What makes infection prevention and control work?

Julie Storr
Director and Consultant, S3 Global,
Contracted by World Health Organization

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WHO (2016) Core components of IPC programmes at the national and acute health care facility level

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Two questions

1. What do you expect of people in leadership roles?
2. Why do you think we’re sometimes disappointed in our leaders?

Most common answers

Expectations
- Integrity
- Visionary
- Inspirational
- Decisive
- Team builder

Disappointments
- Don’t walk the talk
- Self-centered
- Non-participative
- Poor communication
- Dishonest


Center for Creative Leadership 2011
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“The vision thing”

Assumptions

• Leaders think differently to non-leaders
• Leaders commitment and passion are not mechanical – they must be authentic
• “Felt” leadership is essential especially in times of uncertainty and change
• The only leadership is ethical leadership – our integrity defines us
• Every leader has a story – what’s yours???

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My story in 60 (ish) seconds

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“For health care workers in different disciplines in a busy district hospital or health centre to gather around the table on a Monday morning requires a topic of mutual interest, importance and relevance. Infection control and health facility safety fulfill these criteria, both for the health care worker fraternity and the constituency of patients who utilize the facility.


“Infection control fills the void, and provides relevant issues for discussion that require local leadership, a sound understanding of disease epidemiology, clarity of thought, community inputs and a pragmatic approach to finding solutions.”

“Health systems cannot and should not be discussed in the abstract. They have to exist to optimally deliver services for real people, and they have to prevent and treat diseases that have names, such as TB and HIV/AIDS. A focus on infection control provides the necessary specificity, the exemplary practice of which requires that all components of the health system function.”


“Of all the forms of inequality, injustice in health care is the most shocking and inhumane.”

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr
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Chapter 2
Just infection prevention and control

Infection prevention and control should be fundamental parts of nursing

Introduction
Over 20 years ago, a conversation was stimulated on the challenges of nursing care from standard infection procedures that are based on myths and old biases. Behaviors and which are carried out by healthcare practices (in which without planning and thought) to an infection prevention and control level. It explores what, if any, are the present day methods or standard procedures that are currently in the awareness of infection prevention and control, and practices that have been accepted as the norm. Most importantly, it considers the institutional consequences that such inputs and interventions can have, particularly in terms of infection, integrity, ethics, and psychological fears. It will be for action now, which necessitates step changes, to ensure that our activities are safe, evidence-based, patient-focused and ultimately, successful. It unfortunately highlights the results in our capacity and capability in healthcare such that insight into the consequences of what is currently not or the name of infection control is not achievable. The question: What are the components of infection prevention and control? This chapter contains a number of proposed actions, including a healthcare worker training revolution, research on the impact of individual or


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“As we must recognize. Good ideas with impact - of course - emerge everywhere.”


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Helen Bevan (2017) New and revised: 10 things fab leaders do
https://twitter.com/helenbevan/status/850038936361738244?lang=en

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A Brilliant IPC Leader
Should be a role model
When it comes to IPC

3. Inspire, encourage and motivate others to lead.

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3 Things
What brilliant IPC leader would look like?
1. Change Agent
2. Good Communicator
3. Advocate

A Brilliant IPC leader
- Is one who:
  - Provides on site mentoring
  - Lead by example (practice
  - Advocate for necessary
  - IPC materials
  - Effective communicator
  - Identify gaps & find
  - Solution
  - Is innovative

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THANK YOU

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