## Infection Control Hospital Epidemiology

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Artist: Lona Mody







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## Infection Control & Hospital Epidemiology

Volume 43 2022 Number 1

### **CONTENTS**

### Commentary

1 Reflecting on the past and looking toward the future David P. Calfee

### **SHEA White Paper**

Multisociety statement on coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) vaccination as a condition of employment for healthcare personnel David J. Weber, Jaffar A. Al-Tawfiq, Hilary M. Babcock, Kristina Bryant, Marci Drees, Ramy Elshaboury, Katharine Essick, Mohamad Fakih, David K. Henderson, Waleed Javaid, Diane Juffras, Robin J. P. Jump

Katharine Essick, Mohamad Fakih, David K. Henderson, Waleed Javaid, Diane Juffras, Robin L.P. Jump, Francesca Lee, Anurag N. Malani, Trini A. Mathew, Rekha K. Murthy, David Nace, Tara O'Shea, Erica Pettigrew, Ann Marie Pettis, Joshua K. Schaffzin, Erica S. Shenoy, Julie Vaishampayan, Zanthia Wiley, Sharon B. Wright, Deborah Yokoe and Heather Young

### **Original Articles**

- 12 The impact of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) on healthcare-associated infections in 2020: A summary of data reported to the National Healthcare Safety Network

  Lindsey M. Weiner-Lastinger, Vaishnavi Pattabiraman, Rebecca Y. Konnor, Prachi R. Patel, Emily Wong,

  Sunny Y. Xu, Brittany Smith, Jonathan R. Edwards and Margaret A. Dudeck
- 26 Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, central-line—associated bloodstream infection (CLABSI), and catheter-associated urinary tract infection (CAUTI): The urgent need to refocus on hardwiring prevention efforts
  Mohamad G. Fakih, Angelo Bufalino, Lisa Sturm, Ren-Huai Huang, Allison Ottenbacher, Karl Saake, Angela Winegar, Richard Fogel and Joseph Cacchione
- 32 Impact of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) on US Hospitals and Patients, April–July 2020 Mathew R. P. Sapiano, Margaret A. Dudeck, Minn Soe, Jonathan R. Edwards, Erin N. O'Leary, Hsiu Wu, Katherine Allen-Bridson, Agasha Amor, Rashad Arcement, Sheri Chernetsky Tejedor, Ray Dantes, Cindy Gross, Kathryn Haass, Rebecca Konnor, Seth R. Kroop, Denise Leaptrot, Kent Lemoine, Allan Nkwata, Kelly Peterson, Lauren Wattenmaker, Lindsey M. Weiner-Lastinger, Daniel Pollock, Andrea L. Benin and the NHSN Hospital COVID-19 Team
- 40 Rationale and process for N95 respirator sanitation and reuse in the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic Gregory J. Golladay, Kevin A. Leslie, Wilhelm A. Zuelzer, Anthony D. Cassano, Joshua J. Plauny, Frank E. Daniels, Gonzalo Bearman and Stephen L. Kates
- 45 Hydrogen peroxide vapor decontamination of N95 respirators for reuse Patrick A. Kenney, Benjamin K. Chan, Kaitlyn E. Kortright, Margaret Cintron, Mark Russi, Jacqueline Epright, Lorraine Lee, Thomas J. Balcezak, Nancy L. Havill and Richard A. Martinello

- 48 Clinical outcomes and risk factors for mortality from ventilator-associated events: A registry-based cohort study among 30,830 intensive care unit patients

  Shichao Zhu, Wen Wang, Yan Kang, Qiao He, Hui Zhang, Yuhua Deng, Lin Cai, Rui Zhang, Xin Sun and Zhiyong Zong
- 56 Development and validation of antibiotic stewardship metrics for outpatient respiratory tract diagnoses and association of provider characteristics with inappropriate prescribing *Kathleen O. Degnan, Valerie Cluzet, Michael Z. David, Lauren Dutcher, Leigh Cressman, Ebbing Lautenbach, Keith W. Hamilton and for the CDC Prevention Epicenters Program*
- Incidence and burden of *Staphylococcus aureus* infection after orthopedic surgeries *Jill G. Dreyfus*, *Holly Yu, Elizabeth Begier, Julie Gayle and Margaret A. Olsen*
- 72 Can multidrug-resistant organisms become resistant to ultraviolet (UV) light following serial exposures? Characterization of post-UV genomic changes using whole-genome sequencing Hosoon Choi, Piyali Chatterjee, Munok Hwang, Eileen M. Stock, Janell S. Lukey, John E. Zeber and Chetan Jinadatha
- 79 Antimicrobial efficacy and durability of copper formulations over one year of hospital use Elizabeth Ann Bryce, Billie Velapatino, Tysha Donnelly-Pierce, Hamed Akbari Khorami, Titus Wong, Richard Dixon, Edouard Asselin, Allison McGeer, Jocelyn A. Srigley and Kevin Katz

### **Concise Communications**

- Multifaceted intervention for improving antimicrobial prescription at discharge in the emergency department *Yasuaki Tagashira, Manaka Goto, Reiko Kondo and Hitoshi Honda*
- 92 Real-world implementation and impact of a rapid carbapenemase detection test in an area endemic for carbapenem-resistant Enterobacterales

  Alex M. Trzebucki, Lars F. Westblade, Angela Loo, Shawn Mazur, Stephen G. Jenkins, David P. Calfee,

  Michael J. Satlin and Matthew S. Simon
- 96 Evaluation of an initiative to improve prophylactic antimicrobial prescribing in patients on extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO) through the application of three antimicrobial-spectrum scores *Aditya Shah, Ryan W. Stevens, John C. O'Horo, Ross A. Dierkhising, Lynn L. Estes, Elie F. Berbari and Aaron J. Tande*
- 99 Performance of the BinaxNOW coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) Antigen Card test relative to the severe acute respiratory coronavirus virus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) real-time reverse transcriptase polymerase chain reaction (rRT-PCR) assay among symptomatic and asymptomatic healthcare employees *Allison E. James, Trent Gulley, Atul Kothari, Kasey Holder, Kelley Garner and Naveen Patil*
- 102 Infectivity of healthcare workers diagnosed with coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) approximately 2 weeks after onset of symptoms: A cross-sectional study Yves Longtin, Hugues Charest, Caroline Quach, Patrice Savard, Mariana Baz, Guy Boivin, Judith Farfard, Jasmin Villeneuve, Michel Roger and Gaston De Serres

Vacuum exhausted isolation locker (VEIL) to reduce inpatient droplet/aerosol transmission during COVID-19 pandemic

Tilvawala Gopesh, Alex M. Grant, Jessica H. Wen, Teresa H. Wen, Ernesto Criado-Hidalgo, William J. Connacher, James R. Friend and Timothy A. Morris

### Research Briefs

- 108 Absence of long-range severe acute respiratory coronavirus virus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) transmission from a highly infectious patient with undiagnosed coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) in a positive-pressure room *Chanu Rhee, Meghan A. Baker, Robert Tucker and Michael Klompas*
- 109 Discontinuation of isolation precautions for coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) patients Laura Anderson, Emily Schmitz, Philip M. Polgreen, Susan E. Beekmann and Nasia Safdar
- 113 Respiratory extracorporeal membrane oxygenation and central-line–associated bloodstream infection: Experience at a tertiary-care center during the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic *Shimpei Harita, Jun Hamaguchi, Keiki Shimizu and Hitoshi Honda*
- 115 Twenty years of infection prevention: A longitudinal perspective from an academic medical center *John W. Ahern, Cindy D. Noyes, Lindsay M. Smith and W. Alston*

### Letters to the Editor

- 118 Healthcare-associated COVID-19: The experience of an academic medical center Rachel J. Pryor, Michelle Doll, Michael P. Stevens, Kaila Cooper, Emily J. Godbout, Oliva Hess and Gonzalo Bearman
- 120 Severe acute respiratory coronavirus virus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) seroprevalence among healthcare workers in a low prevalence region

  Emily J. Godbout, Rachel Pryor, Mary Harmon, Alison Montpetit, Joan Greer, Lorin M. Bachmann, Michelle Doll, Michael P. Stevens and Gonzalo Bearman
- 123 Comparison of symptomatic and asymptomatic infections due to severe acute respiratory coronavirus virus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) in San Francisco long-term care facilities

  Janice K. Louie, Juliet E. Stoltey, Hyman M. Scott, Stephanie Trammell, Ejovwoke Ememu, Michael C. Samuel, Tomas J. Aragon and Godfred Masinde
- 125 How relevant is the basic reproductive number computed during the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, especially during lockdowns?

  Arni S.R. Srinivasa Rao, Steven G. Krantz, Michael B. Bonsall, Thomas Kurien, Siddappa N. Byrareddy, David A. Swanson, Ramesh Bhat and Kurapati Sudhakar
- 127 Prevention and management of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) in prison: Feedback from an experience in a French remand center

  Jérémy Picard, Gwenael Cornec, Elisabeth Gravrand, Séverine Ansart, Eric Stindel, Raoul Baron and Philippe Saliou

- **129** Elastomeric respirators: Expanding the "E" in PPE *Michael P. Koster and Leonard A. Mermel*
- An overview of research on air and environmental contamination with severe acute respiratory coronavirus virus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) in healthcare settings Hajime Kanamori
- 133 Big data—driven personal protective equipment stockpiling framework under a universal healthcare system for disease control and prevention in the COVID-19 era *Kevin Sheng-Kai Ma and Alice Shin-Yi Tsai*
- 134 Impact of early carbapenemase notification on infection control management and antimicrobial stewardship Leandro Reus Rodrigues Perez, Gabriel Narvaez and Cícero Dias

### Addendum

137 The impact of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) on healthcare-associated infections in 2020: A summary of data reported to the National Healthcare Safety Network – ADDENDUM Lindsey M. Weiner-Lastinger, Vaishnavi Pattabiraman, Rebecca Y. Konnor, Prachi R. Patel, Emily Wong, Sunny Y. Xu, Brittany Smith, Jonathan R. Edwards and Margaret A. Dudeck

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### About the cover:



**Title:** Outsized, Overwhelming Impact of COVID-19, 2020

Beginning with volume 43 (January 2022), the cover of *Infection Control & Hospital Epidemiology* (ICHE) will feature art inspired by or reflective of topics within the scope of the journal and their impact on patients, healthcare personnel and our society. These topics include healthcare-associated infections, antimicrobial resistance, and healthcare epidemiology. The intent is to feature original artwork that has been created by individuals who have a personal connection to one or more of these topics through their clinical work, research, or experience as a patient or an affected patient's family member, friend or advocate. The goal is to provide readers with a visual reminder of the human impact of the topics addressed in the journal and the importance of the work being done by those who read or contribute to ICHE and by all who are trying to make healthcare safer through the elimination of healthcare-associated infections.

For more information about the ICHE cover and how to submit artwork for consideration for a future cover, please visit the ICHE website: https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/infection-control-and-hospital-epidemiology

**Artist:** Lona Mody, MD, MSc **Medium:** Acrylic paints on canvas

### Dr. Mody spoke to ICHE about her painting.

What was the inspiration for this artwork? I am drawn towards color and paint art that conveys the happiness that is in my life. However, COVID changed everything. I had to create something that was wholly different to process this unprecedented historic event. Painting this particular piece was extremely cathartic. It allowed me to reflect on the loss experienced by many, its impact on my peers and come to terms with the fact that the worst was yet to come (I started this work in April of 2020 and completed it in May 2020).

This painting depicts an outsized and overwhelming impact of COVID-19 on our healthcare providers and on our healthcare eco-system in general. I was artistically inspired by the lifeless streets in big capital cities, empty tall haunted buildings and incredible havoc created by a virus that was often depicted paradoxically by vivid colors with precise structures and features. Missing in all these early images was the human factor. With this painting, I wanted to show the immediate and devastating consequences on people that work within healthcare and carry the burden of COVID-19. It is now displayed within our departmental offices as a reminder of our collective experiences.

Why is this work appropriate for the cover of *Infection Control & Hospital Epidemiology?* ICHE as a journal is about understanding, preventing and controlling infections. It is a journal that publishes high quality evidence written by experts who were overwhelmingly impacted and continue to be impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. This painting also captures the frustration and sadness felt by many of us in this field.

What is your personnel connection to the content of ICHE? Epidemiology, patterns, association, causality always attracted me. Since my residency, I knew that I had to go beyond clinical medicine to understand these concepts. ICHE was the perfect journal that served as an outlet for my research pursuits. In fact, my first paper (borne out of my residency project) was published in ICHE. ICHE has been instrumental in my academic success. Its readership is a community I am most connected with.

Dr. Mody is the Amanda Sanford Hickey Professor of Internal Medicine at the University of Michigan and VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System, Ann Arbor, MI, USA. She directs the Center for Research and Innovations in Special Populations (CRIISP) and is the Associate Division Chief of Geriatric & Palliative Care Medicine, Associate Director of Clinical and Translational Research (Geriatrics Center), and Co-Director of the Medical Arts Program. Her research investigates the clinical and molecular epidemiology of antimicrobial-resistant pathogens and develops novel interventions to prevent them. Dr. Mody is a member of SHEA and an ad hoc reviewer for and frequent contributor to ICHE. She has published 34 papers in ICHE.

Cover image: Outsized, Overwhelming Impact of COVID-19, 2020