

January/February 1983

Volume 4/Number 1

**Editorial** 

The American College of Epidemiology Abraham M. Lilienfeld, M.D.

Original Articles Nosocomial Infection in a High Risk Cohort: An Illustration of a Sampling Method Katherine Hill Chavigny, Ph.D. and Janet Fischer, M.D., Ph.D.

> Injection Site Abscesses Caused by Mycobacterium Chelonei

David H. Gremillion, Lt Col, Sara B. Mursch, Lt Col, and Charles J. Lerner, M.D.

An Evaluation of Autopsy Review as a **Technique for Infection Control:** A Procedure of Questionable Value

Kent Crossley, M.D., Janice Johnson, R.N., Rebecca Mudge, R.N. and Laura Crossley, R.N.

Nosocomial Spread of Clostridium difficile Alice M. Savage, M.D., Ph.D. and Robert H. Alford, M.D.

**Topics in Clinical Microbiology:** Pseudomonas aeruginosa Charles W. Stratton, M.D.



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ISSN-0195-9417

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## The ideas and opinions expressed by contributing authors do not necessarily reflect those of the editors or publisher.



Publisher: Infection Control is published bimonthly by Charles B. Slack, Inc., 6900 Grove Road, Thorofare, New Jersey 08086. Telephone: Thorofare (609) 848-1000.

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Subscriptions: Subscription requests should be addressed to the publisher. Annual subscription price is: Individual: One year—\$26.00; Two years—\$42.00; Three years—\$58.00. Student rates: \$13.00 per year. All subscriptions, without exception, will start with the first issue published after the order is received. Back copies are available, but must be purchased separately. Cost per individual copy is \$5.00. Foreign subscribers add \$10.00 to regular rate; foreign orders, \$6.00.

Change of address: Notice should be sent to the publisher six weeks in advance of effective date. Include old and new addresses with zip codes. The publisher cannot accept responsibility for undelivered copies. Second-class postage is paid at Thorofare, New Jersey 08086. Publisher requests Form 3547 for address correction changes.

As of Volume 1, Number 1, INFECTION CONTROL is listed in Index Medicus, Current Contents—Clinical Practice, Hospital Literature Index, and Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature.

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October 1982 Volume 27, Number 10

# **Abstracts**

An Efficacy Evaluation of a Synergized Glutaraldehyde-Phenate Solution in Disinfecting Respiratory Therapy Equipment Contaminated during Patient Use—TR Townsend, SB Wee, B Koblin (Baltimore MD). Infect Control 1982;3: 240-244.

Reusable, corrugated, expiratory limb ventilator tubings that had been in use for 24 hours were randomly allocated to one of three groups: no treatment (N=36); detergent wash (N=83); or a detergent wash followed by a 10-minute immersion in a 1:16 dilution of synergized glutaraldehyde-phenate solution which was reused for 30 days. (Between 10 and 22 tubes were tested in each 5-day interval during this 30-day period.) Tubes were quantitatively and qualitatively cultured.

There were significant differences in both the per cent of contaminated tubes (no treatment = 92%, detergent wash = 72%, glutaraldehyde-phenate = 0 to 20%) and numbers of micro-organisms per tube (no treatment =  $3.2 \times 10^6$ , detergent wash =  $1.3 \times 10^4$ , glutaraldehydephenate = 0 to 182) between groups. There was no apparent decrease in glutaraldehyde-phenate's efficacy throughout the 30-day reuse period, and in the final five days of the reuse period it was completely effective.



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