

Biogram

Mission Statement:
To advance the science and practice of infection prevention and control

2024 Issue 1

March 2024

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Message from the President

Dear APIC Miami-Dade Chapter Members,

I am truly honored and grateful to serve as the President of the APIC Miami-Dade Chapter for the year 2024. This opportunity to lead such a dedicated and passionate group is a privilege, and I am excited about the possibilities that lie ahead.

As we embark on this year, my primary focus is on enhancing member engagement, providing valuable resources to our members, and extending our reach into the community through meaningful outreach initiatives. Our goal is to create an active and vibrant community that attracts individuals passionate about infection prevention and control.

I am confident that with the collective efforts of our esteemed Board members, we can make 2024 a memorable and fruitful year for all of us. Your commitment and support are crucial as we work together to elevate our chapter to new heights.

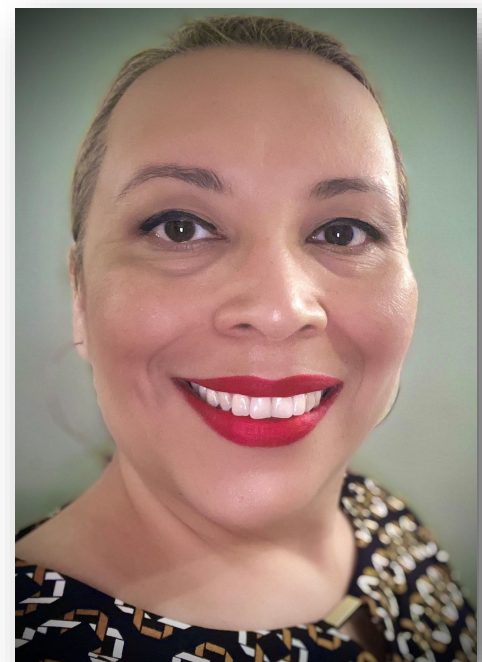
I encourage each member to actively participate, share your insights, and contribute to the success of our chapter. Together, we can create a positive

impact on the field of infection prevention and control.

Thank you for entrusting me with this leadership role. I look forward to working alongside each of you to make this year a remarkable journey of growth, collaboration, and achievement.

Best regards,

Natalia G. Nunez



2024 APIC Miami-Dade Chapter Board Members

	Member	Organization
President	Natalia G. Nunez	Baptist Health of South Florida
Immediate Past President	Arelí Rego	University of Miami Health System
President Elect	Joi McMillon	J.A.D. Higher Expectations LLC, Consulting
Secretary	Erica Washington	Nicklaus Health
Treasurer	Arsenio Prado	University of Miami Health System
Membership Chair	Jessica Castillo	University of Miami Health System
Two year Board	Jessica Celorio	Baptist Health of South Florida
One year Board Member	Kristin Heisey	Nicklaus Health

Membership corner

*Welcome to
our New
members*

New Members

Anne– Leila Descollines	Adesc007@outlook.com
Malachi Leveille	
Celeste Chandonnet	Molnlycke Healthcare

In memory of Betty Elaine Finnk



June 02, 1951—February 19, 2024

We are deeply saddened to announce the passing of our friend and colleague Betty Flinnk on February 19, 2024.

APIC Miami-Dade Chapter sends our deepest condolences for the loss of Betty.

She will always be remembered with love and respect for enhancing the infection prevention world. Our thoughts and prayers are with her family during this difficult time.

Infection Prevention and Control Related Annual Conferences 2024

2024 Conference	Dates	Location	Early Registration	Standard registration	Hybrid / Virtual Option	Call for abstracts
NHSN annual training	March 18-22	Online	Before 3/11/24		Y	NA
SHEA Spring Conference	April 16-19	Houston, TX	Before 2/12/24	2/13/24 - 3/27/24	N	Closed
ECCMID 2024	April 27-30	Barcelona, Spain	Until 02/24/24	2/25/24 - 3/13/24	Y	Closed
APIC 2024	June 3-5	San Antonio, TX	1/17/24-3/29/24	3/30/24-5/10/24	Y	Closed
IPAC Canada National Conference	June 9-12	St. John's, NL, Canada	Before 5/15/24	After 5/15/24	Y	Closed
FLPIC	Sept 5-6	Kissimmee, FL	NA	NA	N	Closes March 29
ID Week 2024	Oct 16-20	Los Angeles, CA	TBA	TBA	Y	Closes May 7

World Hand Hygiene Day, 5 May 2024

[World Hand Hygiene Day 2024 \(who.int\)](https://www.who.int/campaigns/world-hand-hygiene-day/2024)




Save the Date



October 20 to 26

International Infection Prevention Week is observed every third week of October to educate stakeholders and the general public on the importance of preventing the spread of illnesses and infectious agents. In 2024, the week will be held from October 20th through 26th.

Measles



1. IDENTIFY

Prodrome: fever of at least 101°F, cough, coryza and conjunctivitis.

Rash onset within 3-5 days:

- Red, maculopapular rash that may become confluent—typically starts at hairline, then face and spreads down body.
- The rash may be difficult to see on darker skin.
- Koplik's spots—small, red, irregularly-shaped spots with blue-white centers found on the oral mucosa—may be present in a small number of cases.

RISK FACTORS:

- History of international travel, contact with international travelers or domestic travel to locations with known measles outbreaks.
- No or unknown MMR vaccine status. History of MMR vaccine does not exclude a measles diagnosis.
- Contact with a person that had a febrile rash illness.

Photos courtesy of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

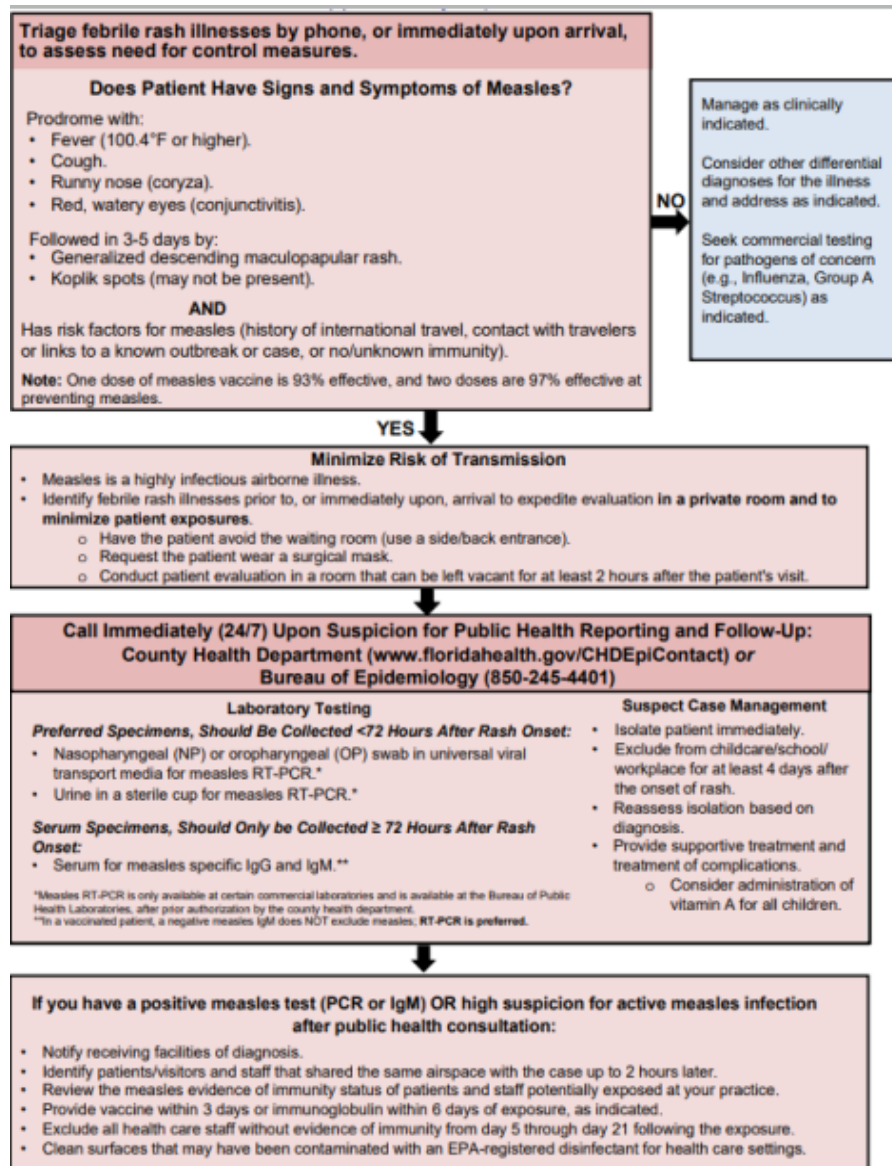
Multiple cases of the Measles Virus have been confirmed in South Florida with Florida Department of Health reporting nine confirmed cases up to March 12, 2024 ([9 in Broward County](#) and [one in Polk County](#)).

Measles | Florida Department of Health (floridahealth.gov)

Epidemiology, Disease Control and Immunization Services
(305) 470-5660



Identification and Management of Suspected Cases



Sink-traps are a major source for carbapenemase-producing Enterobacteriaceae transmission

In this study Regev-Yochay, *et al* report a study to evaluate the contamination of sinks with carbapenemase-producing Enterobacteriaceae (CPE) and transmission to patients in a non-outbreak setting at a large medical center in Israel.

For two years they sampled 592 sinks in patient's rooms and found that 24% were CPE-contaminated and frequent persistent contamination despite multiple IP interventions (>1 year). During the study period 318 patients acquired CPE; of those, 15% were attributed to an index patient. In 40% of the

cases no index case was identified but a contaminated sink with the same CPE strain was identified, and in 18% of the cases without index case they identified CPE-contaminated sinks with different bacterial species but with same plasmid.

Traditionally transmission person-to-person has been the main route for CPE transmission; this study suggests that healthcare facilities need to take into consideration the significant role that sinks play in CPE transmission.

[Regev-Yochay, et al. Infection Control & Hospital Epidemiology \(2024\), 45, 284–291 doi:10.1017/ice.2023.270](#)



Editor's pick
(Adriana Jimenez)

The impact of an intervention to reduce dispersal from wastewater drains

Fontana and colleagues describe a pre/post intervention quality improvement project; they aimed to limit dispersal of meropenem-nonsusceptible *P. aeruginosa* from wastewater drains (WWD) in a hematology/oncology unit. The “splash zone” intervention included behavior change, modification of the physical environment, reduction of water flow rate, and standard procedures for cleaning and maintenance of the sink. The authors followed BSI, patient and environmental colonization with meropenem-nonsusceptible *P. aeruginosa*. They found a substantial decrease in pa-

tient colonization prevalence (PRR, 0.35; 95% CI, 0.04–3.12), over 50% decrease in the colonization of the main sinks of the patient's room but not in the bathrooms sink drains, and 33% decrease in BSI incidence (IRR, 0.67; 95% CI, 0.31–1.42). Although small, this study shows an interesting multidisciplinary approach with important impact in decreasing patient and WWD colonization with meropenem-nonsusceptible *P. aeruginosa* that can be used as model in other settings with similar problems.

[Fontana, L., et al \(2024\). Infection Control & Hospital Epidemiology, 1–9. doi:10.1017/ice.2023.288](#)

“ To date, strategies to mitigate pathogen acquisition from WWD sites are non-standardized and are often impractical, costly, and ultimately unsuccessful.”

CBIC News

Coming soon! Advanced Leadership Certification in Infection Prevention and Control

CBIC has created a task force to develop a certification process to recognize professional expertise in infection prevention and control, called “Advanced Leadership Certification in Infection Prevention and Control”, AD-CIP. The [APIC Competency Model](#) will serve as the framework for this certification but will focus more on the outer circle of future-oriented competencies such as research, leadership, professional stewardship, IPC operations, etc. The assessment will be by portfolio rather than by computer-based examination.

Subject matter experts have been recruited for a practice analysis, with the target goal to initiate the AD-CIP certification process by the first quarter of 2025. CBIC will provide ongoing updates as planning continues. Please call or email the CBIC office for any questions, concerns, or suggestions: 202-454-2625, info@cbic.org.