well-being of the Society given their support at national and branch levels. The Board has therefore been pleased to fund the CAG and its programmes which sustain and enrich this relationship.

The CAG has provided corporate members with;

- Exclusive opportunities at Networking Days to hear from and interact with extremely well-regarded IPC-related speakers – a rare opportunity to get so close to world famous names;
- Product Surgeries at which IPS member-Experts working in teams of three have provided corporate members with feedback and guidance concerning market positioning, efficacy and product development in relation to their HCAI-related products and technologies.

So far 200+ places have been provided at Networking Days; 14 firms have attended Product Surgeries and a number of corporate organisations have taken advantage of paid-for Product Surgeries with IPS member-Experts.

CAG have also organised four Product Round Table meetings to allow the Society and its corporate members to better engage with the important and fundamental changes taking place in the NHS procurement landscape. The Society has been able to attract speakers and experts associated with this programme from the very top of Government and private industry.

It is envisaged that the CAG activity will continue to add real value to corporate membership and further scale-up over the forthcoming 12 months.

## One Together Project

OneTogether is a partnership of professional organisations supported by 3M who are committed to promoting and supporting the adoption of best practice to prevent surgical site infection (SSI). IPS is a leading member of this partnership.

Activity from 2017/18 includes:

- A successful expert conference delivered in November 2017 with 329 delegates attending the day;
- Officially launched the QI resources;
- Held the first OneTogether impact award ceremony.

## Vessel Health Preservation Project

The Vessel Health and Preservation Project is a project led by the IPS in collaboration with the National Infusion and Vascular Access Society and the Royal College of Nursing supported with an educational grant from Teleflex to provide an evidence-based framework for vascular access.

Activity from 2017/18 includes:

- Provision of VHP posters and pocket guides;
- Evaluation of the VHP Framework published in Journal of Infection Prevention;
- Short video available on the IPS website on how to use the VHP Framework.

## Annual IPS Awards 2017

The annual awards programme recognises the achievements of IPS members at an individual, team and branch level.

The shortlisted candidates for Team of the Year (*sponsored by Daniels Healthcare Ltd*) were:

- Infection Prevention & Control Team, Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Birmingham
- Infection Prevention & Control Link Staff Team, Shropshire Community Health NHS Trust (SCHAT)
- Infection Prevention & Control Team, Walsall Healthcare

The winning team was the Infection Prevention & Control Team, Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Birmingham. The team has developed innovative nurse led strategies for the management of healthcare-associated infections, including pioneering nurse-led *Clostridium difficile* ward rounds. By focusing on what matters to patients, they have also been able to clearly reduce the rate of PCR *C. difficile* cases. With patient safety always at the forefront of their work, the team has also developed MRSA acquisition ward rounds. Since its development, there has been no patients that have acquired MRSA during an inpatient episode testing positive for an MRSA bacteraemia, when previously MRSA acquisition represented 88% of all bacteraemias. As a result of having such success with these services, they are now sharing these practices with other local Trusts.

The shortlisted candidates for Branch of the Year were:

- South West

The winning branch was the South West branch. The branch has strived to improve communication within the Branch and to improve attendance at Branch meetings. With the Branch stretching from the tip of Land's End up to the top of Gloucestershire, this can be a real challenge to encourage members to travel. Therefore branch meetings are held in different geographic areas and the Branch has introduced a regular newsletter and Facebook group. The branch is actively compiling a survey to see how the members want to further improve communication and education sessions. Once again the South West IPS one day conference was full, with many delegates coming from outside the society, giving the Branch an ideal platform to encourage membership.

The shortlisted candidates for Practitioner of the Year were:

- Ramona Marincas, Director of Nursing, Zalau Hospital, Romania
- Carole Hallam, Senior Nurse, Clinical Governance, Royal Infirmary, Huddersfield

The winning practitioner was Ramona Marincas. Ramona is a key leader in promoting infection prevention within her country. Despite working in a very medically dominated health system, with limited resources, she has been instrumental in introducing key changes in infection prevention across different departments in Zalau Hospital. Ramona is involved in organising an annual infection prevention conference, which has grown year on year, and this year, a total of 400 delegates attended. Ramona has helped produce a book 'Primum non nocere' (First do no harm), which delves into the basics of infection prevention. 2,000 copies of this book have been printed in Romanian and were distributed for free at the annual conference.

The shortlisted candidates for Link Practitioner of the Year were:

- Katy Coombes, Link Practitioner, Infection Prevention and Control, Livewell Southwest
- Jo-Louise Martin, Healthcare Assistant, Rotherham Doncaster and South Humber NHS Foundation Trust

The winning link practitioner was Katy Coombes, Link Practitioner, Infection Prevention and Control, Livewell Southwest. Katy has been a link practitioner for infection prevention and control for Livewell CIC for less than two years. During this time, she has demonstrated enthusiasm and commitment and has been effective in making positive change and highlighting the importance of adhering to best infection prevention practice. Katy is always happy to share her expertise with others and equally, to learn. Katy is a respected member of the ward team and always leads by example, always prioritising the well-being of her patients and using her knowledge to provide information to those who need it, she has a caring and reassuring manner.

# Representation and IPS Collaborative Activity

The Society is represented on a range of national working groups and collaborate with other infection related organisations nationally and internationally.

Of particular note in 2017/18 were the following:

- Board members represented the Society as invited guests at the Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology Conference 2017 in America; the Infection Prevention and Control Canada 2017 Conference in Canada; the Australian College for Infection Prevention and Control 2017 Conference in Australia;
- Helen O'Connor attend the EUNETIPS spring meeting in Brussels on behalf of the Society.
- IPS had representation at the London Nurse Show 2017, London (exhibition stand and hosted a session); Tissue Viability Society Conference 2017, Birmingham (exhibition stand); European Wound Management Association 2017, Amsterdam (hosted a session); International Federation of Infection Control, Brazil (hosted a session and sponsored a delegate); Sepsis Unplugged 2017, London (exhibition stand and hosted a session); Federation of Infection Societies Conference 2018, Birmingham (exhibition stand and hosted a session).

# Branch and Special Interest Group Activity

**The branches and special interest groups are the heart of the Society and provide opportunities for collaborating, problem solving, networking and professional development for IPS members.**

Activity highlights from the 14 IPS branches and 5 special interest groups include:

- 12+ regional conferences providing professional development for delegates at each event;
- 20+ branch meetings providing the opportunity for networking, professional development and joint project working for members;
- 43 branch funded places for IPS members;
- Joint SIG conference (Audit & Surveillance, Ambulance service and Mental Health & Learning Disabilities SIGs) held on the 8th November 2017 at Bethel Conference Centre Birmingham;
- Produced national Guidance on 'Bare Below Elbows' in Mental Health settings as requested by NHSI. (Mental Health SIG);
- Introduced closed Facebook pages to improve communications with their members. (Scotland; South West; Yorkshire);
- Revised the format of branch meetings to make education the focus. (North East);



- Held branch meetings in new locations across the region to encourage those who may not attend due to travel problems. (North West);
- Participation in the SARHAI working group; engagement with SHAIPI research group at Glasgow Caledonian University; NES and HPS collaboration. (Scotland);
- Annual joint meeting with regional PHE group. (South West);
- IPS South West winner of the Branch of the Year.

## Developments for 2018/19

In the business and financial planning for 2018/19 the IPS Board agreed to the following strategic activity:

- Finalise and launch a Credentialing Framework;
- To create a conference programme for a primary audience of IPC practitioners, researchers and or educators, that showcases the latest research for prevention, preparedness, detection and management of infection-related events;
- To continuously improve the annual IPS Conference by evaluating the experience, educational content and value of each conference and incorporating any learning into the planning for subsequent conferences;
- Holding the first ever Infection Prevention Show during the annual conference in October 2018;
- Continue to strengthen the relationships with corporate members and corporate partners through the work of the IPS Corporate Affairs Group;
- Promote the Competences and Guidance and a Glance to members through the Education and Professional Development Committee;
- To support members in their professional development through offering Education Grants for undertaking higher education programmes leading to a Pg. Certificate, Diploma or Master's degree in Infection Prevention and Control or other IPC related validated courses;
- To review, market and award annual research grants to IPC members;
- To continue to work with Forster Communications to improve our external communications;
- To provide IPC members with up-to-date and timely IPC research-related information and resources;
- To promote and improve the benefits of membership for international members who join the IPS;
- To continue to make resources available on the IPS website for members who are supporting resource limited countries.

## Vision and Mission

**Our Vision** is that no person is harmed by a preventable infection.

**Our Mission** is that IPS will **inform, promote** and **sustain** expert infection prevention policy and practice in the pursuit of patient or service user and staff safety wherever care is delivered.

## With thanks to.....

**The IPS Board, Standing Committees, Branches Officers, Special Interest Group Leads and Fitwise Management Ltd for providing support to the day to day workings of IPS. And special thanks to all of the 1,967 members for helping IPS make its vision a reality.**

This report is a summary of the formal IPS Annual Report 2017/18. The full version of which is available on our website **[www.ips.uk.net](http://www.ips.uk.net)**

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