

IMPLEMENTING CAUTI PREVENTION BUNDLE IN THE PACU

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Background Information: According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), catheter associated urinary tract infections (CAUTIs) are the most common type of healthcare-associated infection. Seventy-five percent of UTIs acquired in the hospital are associated with urinary catheter devices. A unit based CAUTI prevention and accountability team was developed to provide expert knowledge and assure compliance with institutional and national standards. PACU CAUTI prevention team determined implementation of standardized CAUTI prevention and nurse driven protocols would decrease the incidence of CAUTI in inpatient populations.

Objectives of Project:

- Identify patients at risk for a CAUTI
- Identify all components of a CAUTI prevention bundle
- Identify critical elements of catheter maintenance
- Identification of barriers related to the implementation of institutional CAUTI bundle
- Identify knowledge deficits in clinical nursing staff related to the CAUTI bundle

Process of Implementation: This quality improvement initiative included both direct clinical observation of patients with an indwelling urinary catheter (IUC) and a knowledge based survey test of 61 PACU nurses in a 32 bed PACU. The direct clinical observations included:

- Physician necessity
- Insertion education documentation
- Catheter securement device in place
- Closed system with red seal intact
- Drainage bag less than 1000ml
- Catheter free of dependent loops or kinks
- Bag below level of bladder labeled with date of insertion

The knowledge based pre survey indicated. 55% of the 61 respondents did not know all elements of a CAUTI prevention bundle. The survey and direct observation of compliance indicated necessity to implement formal education and skilled based training. Clinical staff partnered with institutional Quality Improvement to ensure best practice and compliance.

Statement of Successful Practice: Post implementation of training and direct observation audits indicated improved compliance among nursing team. A reassessment with a knowledge based survey showed an increase from 55% to 97% of nurses understanding and having knowledge about a CAUTI prevention bundle. Direct observation of patients with indwelling foley catheters showed increased awareness of CAUTI prevention in the PACU.

Implications for Advancing the Practice of Perianesthesia Nursing: Development of standardized CAUTI prevention bundle and PACU nursing education can have a direct impact on reduction of CAUTI rates within a healthcare organization.