PITCH (PREVENTING INFECTION THROUGH CLEANER HOSPITALS)

Organisation Name: Logan Hospital
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Summary Slide

Key problem: Healthcare Associated Infections

Innovation: PITCH – Preventing Infection Through Cleaner Hospitals.

Aim of Innovation: Develop, implement and evaluate a cleaning bundle.

Baseline data: Increase in colonisation and transmission of VRE (Vancomycin resistant enterococci)

Changes implemented: Reformed cleaning practice
UV (Ultraviolet) marker auditing

Outcomes: UV marker audit results improved from 60% to 90% consistently.
Key Problem

In 2011-2012 Logan Hospital saw an increase in the colonisation and transmission of Vancomycin Resistant Enterococci (VRE).

Increased cleaning hours were required to facilitate bed turn around for improved patient flow to meet NEAT (National Emergency Access Targets).
Aim of this innovation

• Reduce Healthcare Associated Infections.

• Reform and enhance hospital cleaning practices.
  • Improve environmental staff knowledge, attitude and performance.
  • Communicate cleaning best practice with other health service professionals at Logan Hospital.
  • Improve patient satisfaction following the results of the Best Practice Australia survey 2013.
Current Situation

As part of our Infection Prevention strategy several key changes were implemented in 2013.

• Hospital wide use of disposable bed screens

• One-step disinfectant cleaner for all cleans

• Focus on cleaning Frequently Touched Points

• In 2014 we participated in a Pilot Study with Queensland University of Technology to develop a cleaning bundle which we called PITCH.
Key Changes Implemented

• **Consistent product use**
  • Disinfectant cleaning and point of care wipes

• **Defined cleaning techniques**
  • Sequence, frequently touched points, manual pressure, and manufacturer’s instructions.

• **Enhanced auditing**
  • Addition of Ultraviolet Markers to visual audits and direct feedback of audit results

• **Training**
  • Clear responsibilities and annual knowledge assessment of transmission risk and high touch points

• **Improved communication**
  • Daily communication on the ward and hospital wide promotion “Cleanliness is Everyone’s Responsibility”.
Outcomes so far

- Disposable bed screens
- One-step disinfectant clean for all cleans
- Focus on high touch points
Lessons Learnt

• Cleaning staff were committed and took ownership of the project.

• Infection Prevention and Management Team participation was pivotal.

• Our QUT partners worked and learned with us through this project and kept staff morale high with great feedback (and coffee vouchers).

• Our Executive Team support for this study was validated when we were awarded a Metro South Board Chair’s Award for “Patient Centred Care - Team Award”.

Contact for this Innovation

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