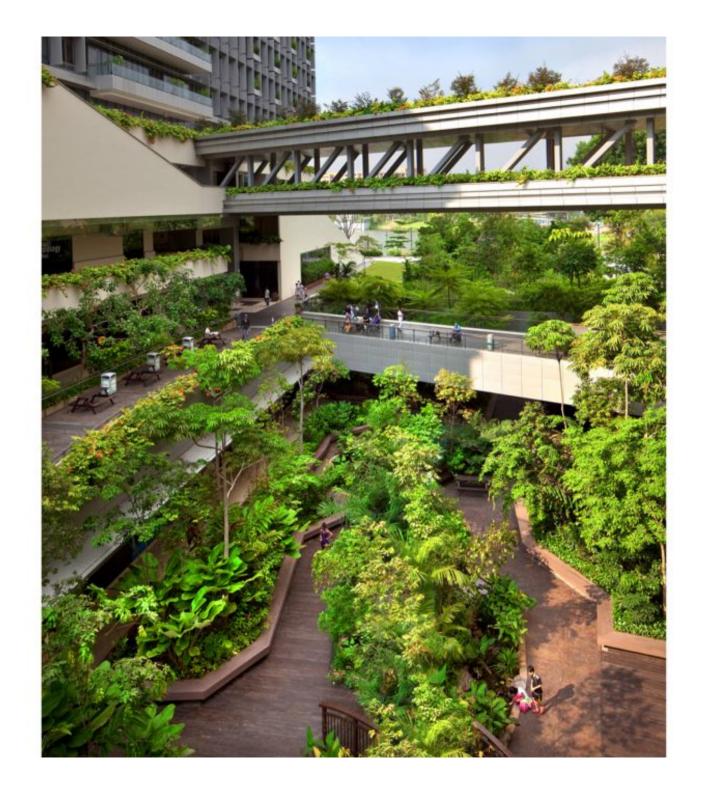
## International Perspective on Hospital Design, Construction and Renovation: Infection Control Strategies and Standard

Dr Ling Moi Lin
Director, Infection Control
Singapore General Hospital

## Considerations for building healthcare facilities

- Safety and satisfaction of patients and staff
  - Layout, air quality, hand washing facilities, lighting to reduce errors
  - Move towards healing design
    - Natural light, noise reduction, access to nature
- Needs of the community
  - Changing demographics
- Incorporate technology
- Environmental issues
  - Building green, lower energy costs





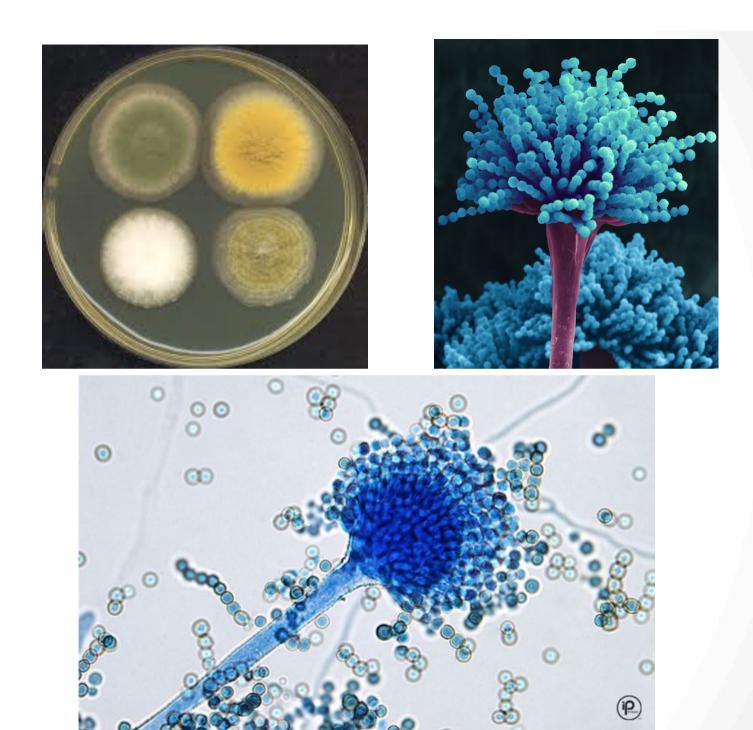
# Hospital renovation: the problems

 Construction, renovation or demolition generates vast quantities of dust which contains huge numbers of aerosolized filamentous fungi, such as Aspergillus, and sometimes as other potential pathogens, such as Legionella

 Moreover, construction can impair air handling systems or contaminate potable water with these pathogens

# Hospital renovation: the problem

 Hospitals and clinics are filled with patients who are immunocompromised and highly vulnerable to devastating invasive infection with these newly unleashed pathogens

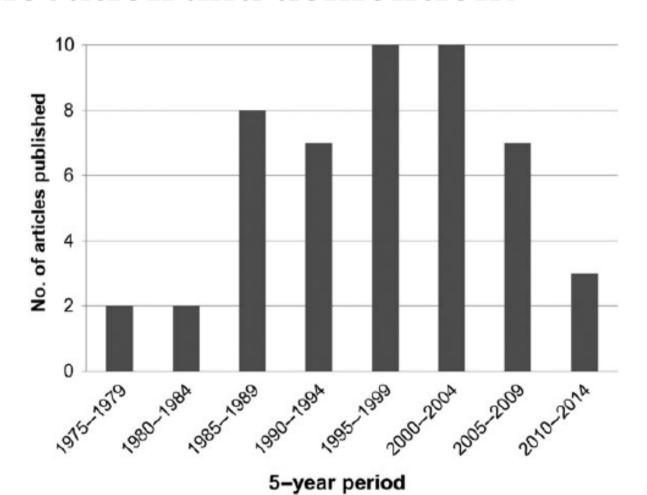


#### Aspergillus SSI





# Are we seeing less fungal outbreaks associated with construction, renovation and demolition?



Clinical Infectious Diseases® 2015:61(3):433-44

## Survivor of mold outbreak sues UPMC claiming negligence

January 4, 2016 7:48 PM





### Joint Commission International standards

- Facility and
   Management and
   Safety (FMS)
   standards
  - Facility compliance
  - Risk management
  - Safety and security
  - Hazardous materials
  - Emergency management

- Fire safety
- Equipment safety
- Water and utilities
- Systems testing
- Infection prevention and control
  - International Patient Safety Goal 5 is to reduce healthcare associated infections

## CDC guidelines (2003)

Box 4. Suggested members and functions of a multi-disciplinary coordination team for construction, renovation, repair, and demolition projects

#### Members

Infection-control personnel, including hospital epidemiologists

Laboratory personnel

Facility administrators or their designated representatives, facility managers

Director of engineering

Risk-management personnel

Directors of specialized programs (e.g., transplantation, oncology and ICU\* programs)

Employee safety personnel, industrial hygienists, and regulatory affairs personnel

**Environmental services personnel** 

Information systems personnel

Construction administrators or their designated representatives

Architects, design engineers, project managers, and contractors

Use of ICRA matrix and plan barrier control measures

#### **Construction bundle**

- Hospital epidemiology (infection control) should be notified by plant engineering prior to any renovation/construction activities in the healthcare facility.
- Conduct an ICRA for all renovation/construction activities: implement recommended prevention strategies as guided by the ICRA.
- Focus prevention efforts on control of airborne dissemination of fungal spores (eg, barriers, containment, air handling, portable HEPA filters).
- Consider impact of renovation/construction on the involved hospital unit plus adjacent units on the same floor, and hospital units on floors above and below the renovation/construction activities.
- Maintain surveillance for healthcare-associated filamentous fungal infections during renovation/construction. Investigate any cases to see if they are related to renovation/construction and determine if prevention efforts need to be revised.
- Visit renovation/construction sites regularly to assure compliance with recommended prevention activities.

# Australian guidelines (June 2015)

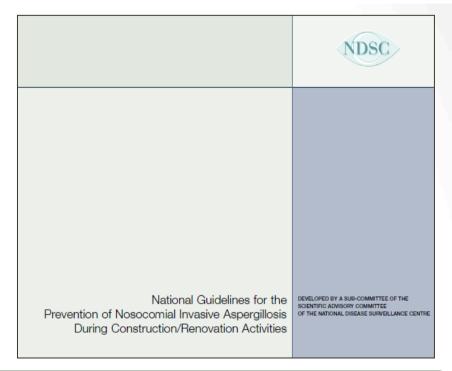
- Risk management strategy
  - Risk identification
  - Risk assessment
  - Risk control
  - Monitoring



Australasian Health Facility Guidelines

Part D - Infection Prevention and Control 900 - CONSTRUCTION AND RENOVATION

# Ireland National Guidelines (2002)



CONSTRUCTION PERMIT		
Permit No:	Permit Expiration Date:	Project Start Date:
Location of Construction:		Estimated Duration:
Contractor:	Contact Person:	Tel:
CEO Approval:		
Name	Signed:	Tel:
Hospital Technical Services Manager Approval:		
Name:	Signed:	Tel:
Infection Control Personnel Approval:		
Name:	Signed:	Tel:



## UK Guidance (2013)

Health Building Note 00-09: Infection control in the built environment

"... the infection prevention and control (IPC) team should be consulted throughout every stage of a capital project and their views taken into account..."

## Canadian Standards Association (CSA)

- Z8000 Canadian Health Care Facilities
- Z8001 Commissioning of Health Care Facilities
- Z317.1 Special Requirements for Plumbing Installations in Health Care Facilities
- Z317.2 Special Requirements for Heating,
   Ventilation, and Air-Conditioning (HVAC) Systems in Health Care Facilities
- Z317.11 Area Measurement for Health Care Facilities
- Z317.13 Infection Control During Construction, Renovation, and Maintenance of Health Care Facilities

#### **CSA** standard

- Plan a proactive approach
- Build multi-skilled Infection Control Team
- Assess and manage the risks
- "A well-managed site MDT with site knowledge and appropriate expertise shall be involved throughout a construction project beginning at the initiation stage" Clause 6.2.1.1

## Singapore Technical Reference (TR 42:2015)

- Not a standard yet
  - After 2 years, document will be reviewed to determine suitability as a Singapore standard
- Clause 4.3
  - "The hospital's Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) team should be consulted throughout the project and their advice and recommendations be taken account of and documented. The participation of the IPC Team in all phases of planning, construction and renovation of the unit is essential."

### Going beyond guidelines

Not an option

Expected actions to be taken to protect our patients

What does it take to establish it as a standard?

# Nevertheless, incorporate it into IC program

- Role of IC professional
  - Leadership
  - Communication link with program administrators, architects, and engineers
  - Consultant
    - Design specifications
    - Operational and maintenance input
  - Facilitator between senior management and stakeholders

#### To minimize risk of HAIs

- Active contribution by IC professionals
- Proactive risk assessment before construction
  - Infection control risk assessment (ICRA) matrix
- Control measures implemented
- Monitoring to assess efficacy of control measures

#### Challenges

- Implementation of program
  - IC to be involved
    - Professionalism and expertise
  - Engaging staffs to perform risk assessment with IC
  - Effective barrier measures
  - Successful outcome zero healthcare associated Aspergillus infection

## **Building expertise within the IC Team**

- Who should be trained?
  - All?
  - Specialist in team?
- Mentoring ICNs
- Bringing them to meetings to shadow and learn
  - Most things are best learnt through experience
    - Every renovation project is an opportunity to learn

#### Reaching out

- Create awareness and understanding
- Gain their respect
  - Know your stuff
  - Be humble

 Engaging them as partners in project / team member

#### Conclusion

- Building / renovation in healthcare IS DIFFERENT from that at other places
- Difference is we have immunocompromised patients in the facility
  - They need good indoor air quality
- IC is responsible for prevention of healthcare associated infections related to construction and building – WE NEED TO BE INVOLVED!

#### **THANK YOU**