

Prospectus

Certificate course in Infection Prevention & Control

*Conducted by the
Department of Microbiology
Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo*

Introduction

Hospital associated infections are a leading cause of increased morbidity and mortality in patients and healthcare workers. They add to the health expenses of the country which is already unable to provide essential requirements. Most importantly these infections can be prevented by implementing proper infection control programs.

The main obstacle to achieving this goal is the inadequacy of healthcare personnel trained in infectious disease and infection control. This course is aimed at developing skills and knowledge on infection control among healthcare workers and thereby achieving better standards of infection control in hospitals.

In view of the above, the Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo is offering a certificate course in infection prevention and control to provide knowledge and skills and to impart correct attitudes in preventing, controlling and monitoring healthcare-associated infections through infection prevention and control.

This will provide support to infection control professionals, healthcare organizations and healthcare providers in the development, implementation and evaluation of infection prevention and control policies, procedures and programs to improve the quality and safety of health care and patient outcomes.

Aim of the course:

To develop knowledge, skills and competencies required for infection control in health care settings.

Target group:

This course is intended to improve the knowledge and skills on infection prevention and control in health care professionals responsible for the prevention of healthcare-associated infections in all settings, whether hospitals, clinics or family practice offices. The specific personnel include doctors and other healthcare professionals (nurses, physiotherapists, medical laboratory technicians and healthcare administrators).

Learning outcomes:

At the completion of this course the participants will be able to,

- acquire a good knowledge on the principles of infection prevention and control (IPC) and be able to apply them in their work settings
- Identify the link between suboptimal IPC practices and increased rates of hospital acquired infections affecting patients safety
- maintain the expected standards of infection control during various procedures and in different settings
- identify procedures and practices in work settings that increase the risk of hospital associated infections
- implement behavior change strategies on implementing IPC and evaluate the outcome
- recognize impending outbreaks of hospital acquired infections early and act to prevent further spread

- manage special situations such as outbreaks with the infection control team
- apply principles of hospital waste management as a component of IPC
- establish, monitor and evaluate an infection prevention and control programme in a health care setting
- acquire skills on communication, team work and Inter-professional collaboration

Orientation:

One day initiation workshop will be held to provide hands on computer training

Entry requirements:

Candidates other than doctors should have passed the GCE Advanced Level Examination and should have work experience of at least two years in a healthcare setting and be currently employed in a healthcare sector organisation. Candidates should have a credit pass in English at the GCE Ordinary Level examination.

Admission process:

A duly completed application form should be submitted with documentary evidence of qualifications and required experience. An objective marking scheme will be used for assessing the applications of candidates.

All the applicants who meet the eligibility criteria should sit a computer based English Language examination and should score 50%. The first 100 applicants as per ranking order based on the final mark will be selected for the course.

Time duration:

Approximately 100 hours online work over 6 months

Delivery mode :

Blended mode (online learning & discussion, course content, practical sessions and tutorials).

The main method of delivering this course will be by online learning, through self-learning material, video clips and online discussions. Some modules will include a full day seminar and practical sessions with role play.

Course fee : Rs 50,000/- (Local)

US \$ 500.00 (Overseas)

Name & address of the Course Director: Professor Jennifer Perera, Dean and Chair & Senior Professor of Microbiology, P O Box 271, Faculty of Medicine, Kynsey Road, Colombo.
(Telephone: 011 2697513)

Course Content:

Content will be covered under 5 modules

No	Modules & No of allocated hours	Content
1	1.1 Introduction to Hospital acquired infections & Infection control (10 hrs) Breakdown 8 hrs – self learning 2 hrs online discussions	1.1.1 Hospital acquired infections(HAI) 1.1.1.1 Introduction to HAIs 1.1.1.2 Transmission of infections in healthcare settings 1.1.1.3 Special transmission risks 1.1.2 Basics of infection prevention & control 1.1.2.1 Organization of infection control 1.1.2.2 Standard precautions 1.1.2.3 Additional precautions 1.1.2.4 Hand hygiene
	1.2 Cleaning, disinfection and sterilization & Healthcare waste management (8 hrs) Breakdown 6 hrs- Self learning 2 hrs – online discussion	1.2.1 Antiseptics and disinfectants basic principles 1.2.2 Cleaning & disinfection of the environment 1.2.3 Cleaning, disinfection & sterilization of equipment 1.2.4 Cleaning, disinfection & sterilization of linen 1.2.5 Quality assurance of sterilization procedures
2	2.1 Infection control in clinical procedures (14 hrs) Breakdown 10 hrs - Self learning 02 hrs - online discussion 02 hrs - face to face SGD & Practical demonstration	2.1.1 Skin preparation 2.1.2 Surgical site care 2.1.3 Wound care & drains 2.1.4 Indwelling therapeutic devices 2.1.5 Tracheal suction & oral care 2.1.6 Bundle approach
	2.2 Infection control in theatre community (10 hrs) Breakdown 8 hrs- Self learning 2 hrs – online discussion	2.2.1 IC in Operating theatres 2.2.2 IC in Anesthesia
3	3.1 Infection control in specialized units (20 hrs) Breakdown 14 hrs - Self learning 04 hrs – online discussion 02 hrs –face to face SGD	3.1.1 ICU 3.1.2 Special care baby units 3.1.3 Labour rooms 3.1.4 Burns units 3.1.5 Endoscopy units 3.1.6 Dialysis units 3.1.7 Dental practice 3.1.8 Ophthalmology & ENT units 3.1.9 Post mortem rooms 3.1.10 Laboratories
4	4.1 Management of outbreaks in health care settings (12 hrs) Breakdown 10 hrs- Self learning 2 hrs – online discussion	4.1.1 Introduction to Management of outbreaks 4.1.2 MRSA 4.1.3 Respiratory tract infections 4.1.4 Surgical site infections 4.1.5 GI infections 4.1.6 Scabies 4.1.7 Varicella 4.1.8 Multi drug resistant organisms

	<p>4.2 Hospital waste management (8 hrs) Breakdown 7 hrs- Self learning 1 hr – online discussion</p>	<p>4.2.1 Introduction to Health care waste 4.2.2 Impact on environment and health 4.2.3 Handling storage and transport 4.2.4 Health care worker protection 4.2.5 Treatment and disposal technology 4.2.6 Organisation and management 4.2.7 Roles and responsibilities 4.2.8 Legislation on HCWM</p>
5	<p>5.1 Occupational health & safety for healthcare workers (8 hrs) Breakdown 7 hrs- Self learning 1 hr – online discussion</p>	<p>5.1.1 Immunization programme for HC workers 5.1.2 Management of HCW potentially exposed to HBV, HCV or HIV 5.1.3 Infection control in other infections 5.1.4 Health and safety education and counseling</p>
	<p>5.2 Monitoring and evaluation of the existing infection control programme (4 hrs) Breakdown 3 hrs- Self learning 1 hr – online discussion</p>	<p>5.2.1 Infection control team & role of administrators, Microbiologist, ICN & Liaison nurses, Budgeting and stock maintenance 5.2.2 Designing a monitoring plan & Monitoring indicators, evaluation of results obtained through indicators</p>
	<p>5.3 Communication, team work and Inter-professional collaboration (4 hrs)</p>	<p>5.3.1 The relationships between inter-professional collaboration, patient centered care and safety. 5.3.2 Working and communicating in inter-professional teams. 5.3.3 Preventing and handling conflicts. 5.3.4 Leading inter-professional teams</p>

Assessment:

- A summative assessment will be conducted at the end of each of the five modules using online or face to face modes
- All online end of module assessments will have to be completed within a specified time period. On request, students will be granted extensions of one week duration for a maximum of two of the five modules. Re-registration for specific modules will be required if the candidates fail to complete the course at designated time periods.

Those who complete all the assessments successfully (obtain 50% or more marks for each module) will qualify for the certificate.