



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – October 17, 2011  
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## **“INFECTION PREVENTION IS EVERYONE’S BUSINESS”**

‘Tis the season... no, not the holiday season, the cold and flu season. This week, Arizona Infection Prevention Week (October 16-22), highlights the role people play in the spreading infections.

This year’s theme, “*Infection Prevention is Everyone’s Business*,” calls attention to the need to protect patients from Healthcare-Associated Infections (HAIs). HAIs are infections that patients acquire in a healthcare setting when receiving treatment for other conditions.

The Arizona HAI Advisory Committee and Grand Canyon Chapter of the Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (APIC) have planned a number of [activities and events](#) planned to help raise awareness of this very important issue, including:

- Influenza Vaccine Round-Up (Tuesday)
- Hand Hygiene Flash mob - Banner Thunderbird Medical Center (Wednesday)

“Through our efforts this week and beyond, we will provide training and education, evidence based best practices, to improve infection prevention practices in healthcare facilities throughout Arizona,” said Toni Lee, RN, CIC- APIC-Grand Canyon Chapter President and Infection Preventionist at Banner Estrella Medical Center. “We ask healthcare leaders to embrace the concept of prevention and promote a culture within hospitals and outpatient care clinics where infection prevention is a part of everyone’s job.”

The mission of the [HAI Advisory Committee](#) is to reduce the number and impact of HAIs in Arizona. The Advisory Committee works with volunteer members representing all disciplines of public and private healthcare and organizations like the [Grand Canyon Chapter of APIC](#).

Governor Jan Brewer proclaims October 16-22, 2011, Arizona Infection Prevention Week. Arizona Infection Prevention Week is a good time to celebrate the terrific work that is being done to reduce HAIs in our community and to collaborate for greater success in the future.

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