Acknowledgements

Author

Kathy Brooks, RN, PhD, CPHQ
Chief, Quality Management (retired)
Overton Brooks VA Medical Center
Shreveport, LA

Contributor

Angela S. Hernandez, MPH, MT(ASCP)
Regional Safety and Quality Management Coordinator
Delta Pathology Group, LLC
Shreveport, LA

Reviewers

Lillian A. Burns, MT, MPH, CIC
Administrative Director Infection Control/Epidemiology
Staten Island University Hospital
Staten Island, NY

Carolyn Fiutem, MT(ASCP), CIC
Infection Prevention Officer
TriHealth
Cincinnati, OH

Marilyn Hanchett, RN, MA, CPHQ, CIC
Senior Director, Research and Clinical Innovation
APIC
Washington, DC
Deoine Reed, PhD, MSHCM, CIC  
Infection Control Manager & Hospital/Healthcare Epidemiologist  
Ochsner Clinic Foundation  
New Orleans, LA

Thomas Weaver, DMD  
Director, Professional Practice  
APIC  
Washington, DC
Preface

National and international attention remains sharply focused on healthcare associated infections. The global call for more effective prevention remains a priority for a diverse range of stakeholders. In fact, prevention efforts are increasingly important not only to those within the healthcare community, but to an expanding number of external audiences, including governmental, scientific, and consumer groups.

Infection prevention and control of potentially pathogenic organisms begins with a fundamental knowledge of the microbes, their categorization, and the risks they pose. This book is intended as a basic guide for infection preventionists (IPs) and other healthcare professionals who need quick access to essential information. References are provided at the end of each chapter for those who need more comprehensive information.

In this third edition of Ready Reference for Microbes, APIC has expanded the previous content first introduced in 2002. The core content on bacteria, fungi, parasites, viruses, common commensals and other normal flora, and bioterrorism agents has been updated and offers the most current web-based resources from authoritative sites. Color coding has been added to alert the reader to those microbes that are discussed in greater detail in the APIC Text. In addition, the third edition includes a chapter on antimicrobial therapy and the importance of antimicrobial stewardship programs. A set of appendices that review popular topics, summarizing key facts and helpful reminders, is another new feature of this edition.

The resistance of microbes to existing pharmacologic therapies shows no sign of abating. As treatment options become more limited, the demand to prevent infection intensifies. The challenge for infection preventionists to respond to these growing demands also escalates. APIC offers this new edition of Ready Reference for Microbes to support IPs and others in healthcare in their ongoing efforts to control microbial risks and maximize patient safety across all practice settings.

Kathy Brooks, RN, PhD, CPHQ
Author

Production Team

Christina James
Project Management
Editorial Oversight

Thomas Weaver, DMD
Copy Editing

Sarah Vickers
Cover Design

Meredith McClay
Maryland Composition
Book Design & Layout
Preface

National and international attention remains sharply focused on healthcare associated infections. The global call for more effective prevention remains a priority for a diverse range of stakeholders. In fact, prevention efforts are increasingly important not only to those within the healthcare community, but to an expanding number of external audiences, including governmental, scientific, and consumer groups.

Infection prevention and control of potentially pathogenic organisms begins with a fundamental knowledge of the microbes, their categorization, and the risks they pose. This book is intended as a basic guide for infection preventionists (IPs) and other healthcare professionals who need quick access to essential information. References are provided at the end of each chapter for those who need more comprehensive information.

In this third edition of *Ready Reference for Microbes*, APIC has expanded the previous content first introduced in 2002. The core content on bacteria, fungi, parasites, viruses, common commensals and other normal flora, and bioterrorism agents has been updated and offers the most current web-based resources from authoritative sites. Color coding has been added to alert the reader to those microbes that are discussed in greater detail in the APIC Text.

In addition, the third edition includes a chapter on antimicrobial therapy and the importance of antimicrobial stewardship programs. A set of appendices that review popular topics, summarizing key facts and helpful reminders, is another new feature of this edition.

The resistance of microbes to existing pharmacologic therapies shows no sign of abating. As treatment options become more limited, the demand to prevent infection intensifies. The challenge for infection preventionists to respond to these growing demands also escalates. APIC offers this new edition of *Ready Reference for Microbes* to support IPs and others in healthcare in their ongoing efforts to control microbial risks and maximize patient safety across all practice settings.

Kathy Brooks, RN, PhD, CPHQ
Author