

SPLISH SPLASH-HOW WE MANAGED TO GIVE OUR PATIENTS ANTISEPTIC BATH

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Background information: Surgical site infection (SSI) is a serious complication of surgery. In a large 600 bed academic medical center, there was an increase in incidents of SSI for the orthopedic total joint cases. SSI infection rate increase from 1.8% to 2.5 %

Objective of Project: Pre surgical anti septic bathing significantly reduces the skin surface microflora count leading to a decrease in the risk of surgical site infection. Our purpose was to implement evidence base strategy to assure all orthopedic total joint case received pre surgical antiseptic bath.

Process of Implementation: Process and protocol were developed to implement preoperative bathing with antiseptic solution. Approaches included patient and family education, instruction, and product supply during their pre admission visit. Patients who do not have a face to face pre admission testing visit, receive a full body antiseptic cleanse the day of surgery. Furthermore, additional SSI preventive measures include antiseptic cleanse to incisional site, the day of surgery, for those who participated in bathing at home.

Statement of Successful Practice: Our Perioperative Performance Improvement indicators show a significant improvement. Our results of SSI in 2012 were 2.5 % (14/552) to 1.0 % (6/611) in 2013. Our current SSI rate 0.4%. Process was developed to standardize the care to all surgical patients.

Implications for Advancing the Practice of Paranesesthesia Nursing: Pre surgical antiseptic bath have shown to decrease SSI in the surgical patient. Educating patient and family in the pre admission visit is an important component of the process. Further research on SSI preventive measure will help improve the care of the perioperative patient.