



BETHESDA HEALTH CARE SUPPORTS INTERNATIONAL INFECTION PREVENTION WEEK

To highlight the importance of infection prevention and raise awareness of everyone's role in protecting the public, Bethesda Health Care is supporting International Infection Prevention Week (IIPW), October 14-20 2018.

The 2018 IIPW theme is Protecting Patients Everywhere. Healthcare professionals from all settings and levels play an important role in protecting patients. The Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (APIC) has provided free downloadable resources and activities for patients and families, as well as, fact sheets on infection prevention basics, settings of care, and more. The Infection Prevention and You website is accessible here: www.apic.org/infectionpreventionandyou.

"We want to engage our community around this important topic and patients, families, and healthcare providers can all work together to keep patients safe," said Libby Oakes, Manager Infection Prevention and Control at Bethesda Health Care. "It takes a team to truly protect patients everywhere, and we need everyone's help."

"Keeping patients safe from infection is everyone's responsibility. From nurses to doctors, volunteers, administration staff, environmental services to the Operating Theatres, everyone needs to play their part to help prevent infections," said Libby.

Throughout the week, Bethesda Health Care staff are providing education via travelling roadshows which incorporate hand hygiene, management of shared patient equipment, and environmental hygiene waste management. They are also using posters that highlight strategies to help prevent healthcare associated infection, as well as quizzes and colouring competitions with prizes provided by SG Johnson, the hospital's provider of the suite of hand hygiene products. Staff have also been shown Educational Videos, which incorporates hand hygiene and antimicrobial resistance messages.

In the hospital foyer there is also a display board providing information brochures and posters aimed at highlighting the importance of infection prevention.

Established in 1986, IIPW is celebrated the third week of October. APIC spearheads the annual effort to highlight the importance of infection prevention among healthcare professionals, administrators, legislators, and consumers. It is now formally recognized in many areas around the world including the U.S., Australia, the United Kingdom, the Middle East, and Asia. As IIPW expands, more patients benefit from safer healthcare practices and reduced threat of healthcare-associated infections.



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Bethesda
health care

Bethesda Health Care is an independent 88-bed award-winning hospital in Claremont who has been providing care and service to the Western Australian community for more than 70 years.

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