



Service Priorities and Programmes Electronic Presentations

Convention ID: 866

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Enhancement of the Infectious Disease & Infection Control Training Portal

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Keywords:

Infectious Disease
Infection Control
Website

Introduction

In view of the ever-growing number of emerging infections and the constant need to upgrade our infection control skill sets, the Infection Control & Infectious Disease Training Portal (ICID portal) was developed in 2010 aiming to bring necessary knowledge to healthcare workers in Hong Kong. It is now time to update the design and reorganize the content layouts in order to make it more user-friendly and to allow users to retrieve relevant information easier and faster.

Objectives

To revamp the ICID portal by restructuring the website layout, updating the contents, and improving on the user-friendly features of the interface (such as search function and mobile device experience)

Methodology

The project outline was presented at a high level committee to obtain their endorsement. Resources were allocated according to the estimated cost. Specifications were laid down in the contract tender. An IT company was chosen with which a series of meetings were held to align demands and technical feasibility, including confirmation of the structural framework. A set of reclassified contents were submitted for upload. After the draft website was available, user assessments were conducted by about 10 colleagues from various ranks and positions. Bugs or inconsistencies were singled out and fixed. Suggestions for improvement were integrated as appropriate. Contents will continue to be updated from time to time after the launch.

Result

The new ICID portal is eye-catching, informative and easy to navigate. It is user-friendly on both computers and mobile devices with the adaptive interface. Relevant materials can be easily located. Under the revised layout, news, guidelines and journal articles are grouped under respective ICID topic. Other contents (e.g. CHP letters & training videos) are collectively put under "ICB Corner". A

rapid-navigation toolbar is added to the ID page to direct users to the desired topic quickly. “News alert” highlights latest happenings in infection control. “Training activities” keeps track of our training forums supplemented with handout and video recording. All these changes were made with an aim to facilitate the search process. Feedbacks and enquiries can be communicated through the portal's email channel.