

All About Infection Prevention and Control Professionals (ICPs)



Who are Infection Prevention and Control Professionals (ICPs)?

ICPs in our community work every day to...

- » Preserve our health and safety throughout the COVID-19 pandemic
- » Develop procedures and practices that prevent infections
- » Implement these practices in health care settings and community settings
- » Educate the public on infection prevention and control practices to make our communities safer and healthier

We need increased ICP capacity in our communities because they...

- » Possess critical knowledge about infectious diseases and how to take precautions against these diseases, how to educate the public and how to use developing and available research effectively
- » Come from various professional backgrounds with specific education and experience. May hold Certification in Infection Control (CIC®)
- » Advance research, human resources availability, and deliver oversight and services in a range of settings
- » Are focused on proactively limiting the impacts of future pandemics and decreasing Canadians' exposure to an array of illnesses

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How can government support Infection Prevention and Control Professionals (ICPs)?

Despite the critical need for Infection Prevention and Control Professionals during the pandemic and beyond, the capacity of these programs has been limited. Financial cuts that have been made to infection prevention and control programs in recent years meant that the COVID-19 pandemic caught Canada and all provincial health systems off guard. Infection prevention and control professionals were also left out of support measures such as pandemic pay. It is clear that effective, proven methods of infection prevention and control are a critical component of Canada's response to the pandemic and providing support for ICPs is needed now more than ever.

This is why Infection Prevention and Control Canada (IPAC Canada) is **calling on all levels of government to dedicate long-term, dedicated support to Infection Prevention and Control programs to limit the impact of future pandemics and decrease Canadians' exposure to various illnesses.**

