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Sierra.Gov, a Brief History

Robert Berg, our dear friend and colleague, recently passed away after a long illness. Many years ago Robert and I served on the Sierra APIC Board at the same time and Robert volunteered to be the Chapter Legislative Representative. He created a newsletter for the members, filled with key information on new legislation, regulation and other matters of advocacy interest, both federal and state. Robert coined an excellent name for his newsletter. The thread of newsletter publication has long been broken, and will return to Volume 1, Number 1, however, in Robert's memory we have reinstated its name, "Sierra.Gov."

The APIC Chapter Legislative Role

The APIC website advises that the APIC public policy program monitors, analyzes, and guides legislative and regulatory proposals at the federal and state levels to protect patients and promote evidence-based policies.

In the Strategic Plan, 2020, APIC has established an advocacy goal for the organization to "Influence legislative and regulatory agenda for infection prevention with consumers, policy makers, health care leaders and workers across the continuum of care." APIC Sierra's Advocacy goal mirrors that of our parent organization.

Sierra Advocacy Goal - Promote awareness and understanding of HAI reportable measures and their role in infection prevention, by:

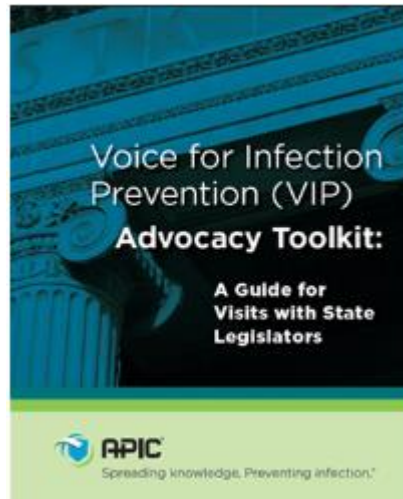
- functioning as a resource for members with regard to legislation and regulation, providing updates and information on mandated reporting requirements that affects our members
- Supporting the mission of the California APIC Coordinating Council (CACC).

The Chapter Board also appoints a Chapter Legislative Representative whose role is to act as APIC's representative to state and local policymakers on public policy matters, the CLR serves as the major link between his/her chapter, APIC HQ, and the APIC Public Policy Committee.

May is the traditional month for the CACC and chapter legislative awareness day. SAVE THE DATE for the annual legislative visit to the capitol

The Advocacy Toolkit

Be a Voice for Infection Prevention in your state with this advocacy toolkit (from the APIC Site)



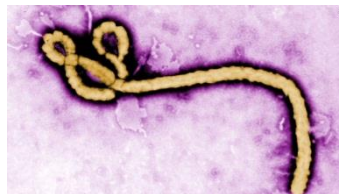
The increasing government focus on quality of care for patients provides an excellent opportunity for infection preventionists to share their expertise with policymakers. With the help of the Greater St. Louis Chapter, APIC has developed a state legislative advocacy toolkit to guide you in educating policymakers about how infection preventionists improve healthcare in their communities.

The VIP toolkit includes:

- Tips for planning a legislative visit
- Tips for deciding which legislators to meet with
- Tips for preparing materials
- Sample planning timeline
- Sample meeting request letters
- Sample talking points
- Sample follow-up letters

Access the VIP Advocacy Toolkit and be a Voice for Infection Prevention today!

CDPH Updated Guidance on PPE for Ebola



Interim Guidance on Personal Protective Equipment (PPPE) To Be Used By Healthcare Workers in the Inpatient Hospital Setting During Management of Patients with Suspected or Confirmed Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) in California

January 12, 2015

On January 12, 2015, CDPH issued an update to their guidance on PPE for Ebola Virus Disease.

From the CDPH website: CDPH is issuing a revision of the Interim "Guidance on Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to be Used by Healthcare Workers in the Inpatient Hospital Setting During Management of Patients with Suspected or Confirmed Ebola Virus Disease in California". This revision outlines the recommended PPE for a suspected or confirmed Ebola patient based on clinical status, i.e. without and with symptoms of bleeding, vomiting, diarrhea, or a clinical condition that would warrant invasive or aerosol-generating procedures. In addition, this guidance removes the CDPH specific recommendation for the use of airborne infection isolation for all Ebola patients at all times and recommends it only during the conduct of aerosol generating procedures.