

INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH LTC INFECTION PREVENTION PROGRAM

PAM BENNETT
DISTRICT 3 INFECTION
PREVENTIONIST

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OUR MISSION:

To promote, protect, and improve the health and safety of all Hoosiers.

OUR VISION:

Every Hoosier reaches optimal health regardless of where they live, learn, work, or play.



How we came to be

- The COVID-19 pandemic showcased the need for infection prevention
- CDC issued a multi-million grant to the then-Indiana State
 Department of Health (now Indiana Department of Health)
- Jennifer Spivey hired 11 infection preventionists
- Positive outcomes led to grant extensions



Our team

- A total of 10 district IPs (including Janene interim program manager)
 - Nine RNs
 - One MPH
- One infection prevention epidemiologist
- District 9 is vacant
- Diverse backgrounds



Our districts

District 1 – 65 LTC facilities

Janene Gumz-Pulaski, RN – CIC Assistant Program Manager IP jgumzpulaski@health.in.gov 317-499-3877

District 2 - 71 LTC facilities

Victor Zindoga, RN vzindoga@health.in.gov 317-509-8964

District 3 - 73 LTC facilities

Pam Bennett, RN pbennett@health.in.gov 317-476-0947

District 4 - 67 LTC facilities

Angela Badibanga, MPH <u>abadibanga@health.in.gov</u>

District 5 - 126 shared facilities (64/63 split LTC facilities)

Jason Henderson, RN jahenderson@health.in.gov 317-719-0776 Deanna Paddack, RN dpaddack@health.in.gov 317-234-2379



District 6 - 69 LTC facilities

Tanya Canales, RN 317-677-3583

District 7 - 62 LTC facilities

Sara Reese, RN 317-450-8049

District 8 - 73 LTC facilities

Jennifer Brinegar, RN jbrinegar@health.in.gov 317-903-5329

District 9 – 68 LTC facilities

Position open, contact D1 Assistant Manager

District 10 - 64 facilities

Mary Enlow, RN menlow@health.in.gov 317-727-8431

738 LTC facilities in total



What we do

- Onsite infection control program assessments (ICARs)
 - Identify gaps in infection control practices and procedures
 - Offer recommendations for best practices
 - Follow up to ensure recommendations are implemented
 - Serve as subject matter experts for general infection prevention and control practices
 - Provide infection control education to facilities

ICARs assess the entire infection control program.



What we do

- Outbreak response and mitigation (ORT)
 - Focused on the specific outbreak
 - Mitigation efforts to reduce the spread
 - Assist the IDOH Epi team with focused assessments
- Perform duties to assist HAI/AR teams with infection prevention in facilities
 - Environmental cleaning
 - Wound care audits
 - Hand hygiene/PPE audits
 - Adenosine triphosphate (ATP) testing

Perform a focused ICAR in Acute care and LTACH with IDOH Epi team



Facilities we serve

- Long-term care
- Long-term acute care
- Acute care
- Assisted living
- Memory care
- Dialysis centers
- Wound care centers

Any congregate settings as directed.



Benefits of focused ICARs

- Non-regulatory quality improvement
- Educational: for the facility team and IDOH
- Receive specific help/knowledge of IDOH epi team
- Provide fresh eyes/perspective on the situation and environment



Attention test

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0grANlx7y2E



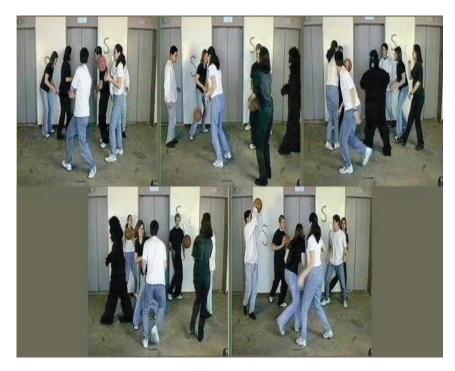
Why do we need fresh eyes?

- Inattentional blindness
- Change blindness
- We can often miss the obvious
- Confirmation bias



Inattentional blindness

The failure to notice something that is fully obvious right in front of you when your attention is engaged on something or someone else



Viewers of this video were asked to count how many times whiteshirted players passed the ball. Fifty percent of them didn't see the woman in the gorilla suit



Change blindness

Failure to notice a difference between what is there right now and what was there a moment ago.

We often do not pick up on minor changes in our environment.



Door study: Nearly 50 percent of pedestrians failed to notice that they were talking to a different person after the door passed, according to the results published in a 1998 article published by Simons and Levin



Psychology of bias

When our brain has been affected by previous events, it creates biases against certain images that it deems distracting. (even if what is occurring right before our eyes is the very answer we need).

Confirmation bias: It is natural for us to predetermine the solution to the problem we have and then look at our environment to confirm our belief and that answer.

Confirmation bias:
People's tendency to process information by looking for, or interpreting, information that is consistent with their existing beliefs.
Largely unintentional, it results in a person ignoring information that is inconsistent with their beliefs.



Questions?

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