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CBIC Expands Accessibility to Certification through Collaboration

Diversity in educational and professional backgrounds is of paramount importance in infection prevention and control (IPC). The complexity of IPC requires a multidisciplinary approach, and as I read through the fall issue of *Prevention Strategist*, I continue to be impressed by the innovation that is resulting from collaboration.

Involving professionals from different educational and career backgrounds creates more effective, innovative, and comprehensive IPC programs that benefit public health and healthcare systems. CBIC is a multidisciplinary board with members from public health, infectious disease, laboratory, nursing, and more. Geographic representation is also crucial and CBIC always has at least one board member outside of North America. When board members from different backgrounds are involved in decision-making processes, the decisions are more likely to be well-rounded and consider various perspectives.

In alignment with our strategic priority of expanding accessibility to certification for professionals responsible for infection prevention across settings, CBIC has collaborated with organizations from around the world in 2024 from a variety of industries, including the Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists, Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America, World Health Organization, National Association of County & City Health Officials, and the Association of Healthcare Value Analysis Professionals, just to name a few.

These partnerships are important as we strive to meet the mission of providing pathways to demonstrate and maintain competence in IPC. We at CBIC understand that IPC competence is vital to the wellbeing of patients and residents across the world and envision a world free of infections through demonstrated professional competency. For our certificants, we love hearing what your certification means to you and will continue to publish those stories so please continue to send them in. You are the backbone of patient safety, and your stories are an inspiration to all. I urge everyone to read these excerpts, they truly are energizing. Happy Fall to everyone!

Warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Andrea Flinchum". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid and legible.

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