

Training key to infection control

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Upcoming Victorian workshop to discuss common infections in the aged care setting, as well as managing residents with multi-resistant organisms

Staff training and management is the key to preventing and managing one of the greatest nightmares for any residential facility manager - outbreaks of disease and infection.

That's according to infection control expert, Glenys Harrington of Infection Control Consultancy (ICC).

“Most outbreak management strategies are simple yet effective, such as effective hand hygiene practices and understanding the importance of using personal protective equipment when necessary,” she said.

She said being aware of these requirements involved continuous training and education within the industry.

Harrington is conducting a hands-on training workshop this Friday for residential aged care workers in Victoria. The workshop will discuss common infections seen in the residential aged care setting, managing residents with multi-resistant organisms, investigating outbreaks and what's new in cleaning and disinfection.

The workshop, *Infection Control in Residential Aged Care Services* will be held at the Australian Centre for Health Innovation in Melbourne and will provide managers, staff and risk management personnel an opportunity to update their knowledge and practical skills in infection prevention and control.

Murray McDonald, director of Australian cleaning equipment distributor, Duplex Cleaning Machines, which is sponsoring the event, said the residential aged care industry was becoming one of the fastest growing sectors in Australia, and with the elderly more susceptible to infection it was essential for facilities to have the highest cleaning standards.

For more information about the workshop email:

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Last year INsite reported on a report from the Climate Commission which found that climate change would lead to an increase in the outbreak of infectious diseases. Read that report again here: ([IN, 12.12.11](#))

Don't miss the upcoming Apr/May issue of INsite, which will carry a special report on infection control