January 2, 2020

Committee: Public Policy Committee
Chair: Sarah Smathers, MPH, CIC, FAPIC
Vice Chair: Lisa Sturm, MPH, CIC, FAPIC
Staff Liaisons: Lisa Tomlinson, Vice President, Government Affairs and Practice Guidance
Nancy Hailpern, Director, Regulatory Affairs
Rich Capparell, Associate Director, Legislative Affairs

Purpose of the Committee: The Public Policy Committee (PPC) monitors and prepares input into legislative and regulatory issues affecting the practice of infection prevention and control. Members of the APIC Regulatory Review Panel are tapped to assist the PPC with comments to regulatory agencies as needed. Most members of this panel are previous members of the PPC with keen understanding of the federal regulatory process.

**Items for Board Consideration/Vote:** None

**Recent Deliverables:**

**Regulatory:**

- Provided input to federal agencies on 12 issues since the last report. (Please refer to Class I document “Table of APIC Regulatory Comments 2019” or the regulation section of our web page for specifics.) Highlights are as follows:
  - Responded to CDC requests for comments on use of billing codes for NHSN SSI reporting and (with Practice Guidance Committee) revised recommendations for Hepatitis C screening for adults.
  - Provided comments to CMS on infection-related provisions in annual payment update rules for acute care hospitals, long-term acute care hospitals, inpatient rehab facilities, home health agencies, skilled nursing facilities, dialysis facilities, and physicians.
  - Provided comments to EPA on draft strategy to ensure effectiveness of hospital-level disinfectants.
  - Provided comments to FDA on veterinary oversight of over-the-counter antibiotic use in food producing animals.
- Responded to proposed changes to the 2020 Leapfrog Hospital Survey, Section 6D: Hand Hygiene.

*Updated: January 2, 2020*
Legislative

- Partnered on 13 coalition letters related to funding for the Combating Antibiotic-Resistant Bacteria (CARB) strategy, Prevention and Public Health Fund, and the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. (For details see APIC 2019 Coalition letters in Class I documents).
- Hosted a workshop at the 2019 Annual Conference for members interested in learning more about the “How Tos” of advocacy.
- Submitted a policy paper to the APIC Board of Directors outlining a new vaccine strategy for the 2020 state legislative session.
  - Hosted two webinars for Chapter Legislative Representatives and all APIC members discussing state vaccine legislation.
- Was successful in getting certification legislation passed through the New York Assembly. (The bill stalled in the Senate).
- Worked with APIC staff to select Illinois as the second state in APIC’s certification campaign.

Short term initiatives:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Initiative</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>SP 2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Annual update of the APIC Public Policy Agenda.</td>
<td>In process</td>
<td>PP/PS/DS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Update Public Policy website to include certification materials.</td>
<td>Completed</td>
<td>PP/PS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APIC public health chapter survey (moved to early 2019 to avoid interference with a membership survey).</td>
<td>Completed</td>
<td>PP/PS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Long term initiatives:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Initiative</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>SP 2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Congressional advocacy campaign, including letter writing campaign in support of APIC legislative prevention priorities.</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>PP/PS/DS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ensuring appropriate infection prevention and control measures in CMS payment programs for acute care hospitals, long-term care hospitals, cancer hospitals, inpatient rehabilitation facilities, inpatient psychiatric facilities, skilled nursing facilities, and physician offices.</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>PP/PS/DS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legislative campaign efforts in New York and Illinois state legislatures to mandate CIC certification for infection preventionists.</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>PP/PS/CC</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Please indicate which strategic goal as part of Strategic Plan 2020 that each initiative supports using the following abbreviations: PS = Patient Safety, IS = Implementation Science, CC = Competency and Certification, PP = Advocacy/Public Policy, DS = Data Standardization*
2020 Committee Members:

**Chair**
Sarah Smathers, MPH, CIC, FAPIC  
Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia  
Philadelphia, PA  
Term Expires: 12/31/2021

**Vice Chair**
Lisa Sturm, MPH, CIC, FAPIC  
Ascension  
Fenton, MI  
Term Expires: 12/31/2020

**Members with Terms Expiring 12/31/20**
- Lauren Fish, MPH, RN, CIC  
  Indiana University Health  
  Indianapolis, IN
- Gwen Rogers, DBA, RN, CIC, FAPIC  
  Maine Medical Center  
  Portland, ME
- Giovanna Santovito-Carducci, RN, BSN, MPH, CIC  
  Healthcare Management Solutions  
  Orofino, ID
- Boyd Wilson, MT(ASCP), MS, CIC, FAPIC  
  HealthPartners/Regions Hospital  
  Lino Lakes, MN

**Members with Terms Expiring 12/31/21**
- Jessica Arias, BSN, RN, CIC  
  New Jersey Department of Health  
  Pemberton, NJ

**Members with Terms Expiring 12/31/22**
- Melissa Bronstein, MPA, BSN, RN, CIC, FAPIC  
  Rochester Regional Health  
  Rochester, NY
- Brenda Ehler, BS, MT(ASCP), MBA, CIC  
  Ascension Wisconsin  
  Oshkosh, WI
- Debra Johnson, BSN, RN, CIC, FAPIC  
  SDJohnson Consulting, LLC  
  Pacifica, CA

**Senior Advisor**
Linda Dickey, RN, MPH, CIC, FAPIC  
UC Irvine Health  
Orange, CA

**Staff Liaisons**
Lisa Tomlinson, Vice President, Government Affairs and Practice Guidance  
Nancy Hailpern, Director, Regulatory Affairs  
Rich Capparell, Associate Director, Legislative Affairs

*Updated: January 2, 2020*