



MEDIA RELEASE Spread Prevention – not infection! National Infection Control Week – October 17-21

Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) programs are widely recognized as being both clinically and cost effective in preventing and controlling the spread of infections in healthcare settings. The devastating implications of the COVID-19 pandemic has extended across all global borders. The number of cases and the loss of life were unexpected and unprecedented. The role of infection prevention and control programs has never been more important.

The fundamental core of these programs is the infection control professional (ICP). ICPs are trained individuals responsible for the healthcare setting's IPAC activities. ICPs serve as leaders, mentors and role models for the profession by acquiring and maintaining IPAC knowledge and skills, and by developing, evaluating and improving IPAC processes within their IPAC programs.

National Infection Control Week will provide ICPs the opportunity to promote the 'Spread Prevention – not infection!' theme within their particular setting.

The provision of safe care for patients, residents and staff in all healthcare settings is dependent on risk assessment, preparation and anticipation of what will be the next global healthcare scenario.

About Infection Prevention and Control Canada

IPAC Canada is a national, multi-disciplinary, voluntary association of Infection Prevention and Control Professionals (ICPs) ntry dedicated to the health of Canadians by promoting excellence in the practice of infection prevention and control. Visit IPAC Canada's website (<u>www.ipac-canada.org</u>) for infection prevention and control information.

Contract the Infection Prevention and Control Professional in your hospital, long term care facility, or community for further information on activities planned for National Infection Control Week. For additional information:

ADD NAME OF ICP OR CHAPTER REP