



News Release
Healthcare Laundry Accreditation Council

Final Article in Series Arms IPs with C-Suite Messages About Healthcare Laundry's Role in Preventing Infections

PLAINFIELD, IL - December 5, 2017 - An article published in the December issue of [Infection Control Today](#) (ICT) magazine informs infection preventionists (IPs) how to align their linen/laundry messages with what is on the minds of hospital C-suite executives.

The [article](#) (pp. 26-27), "Aligning the IP's Linen/Laundry with the C-Suite Mindset: Key Messages for a Key Messenger," is co-authored by Gregory Gicewicz, John Scherberger and Lynne Sehulster, PhD. Gicewicz is past president of HLAC and owner/operator of the healthcare laundry Sterile Surgical Systems, Tumwater, WA. Scherberger, is past president of HLAC. Sehulster recently retired from CDC after 20 years of serving as the Division of Healthcare Quality Promotion's subject matter expert on environmental infection control.

In the article, the authors write: "From our experience gained from interacting with C-suite members, we have observed ... that the key focus areas typically revolve around the following: ensuring patient safety, promoting patient satisfaction, maintaining health and financial stability, compliance, strategic planning and innovation, and environmental stewardship."

The authors note that for each focus area, having hospital textiles processed by a laundry accredited by the Healthcare Laundry Accreditation Council (HLAC) offers a highly relevant solution for addressing these issues.

HLAC is a nonprofit organization formed for the purpose of inspecting and accrediting laundries processing healthcare textiles for hospitals, nursing homes and other healthcare facilities. This is the fourth and final article in the HLAC/ICT series on the role of healthcare laundry in infection prevention. In the first article in the series, Scherberger calls for a better understanding among infection preventionists (IPs) of how to "navigate the intersection where healthcare laundry and infection prevention come together." In the second article, Sehulster writes that "maintaining both the quality and cleanliness of processed healthcare textiles (HCTs) prior to their use is a shared responsibility, calling for a "collaborative effort between laundry operators and the healthcare professionals in the recipient

healthcare facilities." In the third article, Gicewicz and Janice Carter Larson (vice president of clinical resources and consulting for Encompass Group LLC) examine how IP nurses can affect a hospital's bottom line with effective linen strategy.

About HLAC

The Healthcare Laundry Accreditation Council (HLAC) is a nonprofit organization formed for the purpose of inspecting and accrediting laundries processing healthcare textiles for hospitals, nursing homes and other healthcare facilities. Visit www.hlacnet.org and on Twitter [@NewsHlac](https://twitter.com/NewsHlac).

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