



Patient safety starts with me
Examples of good practice
for prevention and control
of healthcare associated infections in Romania

Ramona Marincuş
RGN, BSN, Infection Prevention Nurse, Satu Mare Emergency Hospital, Romania

My place of work



- ▶ Satu Mare Emergency Hospital



- ▶ Zalau Emergency Hospital



“Narrow Focus – Wide Impact”

MSR

Medical Support in Romania

In partnership with Addenbrooke's Abroad

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Who we are
Medical Support in Romania (MSR) is a Registered Charity No. 1058339 based in...



Volunteers
MSR draws on support from British NHS staff, medical students, teachers of...

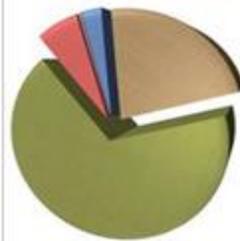


Narrow Focus - Wide Impact
MSR's strategy is to focus on a single institution, Zalău County Emergency...



Landmark events
MSR's activities, started as a response to a perceived need highlighted by a TV...

Transfer of



Latest News



An MSR project in the Journal of Infection Prevention
The article describes how an MSR project of voluntary working with Zalău County...
08 Oct 2010



Case studies
Here is a Collection of Milestones in the History of MSR
23 Jun 2010



Support MSR and enhance the collaboration with Romania.
MSR relies upon support from:
23 Jun 2010

External Links

30 years of support from MSR

- ▶ Annual visits carried out by specialists from England
- ▶ Organizing visits in English Hospitals for Romanian staff
- ▶ Providing training for staff
- ▶ Participation of Romanian health care staff at the International Conferences
- ▶ Helped us gain access to updated information on becoming a member of Infection Prevention Society
- ▶ Kept us updated with WHO campaigns and others International campaigns
 - ▶ **“Adapt To Adopt”**



2007 - First Central Sterile Service Department in Romania



First time individual surgical kits for patients were created in a Romanian Hospital



National Sterilization Conference

- ▶ First thing that we've learned was "to share" Why?
- ▶ When you share what you have then you will increase the value of that thing



*"If we do not change our direction of travel, we can expect to arrive where we started."
(old Chinese proverb)*

Organizer
ZALĂU EMERGENCY DISTRICT HOSPITAL
Partners
ASSOCIATION FOR THE REHABILITATION AND MODERNIZATION OF ZALAU EMERGENCY DISTRICT HOSPITAL

ORGANIZATORI: Spitalul Județean de Urgență Zalău
Centrul de Resurse CREST

PARTENERI: Colegiul Medicilor Sălaj
Consiliul Județean Sălaj
Medical Support in Romania
Asociația pentru Reabilitarea și Modernizarea Spitalului Județean de Urgență Zalău

ORGANIZATORI: SPITALUL JUDEȚEAN DE URGENȚĂ ZALĂU

PARTENERI: SOCIETATEA ROMÂNĂ DE EPIDEMIOLOGIE
COLEGIUL MEDICILOR SĂLAJ
CONSILIUL JUDEȚEAN SĂLAJ
MEDICAL SUPPORT IN ROMANIA
ASOCIAȚIA PENTRU REABILITAREA ȘI MODERNIZAREA SPITALULUI JUDEȚEAN DE URGENȚĂ ZALĂU
ORDINUL ASISTENȚILOR MEDICALI GENERALIȘTI, MOĂȘELOR ȘI ASISTENȚILOR MEDICALI DIN ROMANIA

Patient first

The best practice for infection preventing

- ▶ The Sterilization Conference covered a wide range of topics including infection prevention
 - ▶ English specialists support the conference every year, by taking part and sharing the knowledge and recent work
 - ▶ The number of participants consisting of doctors, nurses and top managers increases every year
-



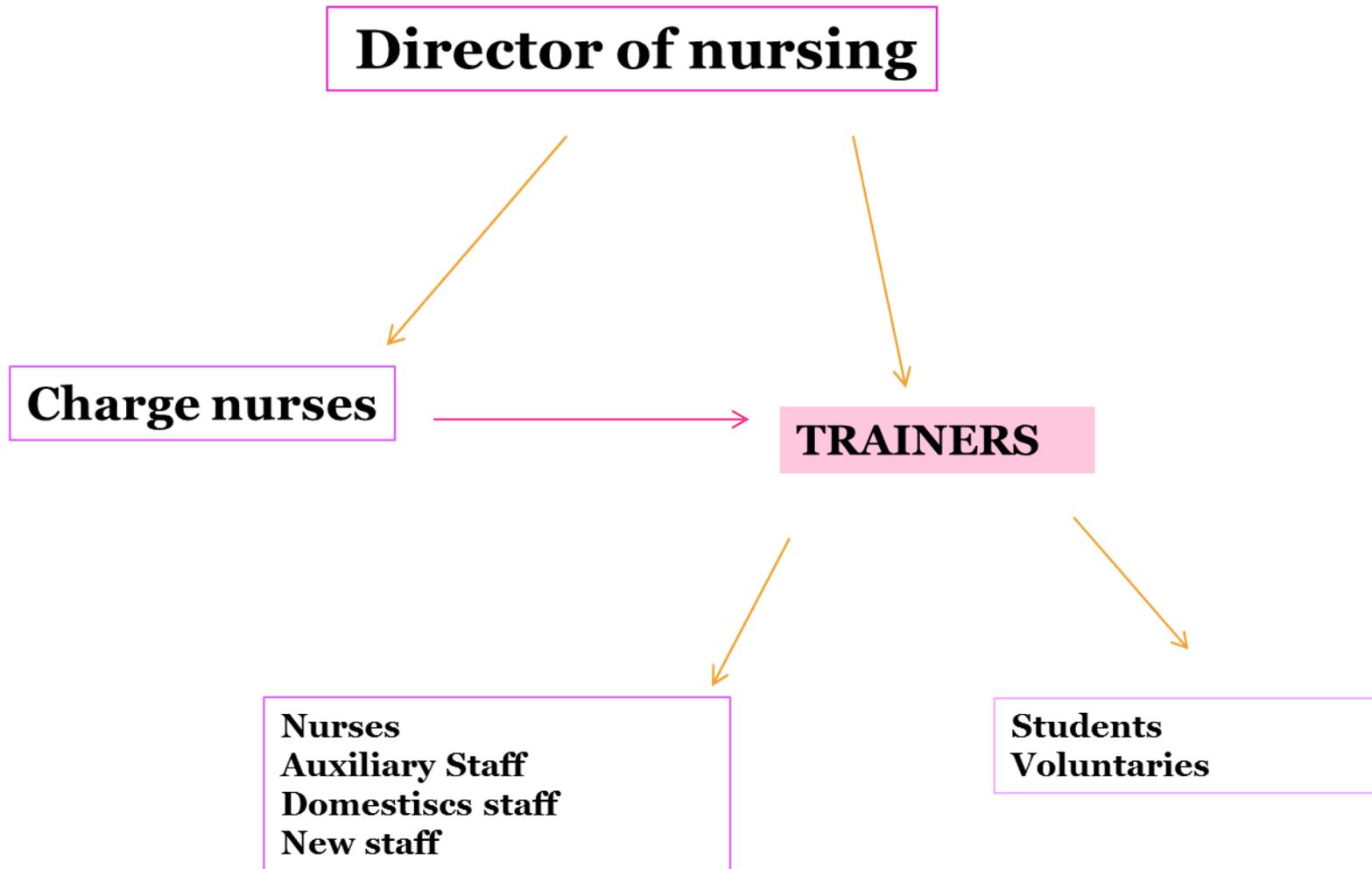
Pericolele din spitale, dezbătute la Zalău. Lecție englezească despre siguranța pacientului

Cea de-a șaptea ediție a Conferinței de Sterilizare se desfășoară în 19 și 20 mai, la Zalău, în organizarea Spitalului Județean de Urgență Zalău și a Consiliului Județean...

ADEVARUL.RO



Cascade training



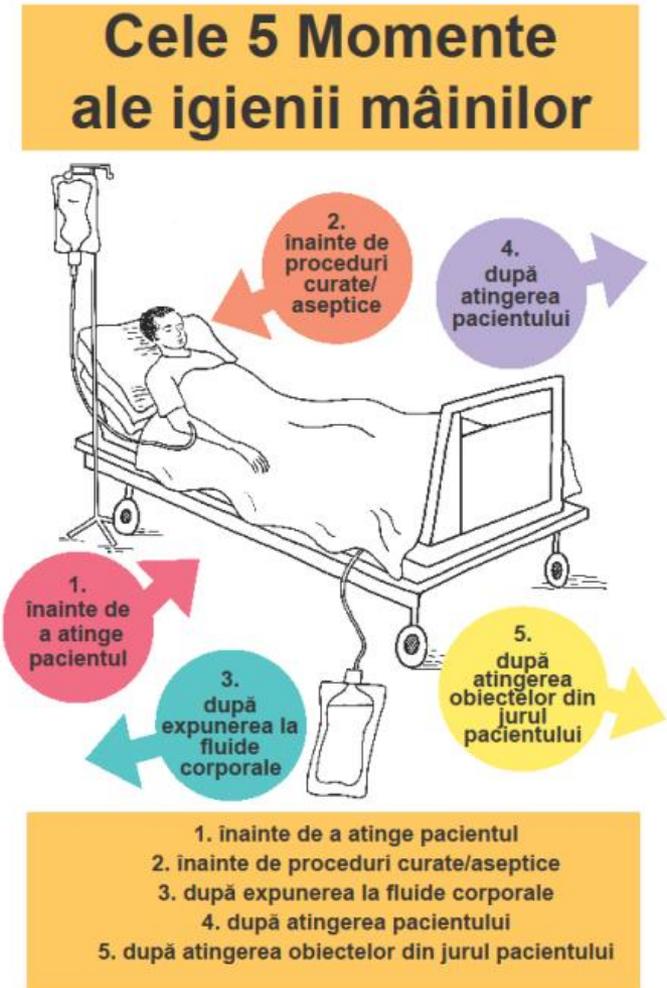
Our Trainers are Our Champions

- ▶ A champion shows passion, enthusiasm, determination, and recognizes the need for change
- ▶ We need those colleagues who are role models for the others and show passion, enthusiasm and determination to implement best practices to prevent hospital-acquired infection.
- ▶ Through their work the champions can make a huge difference to our patients' experience providing them safe care



The 5 Moments of Hand Hygiene poster translated for the first time in Romanian language

- ▶ Continuous training
 - ▶ Semmelweis lesson
- So important today



Difficult to believe that you can save a life when you can not see the microorganisms

- ▶ Provided resources
- ▶ 7 steps for hand hygiene technique
- ▶ 5 moments for hand hygiene
- ▶ Promoted hand rubs at the point of care
- ▶ Provided audit tools



Hand Washing Training with UV Light



Clean Your Hands Campaign

- ▶ “Clean care is safe care” – “Save Lives: Clean Your Hands”
- ▶ 2015 – Hand Hygiene Sanitizing Relay - 268 participants
- ▶ 2016 - IPS Hand Hygiene Torch Tour

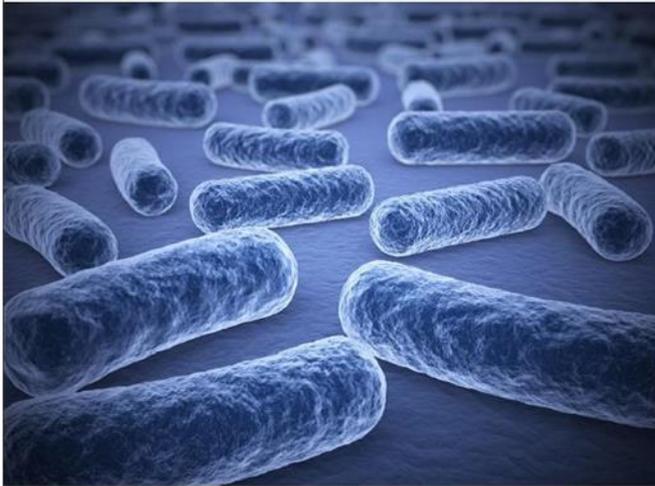


The first Infection Prevention Book for nurses

- ▶ 14 Chapters written by English specialists for Romanian nurses
- ▶ Yorkshire branch of IPS supported the writing of the book
- ▶ 2 000 books delivered free of charge all over Romania thanks to a grant from BBraun company



High Impact Interventions



High Impact Interventions

Care processes to prevent infection

4th edition of Saving Lives: High Impact Interventions

September 2017



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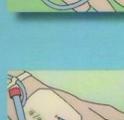
What is a High Impact Intervention

- ▶ Evidence-based elements of care
- ▶ Often called 'care bundles'
- ▶ Designed to remove variance
- ▶ When all the elements in the bundle are completed the risk is reduced
- ▶ HII developed primarily to reduce infection
- ▶ HII represent tools for prevention of infection



Visual Infusion Phlebitis Score

- ▶ Identified early signs of phlebitis
- ▶ Empower nurses to act on the earliest signs of phlebitis and remove the device
- ▶ Implementing a checklist to ensure adherence to evidence-based guidelines
- ▶ Ensure clinicians are consistent with documentation (clinical signs such as “slightly red” could now translated into a number)
- ▶ Daily assessment if catheters could be remove

Scorul vizual al flebitei IV		
	Locul inserției IV apare sănătos	0 Nu sunt semne de flebită • Se ține sub observație branula
	Unul din următoarele semne este evident • Ușoară durere sau roșeață la locul inserției IV	1 Primele semne posibile de flebită • Se ține sub observație branula
	Două din următoarele semne sunt evidente • Durere • Eritem • Edem	2 Stadiul incipient de flebită • Îndepărtarea branulei
	Toate din următoarele semne sunt evidente • Durere la locul inserției IV • Eritem • Indurație	3 Stadiu avansat de flebită • Îndepărtarea branulei Inițiere tratament
	Toate din următoarele sunt evidente și extinse • Durere de-a lungul venei • Eritem • Indurație • Cordon venos palpabil	4 Flebita avansată sau debut Tromboflebită • Îndepărtarea branulei • Inițiere tratament
	Toate din următoarele sunt evidente și extinse • Durere de-a lungul venei • Eritem • Indurație • Cordon venos palpabil • Febră	5 Stadiu avansat de Tromboflebită • Îndepărtarea branulei • Inițiere tratament



Isolation

- Use of single rooms for patients with:
 - Resistant organisms
 - Acute diarrhea/*C. difficile*
 - TB and influenza
- Isolation practices
 - Clear signage
 - Hand hygiene
 - Personal protective equipment
 - Door closed

STANDARD ISOLATION



Please speak to the Nurse in Charge before entering.



Hands must be decontaminated before entering and leaving this room.



Disposable gloves must be worn when there is contact with bodily fluids and handling contaminated items.



Disposable aprons must be worn by all staff and visitors assisting in the care of the patient or having contact with the immediate environment



All cuts and lesions should be covered with a waterproof dressing.

The side room door must be kept closed.



International Engagement Committee

- ▶ Promote international relationships
- ▶ ‘Special access membership’ for healthcare professionals in resource limited countries
- ▶ Translation of IPS educational material
- ▶ Share experiences of IPC professionals working abroad



The banner features the IPS logo (a stylized 'i' and 'p' with a dot) and the text 'Infection Prevention Society' in the top left. On the right, there is a pink circular icon containing a white silhouette of a person at a podium. The central text reads 'Are you a member yet?' in white. The bottom section, on a white background, contains the text: 'Join the Infection Prevention Society (IPS), one of the largest and most influential societies for infection preventionists in the UK and Ireland with a growing international membership' in pink.

ips Infection Prevention Society

Are you a **member** yet?

Join the Infection Prevention Society (IPS), one of the largest and most influential societies for infection preventionists in the UK and Ireland with a growing international membership



Guidance at a Glance

GUIDANCE AT A GLANCE

Standard Infection Control Precautions (SICPs)

KEY POINTS

Standard Precautions are a range of measures that reduce the risk of transmission of infection from known and unknown sources and should be used for care of all patients/residents/service users all the time.

ALL blood and body fluids are potentially infectious.

Standard Precautions:

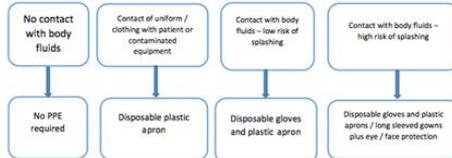
- Hand hygiene;
- Use of personal protective equipment (PPE);

Hand hygiene

- Effective hand decontamination significantly reduces the risk of transmission of infectious agents which cause healthcare associated infections and helps prevent antimicrobial resistance (WHO, 2017).
- All areas of the hands including the wrists must be cleaned.
- Alcohol hand rubs should not be used for hand hygiene if the patient has diarrhea and/or vomiting as they may be ineffective
- Keep nails short; sleeves rolled up; no nail varnish/gel /false nails; no stoned rings, no watches/bracelets (Loveday et al, 2014.)

Personal protective equipment (PPE)

- Most commonly used PPE are gloves, disposable aprons and face protection.
- Risk assessment of the task will determine the choice of PPE.
- PPE should be changed after each patient and/or following completion of a procedure (Loveday et al, 2014).



Safe use and disposal of sharps

Adapt the following procedure to reduce risk of injury:

ORIENTARE PE SCURT

Precauțiuni Standard de Control a Infecțiilor (PSCIs)

PUNCTELE CHEIE

Precauțiunile standard sunt o serie de măsuri care reduc riscul de transmitere a infecției, din surse cunoscute și necunoscute și care trebuie utilizate tot timpul pentru protejarea tuturor pacienților / rezidenților / utilizatorilor de servicii. Sângele și TOATE fluidele corpului sunt considerate potențial infectate.

Precauțiunile standard:

- Igiena mâinilor;
- Utilizarea echipamentului personal de protecție (EPP);
- Utilizarea și eliminarea în condiții de siguranță a obiectelor ascuțite;
- Igiena mediului;
- Scurgeri de sânge/fluide corporale
- Principiile aseptiei

Contacte locale cheie

Adăugați aici

Igiena Mâinilor

- Decontaminarea eficientă a mâinilor reduce semnificativ riscul transmiterii agenților infecțioși care cauzează infecțiile asociate asistenței medicale (IAM) și ajută la prevenirea rezistenței antimicrobiene (WHO, 2017).
- Toată suprafața mâinilor, inclusiv încheieturile, trebuie să fie curățată.
- Alcoolul gel nu trebuie utilizat pentru igiena mâinilor în cazul în care pacientul are diaree și / sau vărsături, deoarece acesta poate fi inefficient.
- Păstrați-vă unghiile scurte, mâncile sufocate, fără lac de unghii/gel/unghii false, inele cu piatră, ceasuri de mână/brățări (Loveday et al, 2014).

Echipamentul personal de protecție (EPP)

- Cel mai frecvent utilizate EPP sunt mănușile, sorturile de unică folosință și proteatoarele faciale.
- Evaluarea riscului procedurii va determina alegerea EPP.
- EPP trebuie schimbat după fiecare pacient și / sau după finalizarea unei proceduri (Loveday et al, 2014).



Utilizarea și eliminarea în condiții de siguranță a obiectelor ascuțite

Adoptă următoarele proceduri pentru a reduce riscul de accidentare:

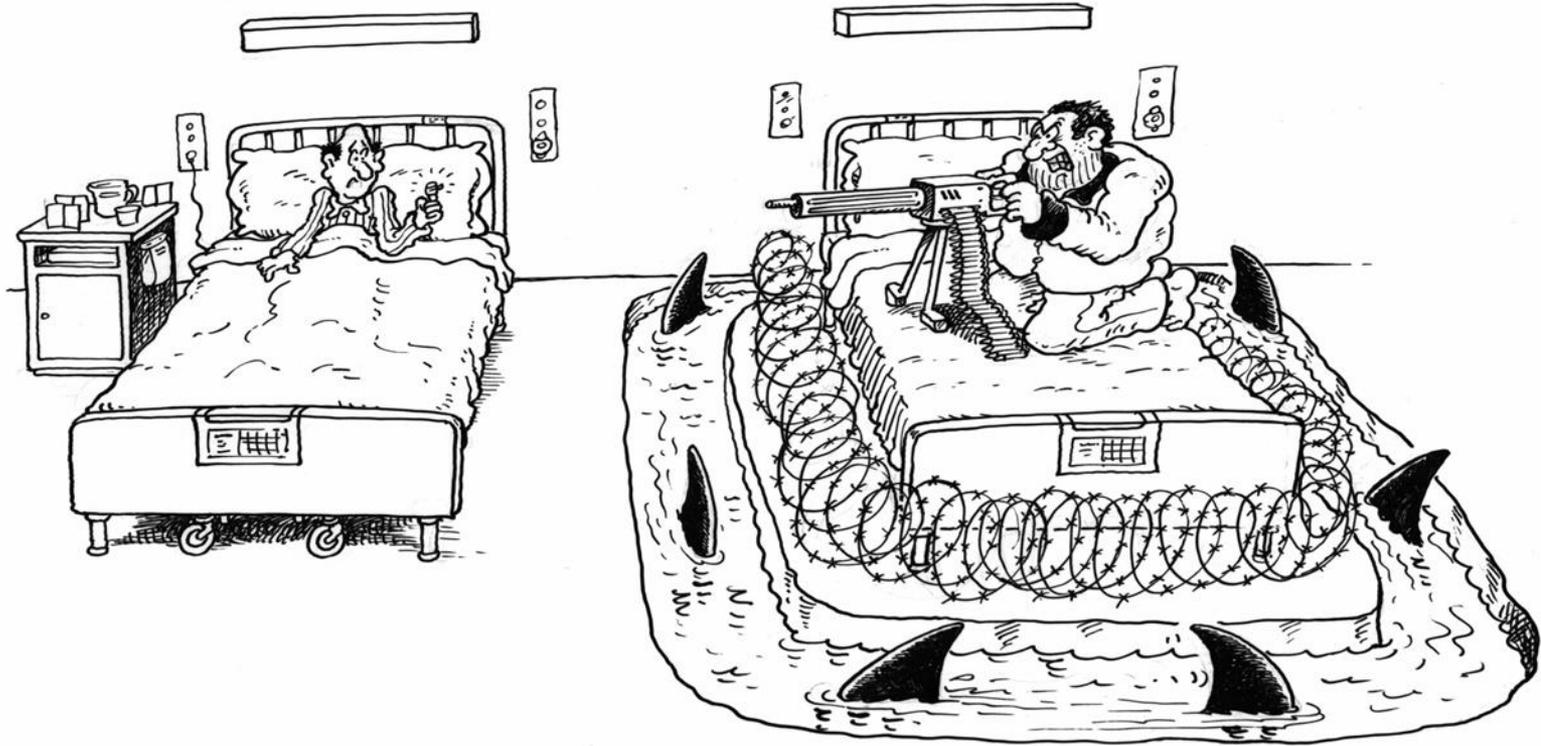
- Deeurile TALE sunt responsabilitatea TA.
- TU elimini deeurile la punctul de îngrijire.
- Niciodată nu recaponați sau îndoiți acele înainte de eliminare.
- Folosiți dispozitive ascuțite sigure unde sunt disponibile.
- Containerele cu înșepătoare nu trebuie să fie depozitate la îndemâna copiilor.
- Utilizați mecanismul de închidere temporară a containerului între utilizari pentru a reduce riscul scurgerilor accidentale.
- Semnați și datați containerul la asamblare și închidere.
- Închideți atunci când se ajunge la linia de umplere.
- Urmați politica locală pentru gestionarea incidentelor de expunere profesională (PHW 2014).

Igiena Mediului

Nursing Time Awards recognizes the work
in partnership between the nurses of two countries
England and Romania in 2015



Why patient safety?



MR. JONES TOOK THE RISK OF INFECTION VERY SERIOUSLY.



Focus on environmental samples

- ▶ The number of clinical specimens processed in the laboratory is small
- ▶ Most laboratory tests are processing in environmental samples
- ▶ e.g. 1778 environmental - 853 clinical samples in 2018 in Satu Mare Hospital
- ▶ Environmental samples are collected weekly on each ward
- ▶ An average of 15 samples each ward: trolley, window, beds, sinks, sterile kits, water, hands, etc.
- ▶ However they are expensive and without significant impact on infection prevention improvement



Negative news has a stronger impact on our minds than positive news

- ▶ The Colectiv nightclub fire was a deadly fire in Bucharest, Romania, on 30 October 2015, which **killed 64 people**
- ▶ *“I saved them from a fire bomb and died in a microbes bomb”*- shocking statement made by a physician from Bucharest Burns Hospital
- ▶ Infection with *Pseudomonas*, *Acinetobacter* and *Klebsiella*



Flowers and candles outside Pionierul, the former factory where Colectiv was located



2017 ECDC Report



- Average rate of HCAI in Europe 7.1%
- HCAI are more frequent in resource-limited settings than in developed countries
- Reported HCAI in Romania 2.8%
- Rate of hand disinfectants in the lowest in Europe



Most HCAI are preventable

- ▶ Prevalence of nosocomial infections = in Europe 7.1%
- ▶ **4,300,000** average number of patients admitted annually in Romania as reported by Școala Națională de Sănătate Publică, Management și Perfecționare în Domeniul Sanitar București (SNSPMPDSB) <http://www.snspms.ro/>
- ▶ The average of 7.1% in Romania means
- ▶  **305,300 HCAI every year**
- ▶ HCAI pose a serious risk to patients, but also staff and visitors



APCI - Asociația pentru Prevenirea și Controlul Infecțiilor

- ▶ Newly founded association in Romania
- ▶ APCI is the first association in Romania which brings together doctors, nurses and other staff interested in preventing infections, being open to everyone who wants to be involved and help in developing good practices for infection prevention.



Infection Prevention and Control Association

- ▶ *“We, as an association, truly believe that all specialties and all professional categories that have the same goal, infection prevention and control, should stick together and work together for the patient safety and comfort. And this is our goal.”*

Dr. Sergiu Sangeozan,

President of APCI

(IPS Weekly Digest Friday – 15th February 2019)

INTERNATIONAL

Newly founded association in Romania, APCI: Asociatia pentru Prevenirea si Controlul Infectiilor or IPCA which in English stands for Infection Prevention and Control Association

APCI is the first association in Romania which brings together doctors, nurses and other staff interested in preventing infections, being open to everyone who wants to be involved and help in developing good practices for infection prevention. Our own Carole Hallam has been instrumental in supporting Romanian colleagues to improve infection prevention in Romania, and it is great to see the new society come to fruition. Some of you will have met Ramona Marincas who has attended our IPS Conference and who won Practitioner of the Year in 2017. Here is a few words from the Association:

Being at the beginning of our journey, we realise how important the first steps are and that's why we want to learn from the most experienced in the field. Infection Prevention Society offers continuous support through the information provided so it is not surprising that all APCI's leading members are also IPS members.

Infection prevention and control in Romania has never been as important as now, when there is an increase in antimicrobial resistance.

We, as an association, truly believe that all specialties and all professional categories that have the same goal, infection prevention and control, should stick together and work together for the patient safety and comfort. And this is our goal.



Sergiu Sangeozan, APCI President, IPS member
Ramona Marincas, APCI Vice-president, IPS and IEC member
Alexandru Coman, APCI Vice-president, IPS member
Diana Stoica, APCI Secretary, IPS member
Delia Marcon, APCI Treasurer, operational manager Policlinico di Monza Cluj

A Safety Culture

- ▶ In Romania we like to believe that we are the generation to plant a tree so that the next generation can water it so the one that follows can enjoy the shade
- ▶ Will take time but in the end the patient and staff will greatly benefit



What we've learnt along the way

- ▶ “Start small and then grow”
- ▶ Simple improvements are often not rocket science, they just need doing
- ▶ Lead with kindness, compassion and love
- ▶ Focus on positives and celebrate success
- ▶ Looking for influential champions
- ▶ Believe in our work and achieve our goals



Patient safety starts with me!

- ▶ No person should be harmed by a preventable infection
- ▶ The goal of health care professionals is to avoid as many HCAI as possible
- ▶ It is important to understand that patient safety starts with each one of us no matter which hospitals we come from!

