



IPS Annual Report 2015

Summary

IPS Board



IPS Board and Consultative Committee

IPS Officers 2015

Officers

President	Heather Loveday
Vice President	Neil Wigglesworth
Secretary	Debbie Wright
Deputy Secretary	Carole Hallam
Treasurer	Gary Thirkell
Deputy Treasurer	Philip Pugh
Ordinary Member	Debbie Xuereb



Other Board members

Research & Development	Kate Prevc (Jan-Oct 2015)	Emma Burnett (Nov-Dec 2015)
Education & Professional Development	Carol Pellowe	
Scientific Programme Committee	Pat Cattini (Jan-Sept 2015)	Karen Wares (Oct-Dec 2015)
Journal Editor	Jennie Wilson	

2015 Highlights



President's Introduction



HEATHER LOVEDAY
IPS President

The Infection Prevention Society (IPS) is a charity and professional organisation for all those committed to enhancing patient safety and preventing harm from healthcare infection and communicable disease. During 2015 the global infection prevention community continued to deal with the Ebola epidemic in West Africa and the emerging epidemic and sequelae caused by the Zika virus in South America. In addition, antimicrobial resistance has remained a global political and public health priority, and the Society has continued to emphasise that the principles of infection prevention and control are our first and most effective line of defence against emerging and known infection threats.

The financial and staffing constraints facing the NHS in the UK during 2015 posed real challenges for those working in infection prevention and control. Competing demands of fiscal and service targets combined with high dependency, increased bed occupancy and staffing pressures provide the perfect ingredients for a lapse in focus on preventing infection and improving patient safety. The vigilance and commitment required to keep IPC at the top agenda of NHS Trust boards was highlighted in the IPS #WhyWeDoIPC social media campaign in September; demonstrated that the patient and their family are at the heart of everything we do as practitioners.

During 2015 the IPS has continued to deliver the 2011-2016 Strategic Plan, which aims to realise the vision that “*No person is harmed by a preventable infection.*” We have sustained the focus and activity of the past four years to ensure that we promote infection prevention as a highly skilled discipline and provide added value to our individual and corporate members. Collaborative working with government committees, regulatory agencies, other societies and professional organisations is a feature of the way in which IPS seeks to influence the infection prevention and control agenda nationally and internationally. In addition, the IPS Board has started to develop a refreshed strategic plan for 2017-2021

This report shares highlights of the work undertaken by the IPS Board, Standing Committees, Branches and Special Interest Groups as ‘One IPS’ during the past 12 months. On behalf of the IPS Board I would like to thank everyone who has contributed to the work of the Society as a member or as part of a collaborative project during 2015.



Membership and Financial Health



Total Membership at 31 December 2015 was 1973, an increase of 54 members on 2014. The overall net surplus for 2015 was £58,496, which was a reduction of £19,000 on 2014 results. This was mainly due a lower surplus being generated by educational activities such as IPS organised branch study days and a higher level of irrecoverable VAT (+£10K). Conference performance in 2015 was strong with a £25,517 higher surplus than 2014. The overall 2015 surplus was £59,000 above the forecast deficit for the year of £778. The Infection Prevention Society remains in good financial health with £886,000 in available funds.

Education and Professional Development Committee



The EPDC focuses on developing and supporting the professional development of members and the advancement of infection prevention knowledge in the wider healthcare and education sectors. It does this through competency-based education activities, development of resources and collaborative working.

Key achievements for 2015 and plans for 2016 include:

- Delivery of the 12 regional Implementation Learning Laboratory events, free of charge, which were attended by over 800 delegates;
- Financial support for educational and professional development of seven IPS members through the Ethicon Educational Grants. The total amount awarded £5000;
- Increased number meetings with Education Leads to align branch and EPDC objectives;
- Approval of educational and practice development resources including the Guidelines at a Glance initiative;
- A review of the IPS competences and completion of a position paper to guide updating of the competences in 2016;
- Publication of an isolation on-line learning programme in collaboration with Nursing Times, in January 2015.

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. It is responsible for increasing the profile of the journal and increasing the number of high quality original papers published in each issue.

Key achievements for 2015 and plans for 2016 include:

- Over 40,000 downloads of JIP papers in 2015;
- Format of journal updated to enhance scientific content and page numbers increased;
- New IPS Spotlight section to inform and promote Society activities;
- IPS royalties increased from 25% to 32.5%;
- First meeting of the international Editorial Advisory Board held in September at the annual conference;
- Successful application to PubMed Central, which will enable wider access to journal content and potentially increase journal citations.

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.

Key achievements for 2015 and plans for 2016 include:

- Review of R&D committee activity and a plan to develop an R&D network in 2016 to involve IPS members who are enthusiastic about research and who wish to become actively involved and/or lead on a collaborative research study;
- Publication of the WINCL study by Curran et al. (2016) from 54 participating centres, the authors concluded that the true index case is commonly not identified as the cause of a Norovirus outbreak and with at least 50% of index cases being misclassified;
- Award of the novice investigator grant to Liz Kingston, for a hand hygiene exploratory study and the collaborative small projects grant to Andrea Denton to explore how health care students learn and apply principles of infection prevention and control in practice.

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 2015 and plans for 2016 include:

- 'Infection Prevention 2015' at the Arena and Convention Centre (ACC) in Liverpool with 545 delegates attending matching the previous highest attendance numbers in 2013;
- Positive evaluation of the scientific programme, which included presentations by Professor Andreas Voss, Dr Jennifer Gardy, the Cottrell lecture delivered by Carole Fry, Dr Jennie Wilson, Professor Peter Hawkey and the Ayliffe Lecture delivered by Professor Ziad Memish on the emergence of MERS;
- Increased number of exhibitors from 98 in 2014 to 102 in 2015;
- 10 funded registrations for IPS members;
- Highly successful SoMe campaign surrounding #WhyWeDoIPC.

Quality Improvement Tools Project (QIT)

The Quality Improvement Tools (QIT) Project has been established to evaluate the uptake and impact of the QIT to date and to identify a sustainable model for the QIT, that serves the needs of members and the wider infection prevention community.

Achievements in 2015 include:

- The QIT 'Super User' group collaborated to share lessons learned and identify the optimal way forward for the QIT;
- The IPS Board endorsed the continuing of the QIT on a sustainable basis, starting with a refresh;
- A new approach to partnering with willing software providers was agreed and negotiations with prospective partners begun;
- A plan was agreed to deliver refreshed tools to the membership and software partners in 2016.

International Engagement Project

As part of annual plan for 2015 an International Engagement Project Group was set up led by board members with aims to broaden its membership and attract international members, particularly from countries without similar IPS support network.

- Eight IPS members joined this project group and have been exploring at how IPS could attract and support international members more effectively and carrying out a survey to assess their needs and current use of IPS resources and communication tools;
- At IP2015 in Liverpool we held a welcome breakfast for 41 international delegates;
- The international virtual community of interest discussion forum was opened to all IPS members to allow for discussions;
- The project group will continue to work over 2016 and make recommendations to the Board for future activity.

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 2015 includes:

- Development of a self-assessment tool and scorecard to evaluate compliance with best practice to prevent SSI in seven areas of care across the surgical pathway;
- Pilot testing of the self-assessment tool in 15 operating theatres in 7 hospitals and incorporation of changes identified by this evaluation;
- Promotion of the work of the OneTogether partnership through presentations at national and International meetings, including IPS conference and the American Practitioners in Infection Control conference;
- Planning of the launch meeting for the finalised assessment tool in April 2016.

Annual IPS Awards 2015

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 were:

- Somerset IPC
- Plymouth Community Healthcare
- Defence Medical Services IPC Cadre

The winning team was the **Defence Medical Services Team** for their contribution to the UK's Ebola response in Sierra Leone.



The shortlisted candidates for Branch of the Year were:

- IPS Yorkshire
- IPS Wales

The winning branch was **IPS Yorkshire** for a broad range of innovative and support activities including: guidelines at a glance; Twitter school; use of experienced members to support and mentor new members; leadership skill development and effective succession planning.



The shortlisted candidates for Practitioner of the Year were:

- Jill Harries – Solihull CCG
- Gary Thirkell – Leeds Teaching NHS Trust

The winning practitioner was **Gary Thirkell** for his work in a relatively unrecognised area of IPC in the estates team of a large teaching NHS trust. In particular his collaborative and inclusive approach with housekeeping staff was highly regarded.



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 2015 are the following:

- Support for a travel scholarship to the annual International Federation of Infection Control meeting, this year in New Delhi, India. In addition Dr Neil Wigglesworth delivered a presentation in the IPS sponsored symposium;
- Board members also represented the Society as invited guests at the APIC and IPACC conferences in North America; Debbie Wright (IPS Secretary) presented work at ICPICC in Geneva and the Society delivered a plenary session at HIS Conference 2015 in Lyons;
- The Federation of Infection Societies Conference was held in Glasgow, where IPS hosted a plenary symposia and a joint morning session with HIS;
- The Society is a partner in the updating of the Joint Society MRSA Guidelines (BIA, BSAC, HIS and IPS), working with HIS to produce the IPC component of the guidance. This will be completed in 2017;
- In addition the Society is represented on more than 20 national working parties across England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.

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:



- 15 regional conferences providing professional development for 120 delegates at each event;
- 42+ branch meetings providing the opportunity for networking, professional development and joint project working for members;
- 52 branch funded places for IPS members;
- Increase in branch membership across all 14 branches;
- Joint working to produce IPS Calendar for 2016;
- Two one-day conferences for staff working in Nursing and Residential Care Homes. (London South);
- Coordination of the IPS Calendar. (London South);
- Public and patient engagement as a feature of branch meetings (London South, East of England);
- Branch member nomination for Tony Rogers BJN Nurse of the Year and Infection Prevention Nurse (North West);
- Contributions to HPS working groups and guidance; engagement with SHAIPI research group at Glasgow Caledonian University. (Scotland);
- Annual joint meeting with regional PHE group. (South West);
- Branch new member mentoring programme; external CPD accreditation for branch meetings. (Trent);
- Joint meeting with Welsh Healthcare Associated Infection programme; contribution to WHAIP working groups, Occupational Health Forum; writing for publication workshop; Branch of the Year, runner up. (Wales);
- IPS Wessex Coordinator, Rachael Skates, names Queens Nurse in November 2015;
- New IPC practitioner 3 day programme. (West Midlands);
- Continuation of Guidelines at a Glance development; continued support for international member Ramona Marincas from Zalău Emergency Hospital in Romania. (Yorkshire);

- IPS Yorkshire winner of the Branch of the Year;
- Publication of joint position paper with the RCN to highlight IPC issues for commissioners of health care in England; updating of the IPC Commissioning toolkit for publication in 2016. (Commissioning SIG);
- Mental Health SIG session at Infection Prevention 2015; planning for SIG conference themes at Infection Prevention 2016. (Mental Health, Ambulance, Audit and surveillance);
- Completion of the Vessel Health Preservation Toolkit; production of VHP infographic and pocket guide; presentation of VHP at NIVAS; joint pilot evaluation of the VHP toolkit with Edgehill University. (IV Forum).

DEVELOPMENTS for 2016

In the business and financial planning for 2016 the IPS Board agreed to the following strategic activity:

- Production of a refreshed strategic plan for 2017-2021;
- Revision and publication of IPC Competences;
- Exploration of the structure and costs a credentialing framework;
- Production of a position paper on IPC content of healthcare professional pre-registration programmes and specialist practitioner programmes;
- Continuation of the International Engagement project;
- Formation of a Corporate Affairs Group;
- Continuation of the QIT project and launch of new tools;
- Continuation of the Vessel Health Preservation activity;
- Evaluation of the Commissioning Toolkit following publication;
- Continuation of the OneTogether Partnership;
- Appointment of a cost effective external communications provider by tender;
- An IPS SoMe campaign to highlight hand hygiene in healthcare settings and more generally with the public #IPSTorchTour16.

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 1,973 members for helping IPS make its vision a reality.

This report is a summary of the formal IPS Annual Report 2015. The full version of which is available on our website **www.ips.uk.net**

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