



CERTIFICATION

THE DEFINING DIFFERENCE

An APIC Strategic Initiative



RESULTS

Hospitals with infection prevention and control programs led by a certified infection preventionist (IP) had significantly lower rates of MRSA bloodstream infections.¹

¹Pogorzelska M, Stone PW, Larson EL. Certification in infection control matters: impact of infection control department characteristics and policies on rates of multidrug-resistant infections. *Am J Infect Control.* 2012;40(2):96-101.



STRENGTH

Credentialed IPs were 2–3 times more likely to believe in the strength of evidence behind certain infection control practices.² As a result, they may be more likely to encourage implementation of these practices.

²Saint S, Greene MT, Olmsted RN, Chopra V, Meddings J, Safdar N, Krein SL. Perceived strength of evidence supporting practices to prevent health care-associated infection: results from a national survey of infection prevention personnel. *Am J Infect Control.* 2013 Feb;41(2):100-106.



CHAMPIONS

Certified IPs are likely better prepared to interpret evidence and act as champions for key infection prevention practices.³

³Krein SL, Hofer TP, Kowalski CP, et al. Use of central venous catheter-related bloodstream infection prevention practices by US hospitals. *Mayo Clin Proc.* 2007;82:672-678.



CONSISTENCY

Certification provides facilities with IPs who have a demonstrated baseline of knowledge, and advances IPs as capable colleagues and leaders in their field. IPs with this specialization can better promote their value and set expectations for the future of the IP role.