



## HOLIDAY/CHRISTMAS EDITION 2023

- From the Chairperson
- Conference Section
- Christmas section 😊
- Historic Cournier
- Pandemonium
- Information and Education



## HOLIDAY/CHRISTMAS Edition 2023

### STAY INFORMED: STAY CONNECTED



<https://www.facebook.com/groups/276336942979329>

[www.infectioncontrol.co.nz](http://www.infectioncontrol.co.nz)



### EDITORIAL: By Anne-Maree Wagg

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas... well in our house anyway. The decorations are up, most gifts purchased and only the menu to finalise. Where did the year go?

Though we want to see the back of Covid it seems to just linger. Unfortunately, as we all know in the IPC arena bugs, viruses, bacteria, infections, and outbreaks don't believe in taking a break!!

I hope you get some time to read this Holiday/Christmas edition of the Controlla over the summer season. There is the usual Historic Cournier and Pandemonium section, feedback from the recent ACIPIC conference and a few Christmas themed infection related poems! I have also added some recipes and gift ideas I read recently in the Nourish magazine and one news website.

Looking forward to 2024, our biannual conference held August 21-23 in Hamilton/Kirikiroa. The team is busy putting together a fantastic and diverse program, and of course the conference dinner, sure to be a party to remember. So, keep up with the latest announcements by registering on the website, details below.

Any way your family and friends celebrate and enjoy the summer months I hope it's a good one. Stay safe, take care and all the best for the New Year.

**Meri Kirihimete me te tau hou  
(Merry Christmas and happy new  
year 😊)**

Anne-Maree

## From the CHAIRPERSON: Lisa Gilbert

Another year to a close and another busy year for IPC.

Since the last controlla we have had our AGM, farewelled some amazing committee members (Henrietta and Aleisha) and welcomed two new members (Amanda and Angela). I'm feeling in the minority with most committee members names starting with As.

I also had the privilege to be invited to the ACIPC conference in Adelaide to complete a short presentation on the NZ IPC structure, I met some wonderful enthusiastic Infection Practitioners and spent time with the NZ contingent.

This past Thursday (7th Dec) I and other NZNO representatives, met with the Royal Commission group, thank you to everyone who provided their feedback, I was able to share what our membership thought went well and what we could do differently. I thought it went well and our feedback was noted. The meeting was held in confidence so that is all I can share. The next step is for the College to prepare a written submission, so if there is any more feedback or experiences you would like to be made aware of, please continue to send these to [chair@ipcnc.co.nz](mailto:chair@ipcnc.co.nz)



My thoughts are with the areas that are managing VRE and other outbreaks, hopefully over this holiday season you can have a rest and if not, then schedule some time for yourself to fill your bucket and do something that brings you joy.

Next year hopefully we will have a clearer view of the Infection Services structure in Te Whatu Ora nationally and how the College can be a voice for infection practitioners wherever they work.

Stay safe out there,

**Lisa**

**Chair@ipcnc.co.nz**

# IPCNC CONFERENCE 2024:

**August 21-23 Hamilton/Kirikiroa**

**<https://www.ipcncconference2024.co.nz/>**

Register for updates there and keep up to date with programme announcements.



**The theme of “Kaitiakitanga – IPC guardians for the future” draws on our role as guardians of our community, sustainability, and looking forward to challenges ahead.**

**Keynote speaker: Dr Stephanie Dancer, a UK-based microbiologist, and renowned author on cleaning & disinfection is confirmed to present.**



## **OTHER CONFIRMED SPEAKERS:**

**Dr. Kristin Dyet:** – One Health Aotearoa – co-director & an ESR scientist

**Vicktoria Blake:** Te Whatu Ora Interim Head of Sustainability

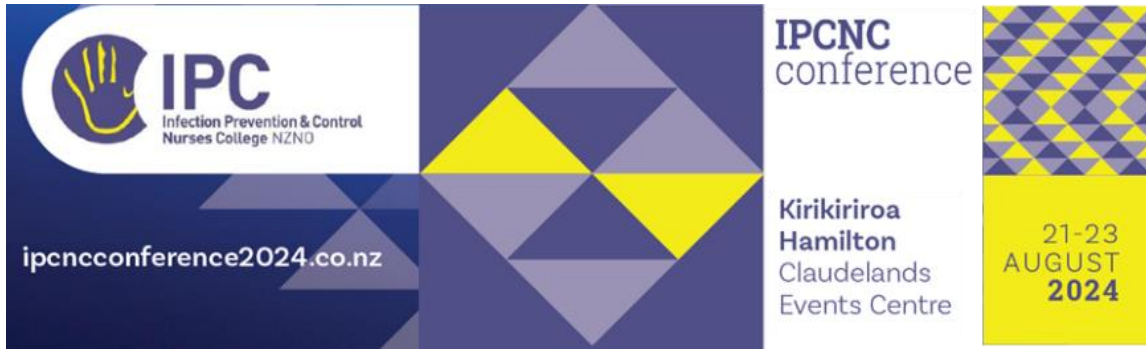
**Kirsten Lassey and Claire Underwood:** from Nga Paerewa; how Healthcert supports IPC practice in NZ. ARC & hospital certification/auditing of IPC standards

**Claire Hewitt from WRITE,** will be presenting on plain language and the Plain Language Act 2022

**Dr. Paul Huggan,** ID physician & **Cam Howard,** CNS will present Sepsis NZ

**Dr. Hugh McGann:** ID physician – VRE outbreak

**Mo Issa,** ID pharmacist & **Brenda Waite,** CNM will present on Antimicrobial Stewardship



# CALL FOR ABSTRACTS: OPEN

<https://www.ipcnconference2024.co.nz/callforabstracts>

**We invite you to submit an abstract for an oral presentation or poster presentation, to share your knowledge and experience within the IPCNC conference programme. We are looking forward to hearing your stories. 😊**

**Closing date of abstract submission:**

**Friday 01 March 2024**

**Notification of acceptance:**

**Friday 29 March 2024**



**Keep up to date by registering at the conference website:**

<https://www.ipcnconference2024.co.nz/>

**Diary the dates, plan to attend, learn, network and most of all have fun with colleagues.**

**21-23 August 2024  
Claudelands Events Centre  
Kirikiriroa Hamilton**



Need Financial Assistance to attend conference?

**IPCNC Travel and Education Fund:** applications up to \$2500.00

Applications close April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Send to: [secretary@ipcn.co.nz](mailto:secretary@ipcn.co.nz)

## ACIPC Conference Reflection



On November the 12<sup>th</sup> I attended my first ever Infection Prevention Conference. This was held in Adelaide Australia by ACIPC. (Australasian Council of Infection Prevention and Control)

I first became aware of ACIPC when completing the ACIPC foundations course in 2021 and have been a member ever since. ACIPC gives a wealth of information to both old and new Infection Prevention practitioners.

Therefore, I was buzzing with enthusiasm to attend this conference which I am very grateful was funded by the NZNO Infection Prevention and Control College.

The programme was well organised, and I must say, very busy with the selection of workshops and presentations most daunting.

I made the decision to attend Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> Nov Infection Prevention and Control during Construction and renovation workshop. As At Waitemata we are undertaking on a regular basis refurbishment, renovation, and construction across our district. I found this workshop invaluable.

What did I learn? I learnt that it doesn't matter where we are in the world that all Infection Prevention and Control Specialists face very similar situations. That in renovation and construction building relationships with the project managers, architects and facilities is one of the most important aspects to a successful outcome when undertaking construction.

Solid core flute hoardings are the gold standard for construction hoardings, yet this is often challenging to implement in difficult areas undergoing renovations. This is usually due to speed of work and the desire to ignore our recommendations. Infection prevention seems to be one of the last considerations that Facilities engage before starting any refurbishment or remedial work.

Understanding the complex risk matrix is also important when the Infection Prevention and Control team are completing Permits for both refurbishments, renovations, and construction of new buildings.

Who would have ever thought that having building knowledge and being able to understand architects' drawings would be a requirement when you started nursing. One of the best resources for Infection prevention specialists is the Australasian Health Facility guidelines to gain a broader knowledge of what the requirements are for health facilities.

Apart from this first day, during the next 3 days I was able to meet likeminded Infection Prevention and Control Specialists. Share experiences in implementing new process such as meeting the need to capture data. Share experiences in bacteraemia's and most exciting of all to meet up with old teammates who have moved across to Australia.

I found the whole experience of attending this conference to be exhilarating and rejuvenating. I am excited to share my experiences with my team members and recommend attending an Infection Prevention conference.

*Jeanette Trighton*

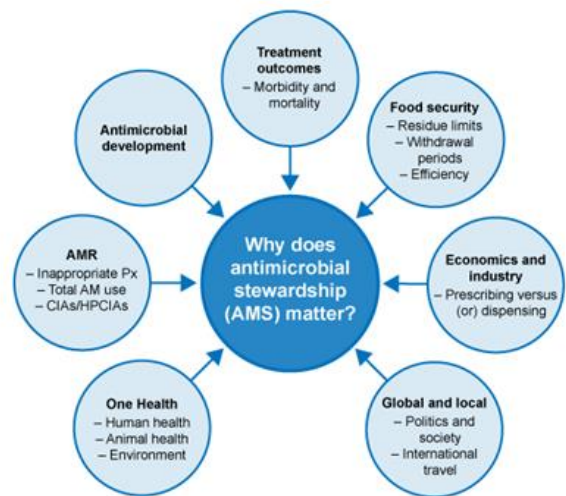


## Highlights and call to action from an IPC nurse’s first international conference

### Prioritising Antimicrobial Stewardship

Mataya Kilpatrick – antimicrobial stewardship, nurse, and consumer engagement in a paediatric hospital

- Insight was gained from a systematic review examining the involvement of nurses and parents in AMS and IPC during their hospital stay.
- Qualitative interviews with nurses and parents to gain a deeper understanding into their perspectives and experiences.
- This research outlined through a collaborative process among healthcare professionals, especially nurses, well informed families can establish strategies tailored to their needs while preserving antibiotics.



### Sustainability Heroes in Healthcare

Ranae McBrien – Children's Health Hospital Queensland

- Worked across many Brisbane hospitals developing innovative ways to design waste out of health.
- Delivers widespread culture change e.g., monthly swap meets with all departments with nearly expired products.
- Her widespread strategy has removed over 500 tonnes from landfill in one year through 36 single recycling streams.

Corey White – Cleanlife Medical

- Australian healthcare uses 5 million kilos of imported plastic wet wipes in a year.
- Visiting their plastic free factory was an incredible and inspiring experience.
- Plastic free wipes are the way forward sourcing local plant-based fibres and water off sets carbon emissions from shipping and prevents microplastics increasing in our waterways and inside animals and humans.

## Highlight

Julie Storr – focusing on the social aspects of IPC.

Asked us questions.

- Who's the best leader you've ever worked with?
- What informed your answer?
- What do you think needs to happen to strengthen the power and influence of IPC? What do you consider to be necessary and sufficient to develop the pool of leadership talent needed for IPC to survive and thrive as we hurtle towards the middle of the 21st century?

With thought provoking reflections on compassion and sustainable practice.



## IPC connections

Connecting with nurses from around Aotearoa who are leading big regions with complex issues gave insight into national areas of concern that we could collaborate resources on

Connecting with nurses from around Australia who are leading big regions with very different issues and concerns in each state, but the binding thread was sustainable practice and programmes that increase patient safety and staff competence and expertise i.e., looking at FTE hours for non-nurses to do audits and assist with programmes and creating cultures within their areas built on One Health principles.

This was an incredible experience. From the moment I received the confirmation of the education grant, my enthusiasm and motivation to absorb as much as I could from this amazing opportunity soared. This conference has renewed my purpose post covid, to leave our reactive, policy changing landscape in the past. The work that can be done in the antimicrobial stewardship area (a passion of mine) and in sustainable practice has been a fabulous showcase this conference of a positive future in Infection Prevention. The collaboration, innovation, and compassion that was shown throughout the conference, will benefit patient safety for generations to come but we must take the first step - stand on the shoulders of giants and move to make infection prevention, fun, smart and embedded into a work culture that cares for each other.

I am super proud of our IPC community and look forward to collaborating with lots more of us in 2024!!!

Once again, many thanks to the IPCNC for their exceptional grant and Southern Cross Healthcare for additional funds and resources to make this bucket list opportunity possible.

*Justine Wheatley*

# The Christmas Section:



## Recipes and Gift ideas.

- Choc Almond Cookie Jar
- Carmel Popcorn Cashew Brittle
- Gingerbread Biscuits

## Poems. ☺





# Timaru 12 days of Christmas

***On the twelfth day of Christmas  
the ward staff sent to me:***

*Twelve nurses sneezing*

*Eleven lines infecting*

*Ten kids are itching*

*Nine hand hygiene dancers*

*Eight staph infections*

*Seven stools a swimming*

*Six doctors puking*

*Five sharps injuries*

*Four oozing wounds*

*Three policy's to update*

*Two MDRO's*

*And a patient with suspected TB!*

***Merry Christmas from the***

***Infection Prevention & Control team***

# A Covid Christmas

Unknown author

**For many years I read "Night Before Christmas" to my kids. Here's the more modern version.**

T'was the night before Christmas, but Covid was here,

So, we all had to stay extra cautious this year.

Our masks were all hung by the chimney with care.

In case Santa forgot his and needed a spare.

With Covid, we couldn't leave cookies or cake.

So, we left Santa hand sanitizer to take.

The children were sleeping, the brave little tots.

The ones over 5 had just had their first shots,

And mom in her kerchief and me in my cap had just settled in for a long winter's nap.

But we tossed and we turned all night in our beds.

As visions of variants danced in our heads.

Gamma and Delta and now Omicron

These Covid mutations that go on and on

I thought to myself, "If this doesn't get better,

I'll soon be familiar with every Greek letter".

Then just as I started to drift off and doze.

A clatter of noise from the front lawn arose.

I leapt from my bed and ran straight down the stair.

I opened the door, and an old gent stood there.



His N 95 made him look pretty weird.

But I knew who he was by his red suit and beard.

I kept six feet away but blurted out quick.

"What are you doing here, jolly Saint Nick?"

Then I said, "Where's your presents, your reindeer and sleigh?"

Don't you know that tomorrow will be Christmas Day? "

And Santa stood there looking sad in the snow.

As he started to tell me a long tale of woe.

He said he'd been stuck at the North Pole alone.

All his white-collar elves had been working from home,

And most of the others said "Santa, don't hire us!"

We can live off the CERB now, thanks to the virus".

Those left in the toyshop had little to do.

With supply chain disruptions, they could make nothing new.

And as for the reindeer, they'd all gone away.

None of them left to pull on his sleigh.

He said Dasher and Dancer were in quarantine,

Prancer and Vixen refused the vaccine,

Comet and Cupid were in ICU,

So were Donner and Blitzen, they may not pull through.

And Rudolph's career can't be resurrected.

With his shiny red nose, they all think he's infected.

Even with his old sleigh, Santa couldn't go far.

Every border to cross needs a new PCR.

Santa sighed as he told me how nice it would be.

If children could once again sit on his knee.

He couldn't care less if they're naughty or nice.

But they'd have to show proof that they'd had their shot twice.

But then the old twinkle returned to his eyes.

And he said that he'd brought me a Christmas surprise.

When I unwrapped the box and opened it wide,

Starlight and rainbows streamed out from inside.

Some letters whirled round and flew up to the sky.



And they spelled out a word that was 40 feet high.

There first was an H, then an O, then a P, Then I saw it spelled HOPE when it added the E.

"Christmas magic" said Santa as he smiled through his beard.

Then suddenly all of the reindeer appeared.

He jumped into his sleigh, and he waved me good-bye,

Then he soared o'er the rooftops and into the sky.

I heard him exclaim as he drove out of sight.

"Get your vaccines my friends, Merry Christmas, good-night".

Then I went back to bed and a sweet Christmas dream

Of a world when we'd finished with Covid 19.



# The 12 Days of Infection Prevention and Control

You have to sing this. Out loud. Loud.

*On the twelfth day of Christmas my true love sent to me:*

*Twelve bowels running*

*Eleven lines infecting*

*Ten kids a whooping*

*Nine hand hygiene dancers*

*Eight babes a milking*

*Seven stools a swimming*

*Six geese a sneezing*

*No g-o-l-d rings\**

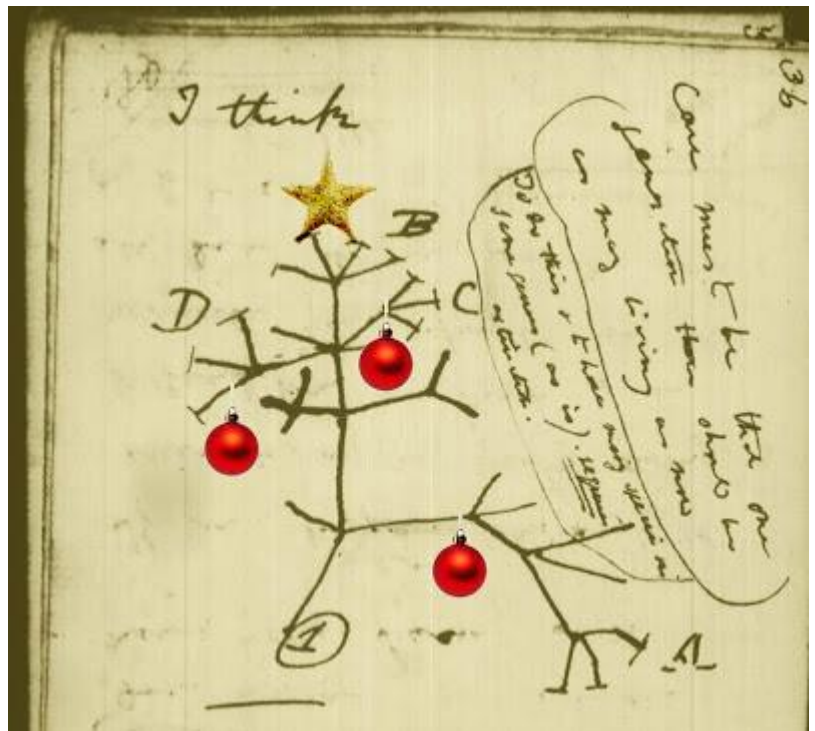
*Four oozing wounds*

*Three copper pens*

*Two sterile gloves*

*And – an – outbreak – in – a – phylogenetic – tree.*

*\* Plain metal bands allowed.*



# Sweet Things Are Gifted Like These

Words by Vicki Ravlich-Horan, Images by Brydie Thompson

Nothing shows you care more than a handmade gift, even more so if that handmade gift is delicious. A jar of dukkha or our herb salt (both recipes can be found in our [latest cookbook](#)) are always handy to have on hand if going to someone's for dinner or needing to say thank you. Here are a couple of our favourite sweet ways to say thank you.

## Choc Almond Cookie Jar

The recipient of this jar of joy only needs 200g of butter to make a fresh batch of choc almond cookies. Another bonus of this recipe is it makes use of those jars you have been saving – a 850g jar is perfect and happens to be the size of Vetro's range of Greek peaches.

In a clean dry jar layer in the following:

- 1 cup almond slices\*
- ½ cup sugar
- 1¼ cups flour
- 1 tsp baking powder
- ¼ cup cocoa

1. Place a lid on and tie a bow around two dark chocolate Sante Bars (or 100g of chocolate) with a card containing the following instructions:
2. Makes 12–14 cookies.
3. Melt 175g of butter. Add the contents of the jar and stir well. Roll into golf ball size cookies, flattening them slightly as you place them on a lined baking tray. Bake at 180°C for 15 minutes.



Once cool ice with ganache made from melting 25g of butter with 100g of chocolate.

\*You can replace the almonds with coconut for a slightly cheaper version

## Caramel Popcorn Cashew Brittle

This recipe comes with a warning – it's highly addictive! We recommend making a double batch, one to give and one to reward yourself for being so giving.

While it keeps fresh up to two weeks in an airtight container, we also advise giving it away as soon as you have finished making and packaging. Trust us, the temptation is real.



You need a candy thermometer for this recipe. Find these at Simply Divine Kitchens.

- 100g butter
- 1¼ cups sugar
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- ¼ tsp baking soda
- 3 cups of popped popcorn\*
- ½ cup roasted and salted cashews, roughly chopped.

1. Place the butter and sugar in a large pot. Heat and stir to melt the butter then allow it to bubble away until the mixture reaches hard candy stage or 180°C on a candy thermometer. Turn off the heat and mix in the vanilla, baking soda and then the popcorn and cashews.
2. Carefully pour onto a lined baking tray and spread out. Allow to cool completely before breaking into pieces and placing into airtight jars.

\*I used store bought lightly salted popcorn. If popping your own, add in a pinch or two of good sea salt, like Opito Bay Salt, when mixing in the popcorn.

## Gingerbread Biscuits (Karla Goodwin's gingerbread biscuits.)

A tried and tested recipe that we've been using since the first days of the Hillsborough Bluebells Cakery store; it was given to me by one of my first employees. It's a great recipe to make with the kids — you can use whatever shape of cutter you like, and I guarantee you'll have a heap of fun decorating them!

*Makes about 18 biscuits.*

### INGREDIENTS

- 2¾ cups + 1 Tbsp (350g) plain flour
- 1 Tbsp ground ginger
- 2 tsp ground cinnamon
- 1 tsp baking soda
- 100g unsalted butter, at room temperature
- ¾ cup + 2 Tbsp (175g) firmly packed soft brown sugar
- ¼ cup (80g) golden syrup
- 1 free-range egg



### METHOD

1. Preheat the oven to 180°C (160°C fan-bake). Line two baking trays with baking paper.
2. Sift the flour, spices and baking soda into a bowl and set aside.
3. Cream the butter, sugar, and golden syrup with a handheld electric mixer until light and fluffy. Add the egg and mix through with the electric mixer until combined.
4. Mix the dry ingredients into the wet mixture, scraping down the sides of the bowl to make sure everything is incorporated. The mixture will be quite thick now.
5. Tip the dough out on to a lightly floured bench and knead to bring the mixture together into a smooth ball.
6. Break the dough into manageable pieces and roll one piece out on a lightly floured bench until roughly 5mm thick.
7. Cut out your desired shapes. Lifting them carefully with a knife underneath the dough, transfer the shapes to the baking trays, placing them at least 2cm apart.
8. Continue rolling and cutting out shapes until you have used up all your dough.
9. Bake the biscuits for 15–20 minutes, or until the centre feels firm to the touch and they start to turn golden brown on the edges. If you like them crunchier, you can leave them in for a further 5–10 minutes.
10. Gently swap the positions of the trays halfway through the baking time. Cool on the baking trays for 10 minutes before transferring to a wire rack to cool completely.

There are lots of ways you can decorate your gingerbread. For Christmas we like to dip our tree shapes in melted white chocolate and decorate with sprinkles. For the more classic gingerbread men, you can attach coloured Smarties to each biscuit with a small amount of melted chocolate.

These biscuits will keep for up to a week in an airtight container at room temperature.

\*Previously published on the one news website.

### The notion of “laudable pus”.

Recently I tuned into the Disney channel and the TV series ‘The Artful Dodger’ popped onto the screen. I was reminded of when I saw the film in 1968 “Oliver!”, a Charles Dickens classic. Now in 2023 the Artful Dodger returns on screen as a (naval trained) gifted surgeon undertaking all types of gruesome surgeries in Australia in the 1850s. He is joined and tormented by the return of Fagin, his surly mentor and thief from his youth, and so the story unfolds.....The vividness of the cinematography leaves even the toughest stomach squeamish but septic wounds, public health issues and surgical environments and practices in the western world in the 1850s have been skilfully exemplified in this TV series.



Threaded through the story are many historical milestones that are resoundingly familiar to infection preventionists. So, I was keen to delve a little deeper and came across some interesting views in published literature, namely the views about the merits and demerits of suppuration (pus).

During ancient times open wounds were frequent and most commonly acquired from battles and ‘gladiator type’ activities. Surgeons of these times characterised open wounds as either dry or wet. Dry wounds healed rapidly, and wet wounds healed slowly showing pus and granulation tissue. A quote from the Corpus Hippocraticum (ancient Greek medical writings) concerning an infected skin ulcer reads:

*“Very white and thick pus is beneficial in such a case - a free discharge of pus takes place and carries off the mortification”.*

Charles T Ambrose (2018) published a historical essay in the Journal of Infectious Disease and Preventative Medicine discussing the medical use of bitumen, creosote, and carbolic acid in the treatment of wounds. Lister, in 1867, had been using carbolic acid in compound fractures. Amidst this use of carbolic acid were the studies of Pasteur showing that microbes were present in the air and likely to be invading open wounds. Lister’s efforts to convert surgeons to the aseptic-antiseptic approach for treating wounds and that air-borne germs invade open wounds and cause inflammation, and suppuration was commonly rejected, particularly amongst older surgeons who had never seen bacteria through a microscope.

There are two differing opinions about suppuration – the first is that pus in wounds and abscesses is beneficial (aka as laudable) and the second is that pus in wounds is harmful.

The historical term ‘laudable pus’, is defined in the Merriam- Webster dictionary as ‘pus that discharges freely from a wound and formally supposed to facilitate the elimination of unhealthy humors from the injured body’.

The British Medical Journal in 1916 published ‘a plea for ignoring laudable pus in the treatment of septic wounds’ authored by Captains Donaldson, Alment and Wright from the British Expeditionary Force, and clearly pleads the evidence to support the cessation of painful wound dressing changes. They note that the accumulation of pus with odour, in a wound dressing, should remain unchanged, when there is no raise in body temperature or pulse rate. More likely, they observe, is that the patient experiences a raise in body temperature and raised pulse rate because of the stress of the painful dressing change. Their logic arises from the firm belief that a well-drained septic wound is no impediment to healing.

In our modern Western world of healthcare, we continue to see septic wounds that we treat willingly with antibiotics and a wide variety of wound dressings are available – yet we still debate whether to change (or leave in situ) a dressing that has become soaked with wound exudate that we fear may turn into pus.

Those amongst us with wound healing expertise and interest will be heard to also raise the dilemmas of impaired blood supply to healing tissue and resulting necrosis which is often referred to as a septic wound.

The Artful Dodger’s surgical antics are well worth the TV couch time and serve to remind us how far we have come and how our conscious careful practices in medical asepsis should not be taken for granted.

Happy festive season to you!

Till next time!

Francie M







# PANDEMONIUM

Christmas Special Edition 2023  
Infectious Disease News from around the world



## UK Covid-19 inquiry exposes that a robust health service is important in order to survive pandemic outbreaks.

In UK, removal of the social safety net, the cutting and reallocating of public health budgets, the underfunding of public services—all of this had its greatest impact on the most disadvantaged during the pandemic. Austerity left the poorest exposed to the worst of this catastrophe.

<https://www.bmj.com/content/381/bmj.p1443?utm>

## In UK 2016 Santa did not visit paediatric wards in deprived areas.

And this is where the link to ID / IPC comes in – deprivation is an important risk factor for infectious diseases too, suggesting that we need to do more to focus resources on those who need it most!

<https://www.bmj.com/content/355/bmj.i6355>

## How a six-in-one vaccine could soon help the world get rid of POLIO for good.

The oral vaccines have brought the paralyzing viruses to the brink of annihilation; so far this year there have only been six cases detected, five in Afghanistan and one in Pakistan. But a feature of the oral vaccines — that the live viruses in them can spread and on rare occasions regain the power to paralyze — means that while they are in use, the world will never be free of polio.

<https://www.statnews.com/2023/06/23/polio-eradication-six-in-one-vaccine/?utm>



## Immunologists are convinced Santa and his reindeer have great immune systems.

From Trinity College Dublin.

Fears are mounting that stockings might be unfilled across the globe should Santa, Rudolf and Blitzen et al come down with a virus infection.

[https://www.tcd.ie/news\\_events/articles/immunologists-convinced-santa-has-a-great-immune-system/](https://www.tcd.ie/news_events/articles/immunologists-convinced-santa-has-a-great-immune-system/)

## VETERINARY NEWS

Infectious diseases affecting reindeer.



<https://reindeerowners.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/Health-Issues-in-Reindeer-Herds.pdf>

Dogs trained to detect SARS-CoV-2 infection by smell correctly identified individuals with active infections at concerts with a specificity of nearly 100% and a sensitivity of 82%, researchers **reported** in *BMJ Global Health*. The results suggest that dogs may provide a fast and reliable screening option for public events at which mass screening is required.

<https://gh.bmj.com/content/7/5/e008024>



## Informing women about maternal vaccination in Aotearoa New Zealand.

A study of pregnant or recently pregnant Māori and Pasifika women found that those who did not receive maternal vaccinations often experienced ineffective communication with inadequate information.

<https://openrepository.aut.ac.nz/server/api/core/bitstreams/2666b101-0006-47c2-a62c-8f4a3cffa59/content>

## Measuring the global response to antimicrobial resistance in 114 countries

International efforts to control antimicrobial resistance vary considerably between countries. Monitoring and evaluation efforts need improving for continuous understanding of national and international progress. International response might not be commensurate with the scale and severity of antimicrobial resistance.

[https://www.thelancet.com/journals/laninf/article/PIIS1473-3099\(22\)00796-4/fulltext?](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/laninf/article/PIIS1473-3099(22)00796-4/fulltext?)

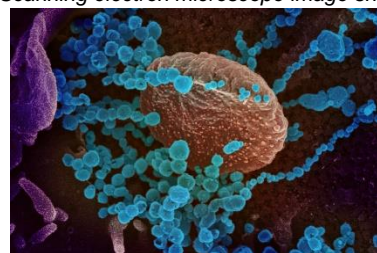
## Respiratory syncytial virus prevention is now within reach:

The vaccine and monoclonal antibody landscape. RSV is a major cause of morbidity and mortality in older adults (aged >60 years). This review gives an overview of respiratory syncytial virus vaccines and monoclonal antibodies in clinical development highlighting different target populations, antigens, and trial results.

[https://www.thelancet.com/journals/laninf/article/PIIS1473-3099\(22\)00291-2/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/laninf/article/PIIS1473-3099(22)00291-2/fulltext)

## What are the current Covid variants in US Northern hemisphere this winter ?

Scanning electron microscope image shows



SARS-CoV-2 virus

BA.2.86 (Pirola), JN1, JN2, JN3, EG.5 (Eris), HK3, JQ1 or XBB.1.16.6. A readable article.

<https://www.salon.com/2023/10/29/has-the-winter-variant-arrived-heres-why-experts-are-closely-monitoring-the-jn1-strain/>

## Do the benefits of Xmas outweigh its harms? Some cautionary tales

<https://www.bmj.com/company/newsroom/do-the-benefits-of-christmas-outweigh-its-harms/>

## How worried should we be about the pneumonia outbreak in China?

The rise in cases is not being driven by any new pathogens, but instead by the spread of bacteria such as mycoplasma pneumoniae and common pathogens including influenza, rhinovirus, adenovirus and RSV

<https://theconversation.com/how-worried-should-we-be-about-the-pneumonia-outbreak-in-china-218514>

## Up the Nose and Down the Windpipe May Be the Path to New and Improved COVID-19 Vaccines

<https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/fullarticle/2812830?>

Vaginal swab vs urine for detection of Chlamydia trachomatis, Neisseria gonorrhoeae, and Trichomonas vaginalis: A meta-analysis. Vaginal swabs, including self-swabs, are the optimal sample type for women.

<https://www.annfam.org/content/21/2/172.long>

## PLUS.....How to avoid a Covid Xmas

<https://www.rnz.co.nz/news/national/479511/how-to-avoid-a-covid-christmas-michael-baker-s-top-tips>

Ctrl Click to follow a link. If a link doesn't work, copy and paste it into the address bar of your browser or a Google search box AND..... A HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO ALL THE NURSES WHO KEEP US SAFE FROM INFECTION DAY BY DAY.

# Journal of Infection Prevention:

The NZNO Library holds the *Journal of Infection Prevention*.

You can go to the journal website here: <https://journals.sagepub.com/home/bji> and sign up to be sent the table of contents for each issue (the table of contents for the current issue/s are below).

The NZNO library receives the print journal and can then supply you with up to two free articles.



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## Website forum: in action!

Go to the website and check it out. You might need to update your personal information and join the forums you are interested in.

[www.infectioncontrol.co.nz](http://www.infectioncontrol.co.nz)



Facebook Private Group: 194 members!

(There are 844 college members.)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/276336942979329>

## CONTROLLA ISSUE: March 2024

- Deadline for content: **February, 2024**
  - Publication date: March 2024
- SEND TO: [waggles\\_nz@hotmail.com](mailto:waggles_nz@hotmail.com)

Subject: March 2024 Controlla

**THANKS,** 😊

**Big thanks to all who contributed to this edition, enjoy.** 😊

