

# INFECTION CONTROL ASSESSMENT & RESPONSE (ICAR) RESOURCES



Jessica Felix, BSN, RN, CIC  
ICAR Infection Preventionist  
Communicable Disease Service  
New Jersey Department of Health



# BACKGROUND



CDC funding

Ebola  
supplement



Three-year  
nationwide program  
(2015-2018)

Extension

## EPIDEMIOLOGY AND LABORATORY CAPACITY FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASES (ELC) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT

- Established in 1995
  - Focus on strengthening infectious disease infrastructure
  - Surveillance capacity
- 2010- passage of Affordable Care Act established the Prevention and Public Health Fund (PPHF)
- PPHF provided the first mandatory funding dedicated to improving the nation's public health system.
- Funds all 50 states, 8 U.S. territories, and 6 cities with the largest local health departments



# ICAR GOALS

- Expansion of assessments
  - 147 assessments
- Increase infection prevention competency and practice
- Enhance surveillance and reporting capacity

# ASSESSMENT OVERVIEW

Infection Control Assessment Tools:

<https://www.cdc.gov/hai/prevent/infection-control-assessment-tools.html>

# BY THE NUMBERS:



32 Acute Care

Hospitals, Long-term Acute Care  
Hospitals, Comprehensive  
Rehabilitation Facilities



32 Hemodialysis

Hemodialysis Facilities



60 Long-term Care

Nursing Homes, Psychiatric  
Hospitals, Assisted Living Facilities



26 Outpatient

Doctor's Offices, Federally-  
Qualified Health Centers,  
Ambulatory Surgery Centers

# COMPETENCY BASED TRAINING

- CDC definitions
  - Healthcare Personnel (HCP) Infection Prevention (IP) Competency
  - HCP IP Competency-Based Training
  - Competency Assessment
  - Audit
  - Feedback



# EDUCATION

ICAR Resources:

<https://nj.gov/health/cd/topics/hai.shtml>



Communicable Disease Service

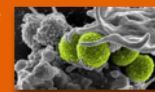
- Home
- Diseases & Health Topics A-Z List**
- Disease Reporting
- Immunization Requirements
- Education & Training
- Statistics, Reports & Publications
- Forms

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE SPOTLIGHT

## Healthcare Associated Infections

The Communicable Disease Service is part of a three-year nationwide program, sponsored by the CDC, to reduce healthcare associated infections (HAIs).

[Learn more about the HAI initiative.](#)



Quick Links

- About CDS
- NJ Administrative Code
- Meaningful Use Criteria
- NJ ARRA Participating Sites [pdf 90k]
- Speakers' Bureau
- Spring 2018 Northeastern Basic Course for Infection Prevention and Control

### ICAR Resources

- [How To Guide: Getting the Point Across \(Proper Glucometer Use\) \[webinar\]](#)
- [ICAR Video Leader Guide \[pdf\]](#)
- Video Series
  - [Safe Glucometer Use - ICAR Video 1](#)
  - [Medication Preparation Areas - ICAR Video 2](#)
  - [Injection Safety - ICAR Video 3](#)
- [Antibiotic Stewardship in Long-term Care \[webinar\]](#)
- [Antibiotic Stewardship in Nursing Homes and Long-term Care Webinar Resources \[pdf\]](#)
- [Guidance and Recommended Resources for Infection Prevention Partners \[pdf\]](#)

HEALTHCARE-ASSOCIATED INFECTIONS: ICAR

Flu

Limiting the spread of influenza in New Jersey during the annual flu season is a high priority for the Communicable Disease Service. We monitor flu activity throughout the state, maintain information on vaccine availability, and offer prevention guidelines for use in home, workplace, and healthcare settings.

[Learn more](#)

Disease Reporting

Many healthcare providers and facility administrators are required to report new cases of certain communicable diseases to either local health departments or the New Jersey Department of Health.

[Learn more](#)

# ICAR VIDEO LEADER GUIDE

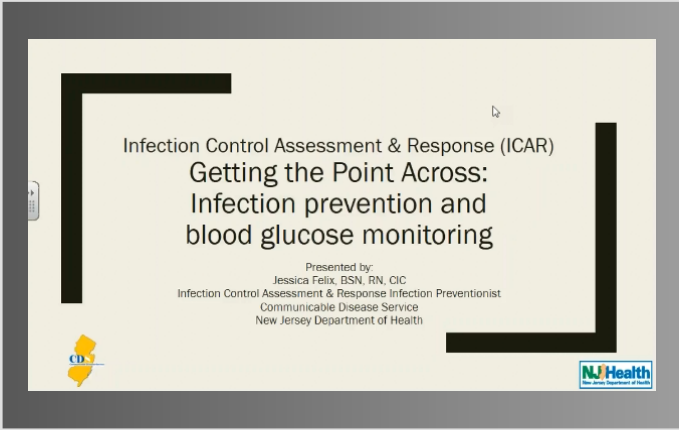


## Infection Control Assessment and Response (ICAR) Facilitated Discussion Leader Guide

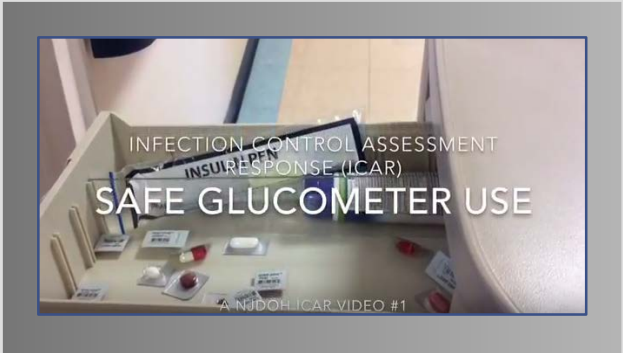
The three Infection Control Assessment and Response (ICAR) videos were created to start a dialogue between the ICAR team and healthcare/direct patient care professionals in various settings. The videos cover topics included on ICAR assessments that are recognized as important to patient safety to decrease disease transmission, but are not always followed in practice. Glucometer use, medication preparation, and injection safety are areas of nursing practice that are separate, but have significant overlap.

This Leader Guide was created to stimulate discussion among health care staff. These three scenarios were developed to assist with identifying poor infection prevention practices and to foster a better understanding of why infection prevention is a key element in reducing disease transmission. We hope that facility “Leaders” (e.g., those responsible for monitoring staff competencies) will find this guide helpful. Please view the videos on the New Jersey State Government YouTube page and then refer to this guide to lead discussion with staff.

- Stimulate discussion
- Self-evaluation
- Engaging
- Q&A
- Additional resources



- ## ICAR Resources
- [How To Guide: Getting the Point Across \(Proper Glucometer Use\) \[webinar\]](#)
  - [ICAR Video Leader Guide \[pdf\]](#)
  - Video Series
    - [Safe Glucometer Use - ICAR Video 1](#)
    - [Medication Preparation Areas - ICAR Video 2](#)
    - [Injection Safety - ICAR Video 3](#)
  - [Antibiotic Stewardship in Long-term Care \[webinar\]](#)
  - [Antibiotic Stewardship in Nursing Homes and Long-term Care Webinar Resources \[pdf\]](#)
  - [Guidance and Recommended Resources for Infection Prevention Partners \[pdf\]](#)



**NJ Health**  
New Jersey Department of Health

**Infection Control Assessment and Response (ICAR)  
Facilitated Discussion Leader Guide**

The three Infection Control Assessment and Response (ICAR) videos were created to start a dialogue between the ICAR team and healthcare/direct patient care professionals in various settings. The videos cover topics included on ICAR assessments that are recognized as important to patient safety to decrease disease transmission, but are not always followed in practice. Glucometer use, medication preparation, and injection safety are areas of nursing practice that are separate, but have significant overlap.

This Leader Guide was created to stimulate discussion among health care staff. These three scenarios were developed to assist with identifying poor infection prevention practices and to foster a better understanding of why infection prevention is a key element in reducing disease transmission. We hope that facility "Leaders" (e.g., those responsible for monitoring staff competencies) will find this guide helpful. Please view the videos on the New Jersey State Government YouTube page and then refer to this guide to lead discussion with staff.



# INJECTION SAFETY

- Top gap for all settings
  - CBT program
  - Audits and feedback
- Manufacturer's instructions for use (IFU)
- Cleaning vs. disinfection
- Medication preparation
  - MDV, pens
  - Recapping of needles
  - Drug diversion



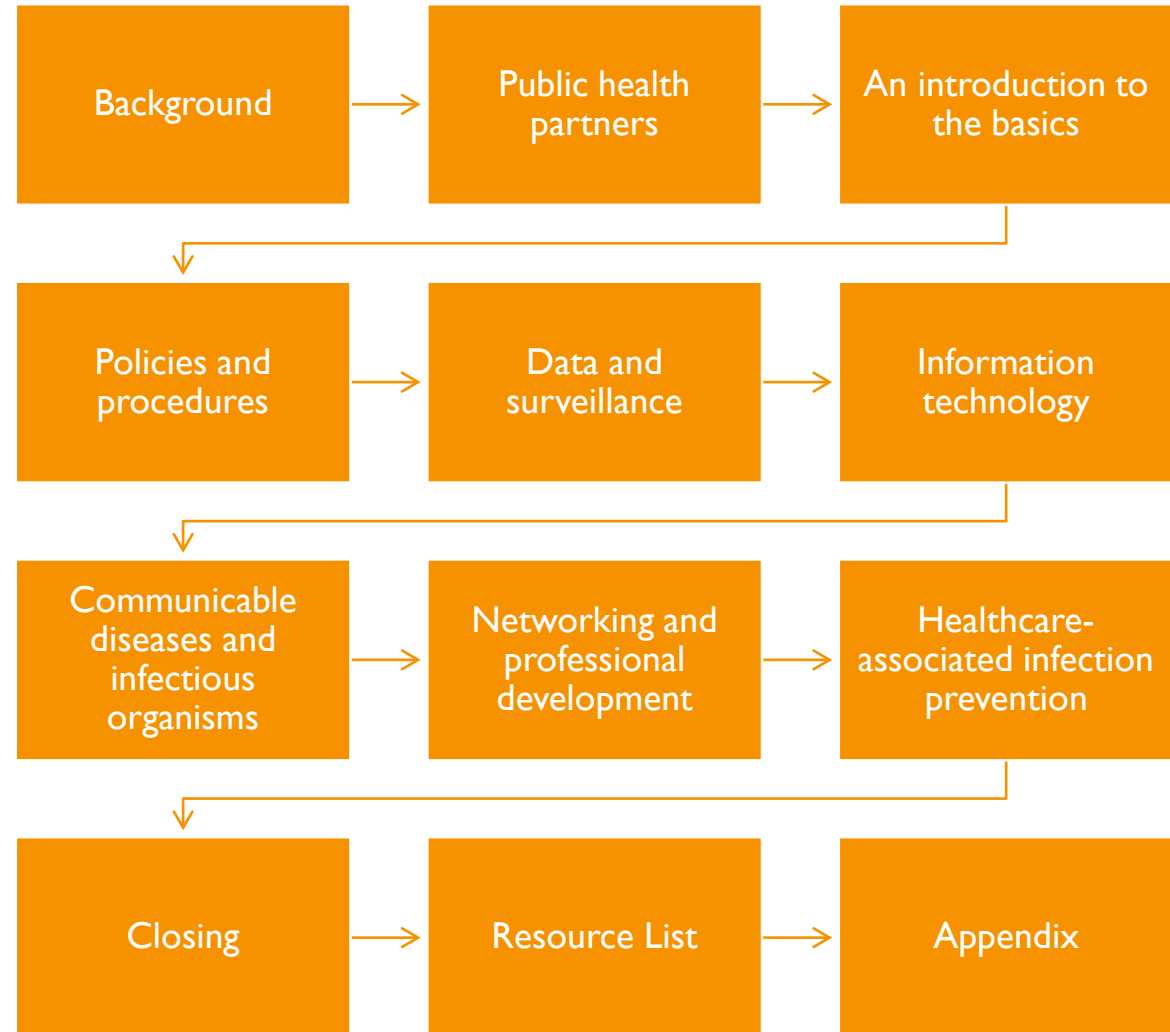
## ICAR Resources

- [How To Guide: Getting the Point Across \(Proper Glucometer Use\) \[webinar\]](#)
- [ICAR Video Leader Guide \[pdf\]](#)
- Video Series
  - [Safe Glucometer Use - ICAR Video 1](#)
  - [Medication Preparation Areas - ICAR Video 2](#)
  - [Injection Safety - ICAR Video 3](#)
- [Antibiotic Stewardship in Long-term Care \[webinar\]](#)
- [Antibiotic Stewardship in Nursing Homes and Long-term Care Webinar Resources \[pdf\]](#)
- [Guidance and Recommended Resources for Infection Prevention Partners \[pdf\]](#)

# 2018

## GUIDANCE AND RECOMMENDED RESOURCES FOR INFECTION PREVENTION PARTNERS

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

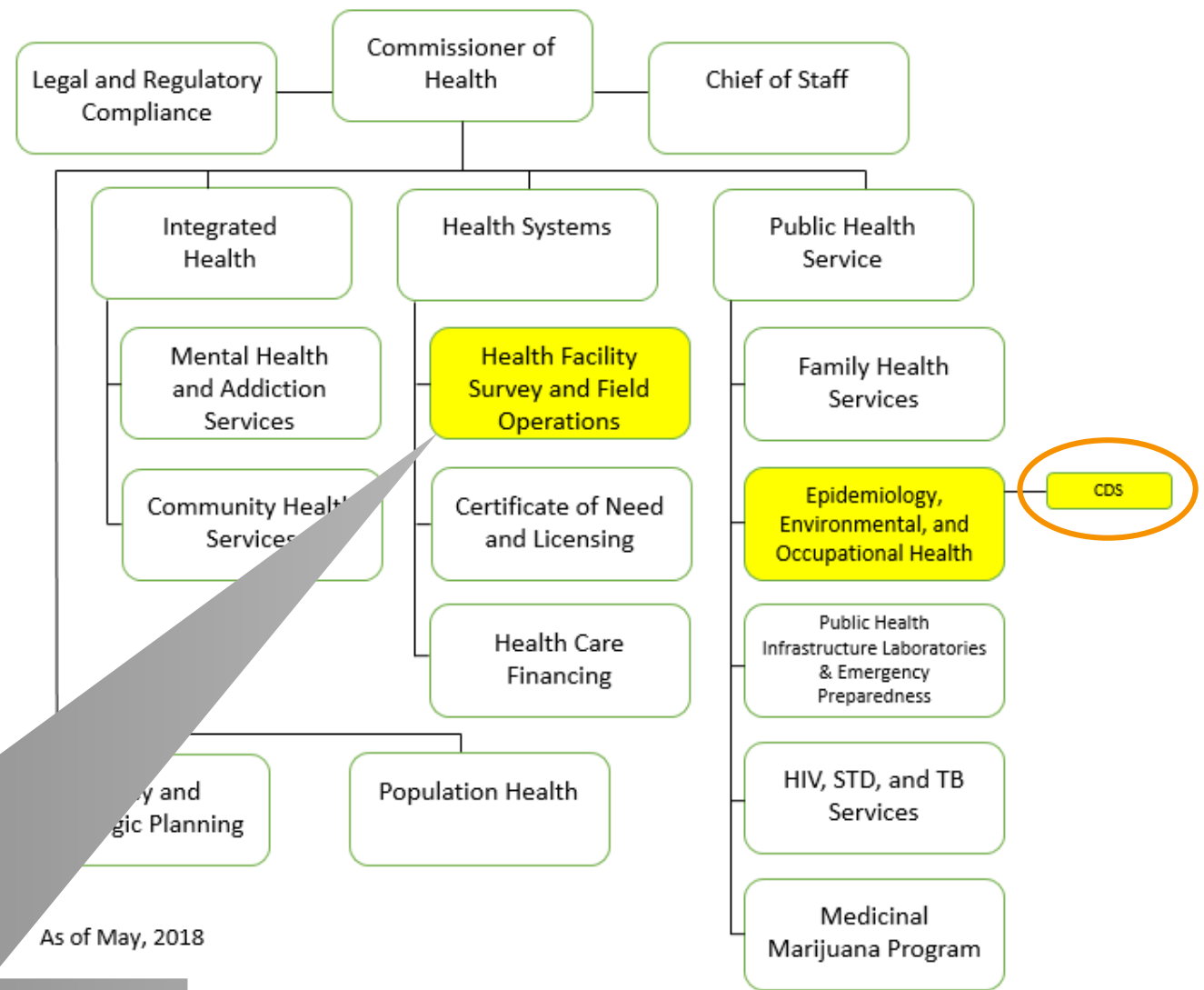


# PUBLIC HEALTH PARTNERS





# NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH



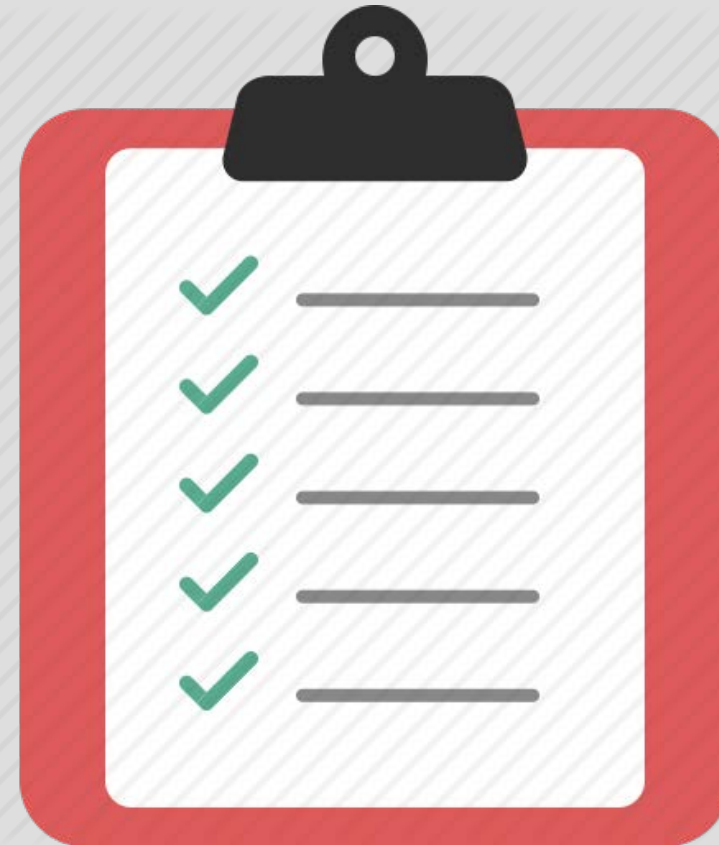
New Jersey Administrative Code (N.J.A.C.) is available [here](#).<sup>14</sup> For setting specific regulations refer to:

- N.J.A.C. Title 8, Chapter 39 Standards for licensure of Long-term Care Facilities
- N.J.A.C. Title 8, Chapter 43A Manual of Standards for Licensing of Ambulatory Care Facilities
- N.J.A.C. Title 8, Chapter 43G Hospital Licensing Standards
- N.J.A.C. Title 8, Chapter 42 Licensing Standards for Home Health Agencies
- N.J.A.C. Title 8, Chapter 57 Communicable Diseases
  - Instructions for using LexisNexis are available [here](#).<sup>15</sup>

# AN INTRODUCTION TO THE BASICS

Learn about:

- Your role and scope of the IP program
- IP Committee
- Other committees you may serve on
- Other key people within your organization



## POLICIES & PROCEDURES

In addition to infection prevention specific policies and procedures (e.g. hand hygiene, standard precautions, transmission-based precautions, reporting of communicable diseases), consider the following:



Collection of specimens



Laundry services



Reusable medical equipment and devices (e.g. blood glucose meters)



Specialty care

Dental  
Hemodialysis  
Podiatry  
Respiratory  
Vascular access  
Wound



## DATA & SURVEILLANCE

- Facility surveillance plan
- Reporting
  - Communicable Disease Reporting and Surveillance System (CDRSS)
  - National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN)
- Audit tools and forms
  - Process vs. outcome

---

*Tip: An outbreak (suspected or confirmed) including, foodborne, waterborne, or HAI; or a suspected act of bioterrorism, is IMMEDIATELY reportable to the LHD.*

---

---

*Tip: Ensure outside service providers are considered in the event of an exposure, e.g., Emergency Medical Services (EMS), agency staff, and patient transport companies.*

---

## COMMUNICABLE DISEASES & INFECTIOUS ORGANISMS

- Outbreak identification and investigation
- Multi-drug resistant organisms (MDROs)
- Blood borne pathogens
- Tuberculosis control
- Healthcare personnel immunizations

# NETWORKING & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



- Introduce yourself to groups outside of your facility
  - LHD
  - Setting specific associations
  - Association for Professionals in Infection Prevention and Epidemiology (APIC)
- Education & certification opportunities
  - N.I.C.E. basic course
  - Board Certified- Infection Preventionist
  - Certified in Infection Control

# HAI PREVENTION

## Infection Prevention and Control Assessment Tool for Outpatient Settings

This tool is intended to assist in the assessment of infection control programs and practices in outpatient settings. In order to complete the assessment, direct observation of infection control practices will be necessary. To facilitate the assessment, health departments are encouraged to share this tool with facilities in advance of their visit.

Please note, Not Applicable should only be checked if the element or domain is not applicable to the types of services provided by the facility (e.g., the facility never performs point-of-care testing, controlled substances are never kept at the facility). If a particular service is provided by the facility but is unable to be observed during the visit (e.g., no injections were prepared or administered during the visit) that section should still be completed by interviewing relevant personnel about their practices.

### Overview

Section 1: Facility Demographics

Section 2: Infection Control Program and Infrastructure

Section 3: Direct Observation of Facility Practices

Section 4: Infection Control Guidelines and Other Resources

# APPENDIX

Infection Control Program and Infrastructure

Healthcare Personnel and/or Resident Safety

Surveillance and Disease Reporting

Hand Hygiene

Respiratory Hygiene/Cough Etiquette

Prevention of Catheter-Associated Urinary Tract Infection

Prevention of Central Line-Associated Bloodstream Infections

Prevention of Ventilator-Associated Events

Injection Safety and Point-of-Care Testing

Prevention of Surgical Site Infections

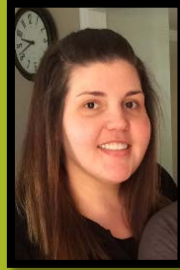
Prevention of Clostridium difficile infection and MDROs

Environmental Cleaning

Device Reprocessing

Antimicrobial Stewardship





THANK YOU



Jessica Felix, BSN, RN, CIC  
on behalf of the ICAR team  
[CDS.ICAR@doh.nj.gov](mailto:CDS.ICAR@doh.nj.gov)  
609-826-5964