

SURGICAL SITE INFECTION

CASE FOR CHANGE

Approximately

300,000

surgical site infections occur each year in the United States.¹



Each surgical site infection is associated with roughly 9.7 additional postoperative hospital days.¹

20% Surgical site infections are the most common and costly of all hospital-acquired infections, accounting for 20 percent of all hospital-acquired infections.¹

BOLD AIM & KEY DRIVERS

Reduce surgical site infection by

20 PERCENT

by 2019.

- ◀ Intervention Priorities
- ◀ Monitoring and Surveillance
- ◀ Communication
- ◀ Patient and Family Engagement

KEY LEARNING

- Engage multidisciplinary teams in the process by creating awareness, training, and education around current evidence-based practice
- Engage and educate patients and families
- Implementation of evidence base measures to prevent the incidence of surgical site infections
- Improved communication between care providers

RAPID CYCLE INNOVATIONS

Intervention Priorities

- Implementation of Project Joints
- Implementation of evidence based measures to prevent surgical site infections (administration of antimicrobial prophylaxis according to evidence-based standards and guidelines, proper hair removal, blood glucose control, and perioperative normothermia)
- Use of a checklist based on the World Health Organization (WHO) checklist to ensure compliance with best practices to improve surgical patient safety
- Implementation of robust hand hygiene program

Monitoring and Surveillance

- Identify high-risk, high-volume operative procedures to be targeted for SSI surveillance on the basis of a risk assessment of patient populations, operative procedures performed, and available SSI surveillance data
- Daily monitoring of surgical site by healthcare provider (nurse, physician, infection preventionist)
- Implementation of a system for collecting data needed to identify SSIs
- Perform postoperative surveillance for 30 days; extend the postoperative surveillance period to 90 days for certain procedure categories
- Use of standardized SSI definitions and NHSN reporting

MEASURES



Process:

- Surgery patients with perioperative temperature management
- Surgical safety checklist compliance

Outcome:

- Colon SSI Rate
- Abdominal Hysterectomy SSI rate
- Hip Replacement SSI Rate
- Knee Replacement SSI Rate

Communication

- Development of communication strategy among care providers for post discharge surveillance of patient
- Education for surgeons and perioperative personnel through continuing education activities directed at minimizing perioperative SSI risk through implementation of recommended process measures

Patient and Family Engagement

- Educate patients and their families about SSI prevention
- Provide instructions and information to patients prior to surgery describing strategies for reducing SSI risk

Source:

1. Loyola University Health System. "Surgical site infections are the most common and costly of hospital infections: Guidelines for preventing surgical site infections are updated." ScienceDaily. www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2017/01/170119161551.htm (accessed August 15, 2017).

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