



INFECTION EXPOSE' MONTHLY NEWS AND UPDATES - CHAPTER 076

British scientists claim flu vaccine breakthrough

LONDON (AFP) – Scientists in Britain have successfully tested a vaccine which could work against all known flu strains, the Guardian newspaper reported Monday. The new vaccine, developed by scientists at Oxford University, differs from traditional treatments by targeting proteins inside the flu virus rather than proteins on the flu's external coat. The two proteins within the virus are similar across strains and less likely to mutate, meaning new vaccines would not have to be developed for each new strain of the illness. Traditional vaccines stimulate the body to produce antibodies to fight the flu, whereas the new treatment, developed by a team led by Sarah Gilbert, boosts the production of T-cells, which identify and kill infected cells. "Fewer of the people who were vaccinated got flu than the people who weren't vaccinated," said Gilbert. "We did get an indication that the vaccine was protecting people, not only from the numbers of people who got flu but also from looking at their T-cells before we gave them flu. "The volunteers we vaccinated had T-cells that were activated, primed and ready to kill." If successfully developed, the new vaccine could prevent outbreaks such as the recent swine flu pandemic, which cost the government £1.2 billion in vaccine preparation.

Upcoming APICIN Events

- April 14, 2011** - Board of Directors meeting- Hilton Indianapolis North
- April 15, 2011** - Spring Conference- Hilton Indianapolis North
- October 13, 2011** - Board of Directors meeting- Hilton Indianapolis North
- October 14, 2011** - Fall Conference- Hilton Indianapolis North

APIC IN – Board of Officers 2011

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Central Line-Associated Bloodstream Infection (CLABSI) Event – MANDATORY REPORTING

Introduction: An estimated 248,000 bloodstream infections occur in U.S. hospitals each year. It is believed that a large proportion of these are associated with the presence of a central vascular catheter, though this is an area where more study is needed. For the purposes of NHSN, such infections are termed central line-associated bloodstream infections (CLABSI). Bloodstream infections are usually serious infections typically causing a prolongation of hospital stay and increased cost and risk of mortality.

CLABSI can be prevented through proper management of the central line. These techniques are addressed in the CDC's Healthcare Infection Control Practices Advisory Committee (CDC/HIPAC) *Guidelines for the Prevention of Intravascular Catheter*

Requirements: Surveillance for CLABSI in at least one inpatient location in the healthcare institution for at least one calendar month as indicated in the *Patient Safety Monthly Reporting Plan* (CDC 57.106).