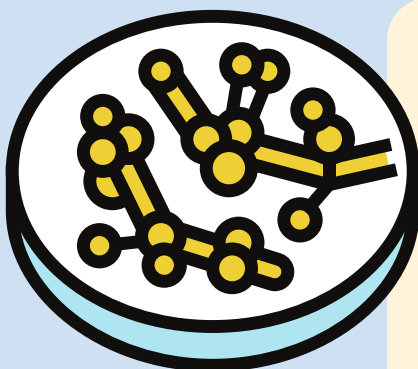




TAKE FIVE!

Fast reads for busy IPs

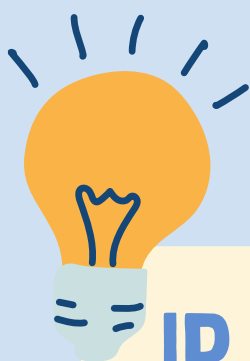
Compiled by Rebecca Battjes, MPH, CIC, FAPIC
Diversey Senior Clinical Advisor, Infection Prevention



CANDIDA AURIS

C. auris continues to plague our patients, environment & our IP workloads. If you haven't seen a positive case to date, are you prepared? Getting that dreaded call from the micro lab isn't a question of "if," but "when." As outbreaks are increasingly reported in all healthcare settings, the new year is a great time to pull a multidisciplinary team together & run a tabletop drill. Use the [CDC's IP fact sheet](#) to develop your preparedness plan.

Ensure your disinfectants are on the EPA's [List P](#) or [List K](#). Check with your EVS teams (including contracted services!), as many of their most heavily used products aren't on these lists. Reach out to me or your Diversey rep if you need help!

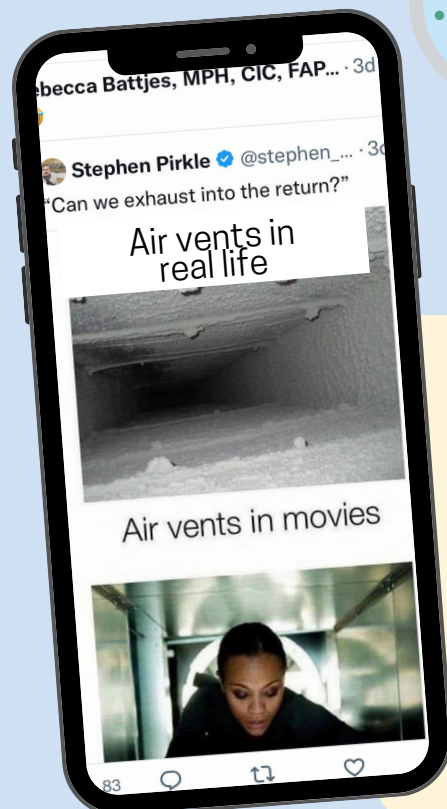
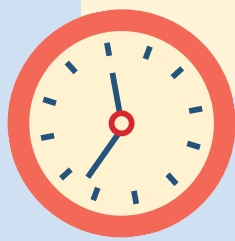


IP TECH TIP

Did you know there's **free** software called Otter that will take meeting minutes for you?! I learned about this on an [APIC Wellness Webinar](#) last year.

Otter records meetings, takes notes in real time using artificial intelligence & generates an automated summary to share with everyone and to help you remember everything. Where was this 15 years ago?! The free version allows up to 600 minutes a month. The catch is that your meetings have to be 40 minutes or less. But think of what you can do with that extra 20 minutes! (Maybe listen to The ASHE Podcast?).

Learn more at <https://otter.ai/>.



IN THE LIT



As a hospital-based IP, I *never* had time to read. Those copies of AJIC piled on my desk faster than I could file them away, creating a mountain on my desk (that I sometimes used to hide behind!).

This year, one of my goals is to read more, both professionally & personally. One way to keep up with relevant studies is to tune into a podcast, maybe as you're doing daily surveillance, or even better, during a 20-minute walk.

I started my week with **The ASHE Podcast**. [Episode 3](#) was an awesome discussion surrounding over utilization of not only urine cultures, but also of basic urinalyses (UAs). Its companion article was one of ASHE's most downloaded in 2021 (who had the time to read, let alone publish, am I right?!).

My good friend & mentor, Dr. Mohamad Fakh, co-authored [Deconstructing the urinalysis: A novel approach to diagnostic and antimicrobial stewardship](#). The king of quality analogies, he compares the UA to the salt shaker--available literally everywhere, but not always needed (and sometimes even harmful).



MEME OF THE MONTH!

This one made me immediately LOL! During ICRA's, are you ever asked if dusty, dangerous air can be fed back into a return?

Are you active on social media? Use #IPposse or #InfectionPreventionPosse on Twitter to find & connect with an amazing group of IP Tweeters. Credit to Stephen Pirkle, a Georgia-based IP. Email me or tag me in your favorite IP memes & posts!