

# Infection prevention and control: Whose role is it anyway?

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Public Health Ontario

# Who Are the Players?



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- Local
- Regional
- Provincial
- Federal
- Worldwide

# Local

- Hospitals
- Health care workers
- Physicians
- Administrators
- Acute care/long-term care
- Public health units
- Community health centres
- Municipal governments



# Regional

- LHINs
- RICNs
- Public health units
- Regional authorities
- Unions/professional bodies
- IPAC Canada Chapters
- Home care institutions



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# Provincial

- Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC)
  - Infectious Disease Branch
  - Drugs Program Branch
- CMOH
- ADMs and DM
- Ministry of Labour
- Ministry of the Environment
- Health care associations e.g., Ontario Hospital Association (OHA)

## Provincial Bodies

- Public Health Ontario; PIDAC
- Health Quality Ontario
- Council of Medical Officers of Health (COMOH)
- Unions: health care groups
- Professional associations: medical, dental, midwifery, etc.
- Professional colleges
- Council of Academic Teaching Institutions: hospital or university
- Social welfare /Ontario drug benefits

## National

- Health Canada
- PHAC
- Drugs/Product Directorate
- FPT Health Council
- AMMI and IPAC Canada
- Accreditation Canada
- Canadian Patient Safety Institute



ACCREDITATION CANADA  
AGRÉMENT CANADA

*Driving Quality Health Services  
Force motrice de la qualité des services de santé*

## World



- World Health Organization (WHO)
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC)





# Are You Confused Yet?

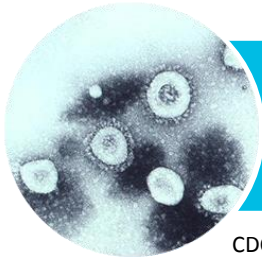
**“Every system is uniquely and perfectly designed to produce the results it is currently producing.”**

Peter Senge, MIT, Author of The Fifth Discipline



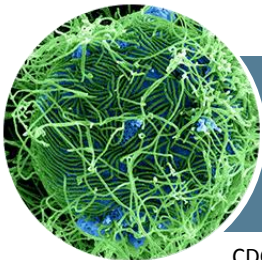
What should we expect from the system I just described?

# What you can get is



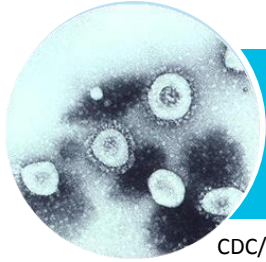
## SARS in Toronto

CDC/Dr. Erskine Palmer



## Ebola in Liberia

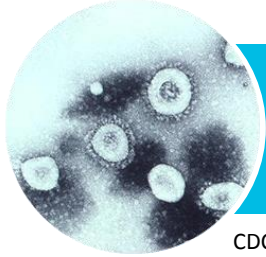
CDC/NIAID



## SARS

CDC/Dr. Erskine Palmer

- Communications
- Leadership
- Data
- Lab capacity
- Epidemiology capacity
- Preparedness
- Jurisdictional issues: eg. SARS research funding

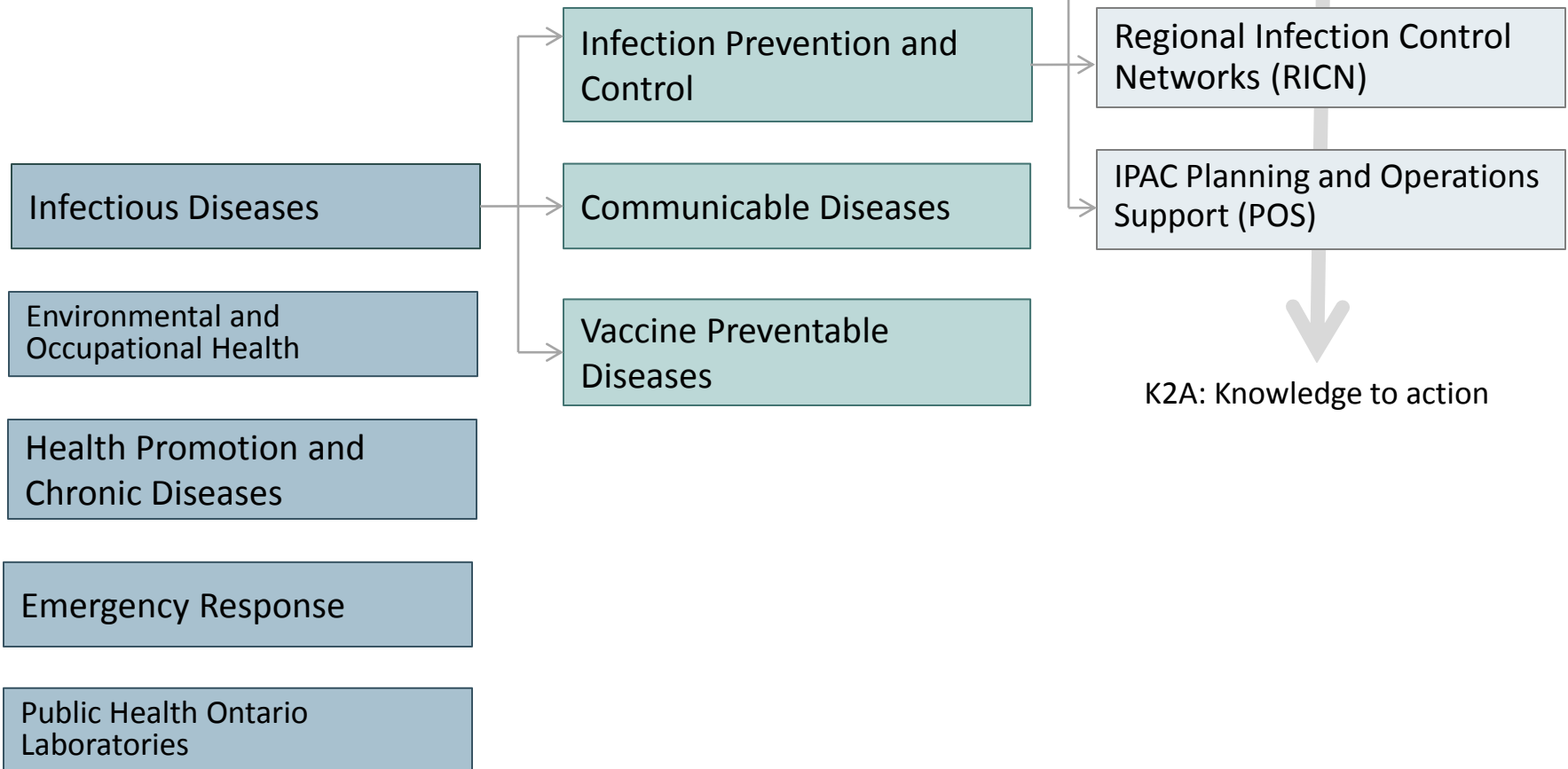


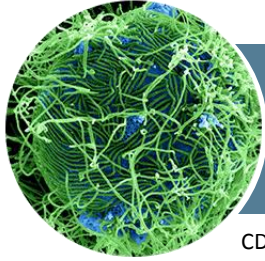
## What have we learnt from SARS?

CDC/Dr. Erskine Palmer

- OAHPP “Agency” – PHO scientific capacity, planning, data analysis,
- PHO does NOT make policy decisions.
- Gov’t may decide that policy decisions and science don’t always align. (see N95 in H1N1 or Ebola directives)
- PHOL has been bolstered with expertise to develop new assays as needed
- Alignment with the CMOH, EMB and MEOC

# Public Health Ontario (PHO)





# EBOLA: What went wrong?

CDC/NIAID

Public Health Ontario | Santé publique Ontario

## Infection Prevention and Control Guidance for Patients With Suspected or Confirmed Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) in Ontario Health Care Settings

*This document has been updated as of August 29, 2014, based on the best available evidence at that time. Version changes are summarized at the end of this document. Please refer to the Public Health Ontario website at [www.publichealthontario.ca/ebola](http://www.publichealthontario.ca/ebola) for the most recent version.*

IPAC Guidance  
August 29, 2014

Public Health Ontario | Santé publique Ontario

## Testing flow for Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) in Ontario

August 22, 2014

This is an excerpt from the *Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) Interim: Sample Collection and Submission Guide* available on the PHO website at <http://www.publichealthontario.ca/ebola>.

Prior to sample collection, immediately call	
1	Local/hospital infection prevention and control and infectious diseases specialist
2	Local/hospital laboratory director and microbiologist
3	PHO Laboratory Customer Service Centre at 416-235-6556 or 1-877-404-4567
4	The local public health unit

### Ebola testing

Performed at the National Microbiology Laboratory (NML), Winnipeg, MB.

This is to be shipped directly from the submitting hospital to NML. IPIC will alert NML, and provide contact information).

An interim guidance document for shipping suspect Ebola specimens to NML is available at [www.publichealthontario.ca/en/healthservices/ebola\\_virus\\_disease/EVD\\_shipping\\_suspect\\_specimens\\_to\\_NML\\_from\\_non-PHO\\_lab.pdf](http://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/healthservices/ebola_virus_disease/EVD_shipping_suspect_specimens_to_NML_from_non-PHO_lab.pdf).

### Malaria testing

Screen testing performed at the local/hospital laboratory using local and approved protocol (if available).

Screen (if unavailable locally), or confirmation testing performed at the Public Health Ontario Laboratory.

### Other testing

Only specimens essential for diagnosis or monitoring should be obtained and tested at the local/hospital laboratory.

This testing should be performed at the local/hospital lab and requires prior consultation with the laboratory director and may include two sets of blood cultures, a complete blood count, INR, PTT, electrolytes, creatinine, transaminases, and glucose.

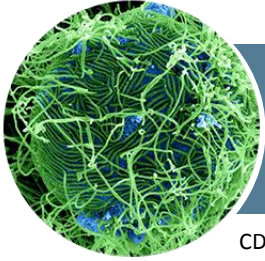
For more information please contact the PHO Laboratory Customer Service Centre at [labcustomercentres@pho.on.ca](mailto:labcustomercentres@pho.on.ca) or 416-235-6556 or 1-877-404-4567.

Public Health Ontario | Santé publique Ontario

## Algorithm for Assessment of Potential Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) in the Emergency Department

\*For Public Health Ontario (PHO) webpage at [www.pho.on.ca/ebola](http://www.pho.on.ca/ebola) for information on:  
 • Contact Precautions and Contact Precautions in Facility (CCP) suspension of Contact Precautions (CP) in Inpatient Health Care Settings  
 • Emergency case control facility (CCF)  
 • Laboratory Sample Collection and Submission Guide  
 • Contact Precautions and Contact Precautions in Facility  
 September 1, 2014

For more information, visit [publichealthontario.ca](http://publichealthontario.ca)



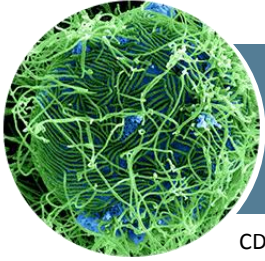
## Reservoir and transmission to humans

CDC/NIAID

- Fruit bats reservoir of virus - Drop partially eaten fruits
- Bats infect chimpanzees, gorillas, forest antelopes, porcupines
- Humans handle and eat bush meat (bats, chimpanzees, gorillas)
- Infected human passes from person to person
- Association with higher humidity and lower temperatures with outbreaks.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; Virus Ecology Graphic:

<http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/resources/virus-ecology.html>

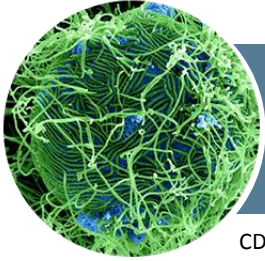


## Pathogenesis of Ebola - transmission

CDC/NIAID

- Among 173 household contacts of 27 patients with confirmed Ebola, the transmission rate was only 16% despite none of the standard infection control precautions routinely employed in U.S. hospitals being used
- Of 78 contacts who reported no physical contact with the infected patient, none became infected
- Among those who did have physical contact, risk for Ebola was highest after contact with the patients' blood
- Large HCW transmission in Sierra Leone associated with infected woman in labour

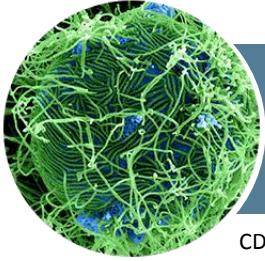




## Pathogenesis - transmission

CDC/NIAID

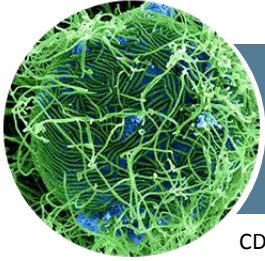
- Fastest incubation period has been reported associated with needle stick injury.
- Viral load may correlate with disease severity and survival
- This is NOT an airborne disease. Thus the pulmonary disease is hemorrhage and ARDS associated with severe sepsis.
- Ebola is NOT a novel pathogen!



CDC/NIAID

## Pathogenesis - how does Ebola cause disease?

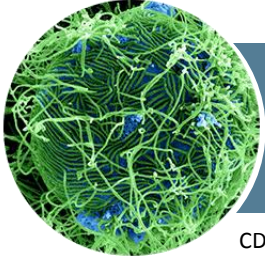
- Virus enters the body via infected blood/body fluid in contact with a mucosal surface or a break in intact skin.
- Virus replicates preferentially in monocytes/macrophages and dendritic cells which facilitate dissemination of the virus throughout the body via lymphatic system.
- Other cells are secondarily infected and there is rapid viral growth in hepatocytes, endothelial and epithelial tissues.
- There is strong cytokine/inflammatory mediator release of TNF- $\alpha$  and inflammatory cascade.



## Pathogenesis - inflammatory response

CDC/NIAID

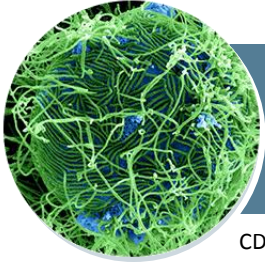
- Leads to endothelial damage, increased vascular permeability and shock.
- This results in the end organ damage and multi-organ dysfunction
- Diffuse intravascular coagulopathy(DIC) with platelet and coagulation factor consumption which leads to hemorrhage.
- IgM starts forming in 2 day and IgG in 5-8 days post infection. Immunologic response correlates with survival.
- Thus the observation that those who live >1 week are more likely to survive.



## Ebola

CDC/NIAID

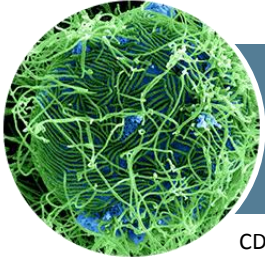
- Ebola is Viral septic shock
- With Multi-organ dysfunction
- DIC
- Proper use of PPE is the key



## Immunity and Survival

CDC/NIAID

- Treatment is supportive care
- IgG response appears to be protective by day 7
- Survivors may have persistent high antibody titres and associated sequelae of hepatitis, uveitis, muscle weakness etc.
- Previous observation was that serum from an Ebola survivor was therapeutic
- Anecdotal reports of Mab therapy being successful
- It does support the potential role of vaccination
- Aggressive resuscitation and support is highly effective

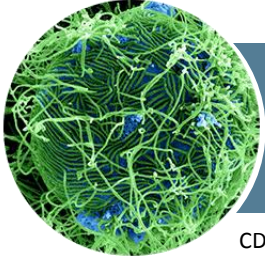


## Ebola Outbreaks prior to 2014

CDC/NIAID

- First identified in 1976, causing two outbreaks
  - One in Sudan
  - One in Democratic Republic of Congo (previously Zaire)
  - Both had several hundred cases
- Multiple, mostly limited outbreaks over the years since then
  - Over 20 outbreaks since the first in 1976
  - Only 5 with more than 100 cases
  - Mainly in countries in Central Africa

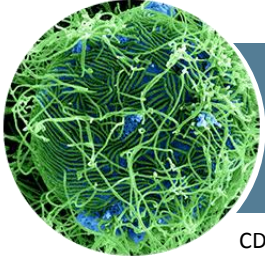
World Health Organization. Ebola virus disease [Internet]. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2014 [cited 2014 Aug 28]. Available from: <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs103/en/>



## Context for outbreak

CDC/NIAID

- Widespread on multiple fronts
- Affected large cities which is accelerating the epidemic
- Weak and fragile infrastructure
- Lack of knowledge of the disease
- Distrust of government and foreigners
- **Not seeking health care or health care not available**
- Social rituals / burial rituals
- Delayed response; more resources needed

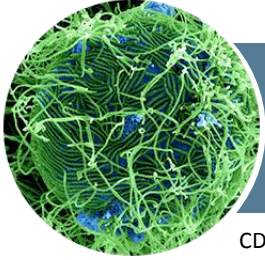


## Impact on social determinants of health

CDC/NIAID

- Airline services have been curtailed
- Trading, industry, agriculture, tourism
- Worsening poverty
- Hunger
- Orphans
- Stigma
- School closures
- Other diseases not being treated
- Lack of preventive care: prenatal care, vaccination

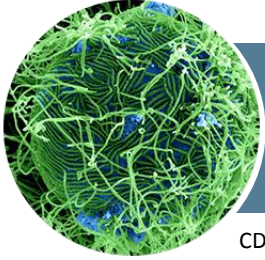




## Key Ebola Virus Disease Facts

CDC/NIAID

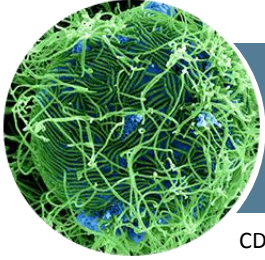
- Only spread by direct contact with blood and body fluids; not airborne
- Incubation 2-21 days; usually 8-10 days
- Only infectious when symptomatic
- Increasingly infectious as get sicker
- After 72hrs all patients have positive PCR testing



## Perspectives on risk assessment

CDC/NIAID

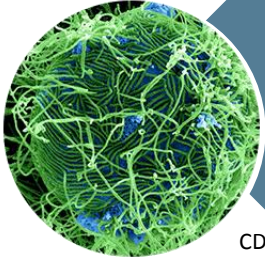
- Ebola virus disease confined to well-defined geographic areas
  - Guinea, Sierra Leone
- Most infected individuals likely to have known exposures (not unrecognized exposures)
- Most infected individuals, other than aid and health care workers, not likely to travel to Ontario
- Common things are common
  - Malaria, typhoid fever, influenza, meningococcal, much more likely diagnoses
- Directives are inhibiting good patient care



## Screening of a Returning Health Care Worker

CDC/NIAID

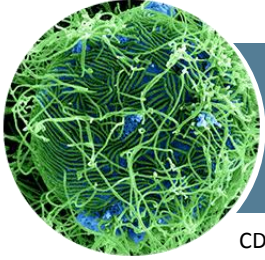
- Where were they working?
- What contact did she/he have with infected patients?
- Was PPE used at all times?
- Was there possible exposure/contamination
- Are there symptoms?
- **Take a travel history**
  - Weighing the risk determines the response required
  - Its all about IPAC exposure and protection



## Panic Trumps Rationale

CDC/NIAID

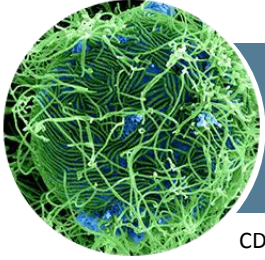
- N95 masking
- Goggles and face shields
- Wiping gloves with chlorhexidine/bleach
- No skin exposure
- One piece gowns and aprons
- PAPRs
- 21 step doffing procedure



## IPAC Practices for EVD: Droplet + Contact Precautions

CDC/NIAID

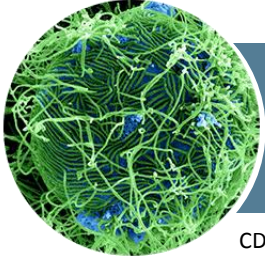
- Patient accommodation:
  - Single room with dedicated bathroom (minimum requirement); door closed
  - Consider use of an isolation room that has an anteroom for donning or doffing PPE
- PPE for all staff entering the room:
  - fluid-resistant, long-sleeved, cuffed gown
  - gloves
  - full face protection (face shield)
  - surgical or procedure mask
- Maintain log of all individuals entering the room; only essential people should enter the room



## Risk Assessment for EVD

CDC/NIAID

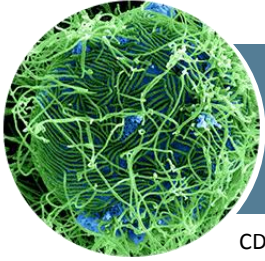
- Use risk assessment to determine the need for additional PPE; as the patient's condition changes, the risk to HCPs may change.
- The procedure being performed and the presence of clinical symptoms impacts the decision of what PPE to wear.
- Clinical risks may include:
  - Large amounts of blood/body fluids: foot/leg coverings, head coverings, waterproof gowns, or biohazard suits
  - Aerosol generating procedures: N95 respirators
  - Phlebotomy: double gloves
- Ensure adequate training before adding unfamiliar PPE



## What prompted panic

CDC/NIAID

- Lack of understanding of the disease
- Lack of understanding of basic IPAC principles
- Lack of training -Lack of confidence
- CNN “space suits”



## How to mitigate panic

CDC/NIAID

- Just-in-time refreshers for PPE in unusual infections
- Skills wane with time and disappear with emotion
- PPE readily available at point of care if required
- PPE is the last line of defense



## History repeats itself

- Deja vu all over again?
- Mixed messages confuse the public and health care workers
- Erosion in trust of Public Health Officials
- No trust in government or “Big Pharma”
- Seen in SARS, Pandemic H1N1, and Ebola
- Public trusts a former Playboy Bunny for health and vaccine advice????

## Lessons learned: GOOD NEWS!!

- IPAC Practices worked in Ebola in N. America
- Proper hand hygiene and isolation practices prevented transmission
- IPAC practices in West Africa.... Reduced transmission
- Bad directives can be improved with persistence and applying science and IPAC principles of transmission

## Lessons learned

- We can make the system work and work quickly and efficiently if we decide to work together.
- No matter how much preparation we do, we cannot anticipate all eventualities or questions. **USE FIRST PRINCIPLES**
- IPAC: risk assessment, personal protection and hand hygiene especially before any contact with the face
- If you are uncertain: Wash your hands again!
- Planning, communication, revising guidance as new info become available (version control)

## Ebola in Africa

- 20 years ago, HCWs in mission hospitals no longer acquired Ebola by applying proper hand hygiene, and use of masks and gloves.
- Decreased community spread by educating locals about proper disposition of the dead.
- The spread to large centres had magnified the problem and the numbers.
- The lack of basic IPAC protection and HCWs, lack of planning, communication and leadership has made a bad situation worse
- In 2015 in first world countries, mortality was small

## The Front Line: Dynamic and Uncertain

- Routine IPAC precautions are the best way to protect ourselves
- Almost all “novel” pathogens are transmitted in the same way
- Severity of illness does not equate with mode of transmission
- Hand hygiene is far and away the best protection for us in direct patient care
- Adopting a habitual routine of PPE and hand hygiene will be the best protection against the pathogens we know and those that may be novel

# Front line: Protection!

- Hand hygiene
- Clean your hands
- When in doubt, clean them again
- PPE- masking, gloves, and gowns
- Vaccination: as adults we are not good in maintaining our own immunity

## Infection prevention and control: **Whose role?**

- IPAC is everyone's role and responsibility
- Responsibility for **personal protection**
- Responsible for patient **care** and **protection**
- Prevention of spread from HCW to patient, patient to HCW, patient to patient, to family members.
- IPAC is a **culture** of personal and mutual respect
- A culture of hand hygiene and personal behaviors and choices
- A culture that saves lives , prevents spread of disease

# Why Infection Prevention and Control?

**BECAUSE IT WORKS**



# Discussion and Comments