Preventing Healthcare-Associated Infections

Healthcare-associated infections (HAI) are a threat to patient safety. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) provides national leadership in surveillance, outbreak investigations, laboratory research, and prevention of healthcare-associated infections. The prevention of healthcare-associated infections remains our top priority. Types of infections:

Catheter-associated Urinary Tract Infections (CAUTI)

A urinary tract infection (UTI) is an infection involving any part of the urinary system, including kidney, ureter, bladder and urethra. UTIs are the most common type of healthcare-associated infection reported to the National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN). Among UTIs acquired in the hospital, approximately 75% are associated with a urinary catheter, which is a tube inserted into the bladder through the urethra to drain urine. Between 15-25% of hospitalized patients receive urinary catheters during their hospital-stay.

The most important risk factor for developing a catheter-associated UTI (CAUTI) is prolonged use of the urinary catheter. Therefore, catheters should only be used for appropriate indications and should be removed as soon as they are no longer needed. The use of external catheters is encouraged when appropriate.

Central Line-associated Bloodstream Infections (CLABSIs)

A central line-associated bloodstream infection (CLABSI) is a serious infection that occurs when germs (usually bacteria or viruses) enter the bloodstream through the central line, a catheter often placed in a large vein in the neck, chest, or groin to give medication or fluids or to collect blood for lab tests. Healthcare providers must follow a strict protocol when inserting the catheter to make sure it remains sterile and a CLABSI does not occur. In addition to inserting the central line properly, healthcare providers must use stringent infection control practices each time they check the line or change the dressing.

The CDC, in collaboration with other organizations, has developed guidelines for the prevention of CLABSI and other types of healthcare-associated infections. Facilities can monitor the rates of CLABSI and assess the effectiveness of prevention efforts through the CDC's National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN).

Hand-hygiene Program

We are committed to performing hand washing at each moment of opportunity. Hand hygiene is a simple yet effective way to prevent hospital acquired infections. We observe one another more than one thousand times per month cleaning our hands with either soap and water or alcohol-based hand sanitizer to keep you safe.

What have we done to ensure your safety and reduce infections?

- We try to avoid placing central line catheters or indwelling urinary catheters (known as a "Foley")
- Alternative methods have been established to avoid placing these catheters
- At our hospital we use chlorhexidine soap daily for bathing or showering to help prevent infections
- Our staff are trained and adhere to standardized protocols created to improve catheter maintenance and dressing (bandage) changes
- Evidence-based infection control studies have shown that applying an alcohol based nasal antiseptic twice daily drastically reduces the colonization of bacteria in the nose. Some of these common bacteria are: Staph Aureus and MRSA (methicillin-resistant staph aureus)
- We review any urinary catheters and central venous lines for appropriateness daily
- We participate in daily Safety Huddles with all department leaders to communicate and anticipate barriers and resolve any infection control issues timely

WE HAVE REACHED OUR GOAL OF **ZERO INFECTIONS DUE TO THE ABOVE ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE HOSPITAL!**

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL
2 Med Surg RATE													
ICU RATE													
PCU RATE													
4E/MSU RATE													
5E/Ortho RATE													
TOTAL RATE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

***There were ZERO urinary tract infections related to use of a catheter in 2020 with 4,628 catheters days**

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL
2 Med Surg RATE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
ICU RATE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
PCU RATE	0.0	0.0	0.0	23.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.7
4E/MSU RATE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5E/Ortho RATE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL RATE	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3

***There was 1 infection related to a central line in 2020 with 3,665 central line days**

AdventHealth
Carrollwood

**For more information visit: www.cdc.gov/hai/prevent/prevention.html*