

2019 APIC National Conference Overview – Philadelphia, PA

An investment in knowledge always pays the best interest. – Ben Franklin

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INTRODUCTION

A strong infection prevention program is one of the most important ways to stop hospital-acquired infections and disease transmission in healthcare facilities. Due to the breadth of knowledge needed to be an infection preventionist, continuing education is vital. As a winner of the APIC MN Louise Krisko Scholarship, I was able to attend the 2019 National APIC conference in Philadelphia, PA, the largest gathering of infection preventionists in the world. It included:

- Over 100 educational sessions on topics , such as:
 - NHSN surveillance,
 - Sterilization/disinfection,
 - Hand hygiene,
 - Antimicrobial stewardship,
 - Outbreak investigation,
 - Construction,
 - Leadership techniques, and more.
- Networking with thousands of Infection Preventionists.



KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

- Daniel Kraft, MD, Founder of Exponential Medicine, discussed innovations in medicine that allow earlier detection and treatment for patients.
- Paul Offit, MD, Author of *Pandora’s Lab: Seven Stories of Science Gone Wrong*, spoke about the history of the anti-vaccination movement and what we can do to stop it.
- Paula Davis-Laack, JD, MAPP gave a blueprint for being adaptable and decreasing stress and burnout while working in healthcare.

100 + EDUCATIONAL SESSIONS

16 CONTINUING EDUCATION HOURS

NETWORKING

SCIENTIFIC POSTERS

LIFE-SIZE CONSTRUCTION WALK-THROUGH

NEW PRODUCT INFORMATION

270 VENDOR EXHIBITS

CIC STUDYING
OPPORTUNITIES

FILM FESTIVAL

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MINNESOTA HIGHLIGHTS

I’m Sorry, Did You Say....Prions? – Aaron Vanderboegh, MPH

- Process to identify possible CJD cases during surgical scheduling.
- Have pre- and post-operative plans for potential Creutzfeldt–Jakob disease (CJD) patients.
- Have minimum cleaning/disinfection requirements.
- Minimize number of instruments used.



NATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

Human factors: Empathy Science

– James Won and Patrice Tremoulet, PhD

- Takes into account the interplay between human behavior/attention, tasks, work environment, available technology/tools , and the organizational structure to impact IP change and meet goals.



INTERNATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

Expanding IPC Virtual Learning in Africa: ICAN Initiatives

– Andre N.H. Bulabula, MD, MSc.

- Infection Control Africa Network (ICAN) has 600 members from 34 African Countries.
- Implemented virtual learning to allow professionals in rural areas to learn about IP.
- Connects rural IPs in Africa to experts throughout the world.

CONCLUSIONS

The 2019 APIC conference truly showcased the variety of areas that infection preventionists need to understand. To see other highlights from the conference search for #APIC2019 on Twitter and Instagram.

Thank you for this opportunity, APIC MN!