

Service Priorities and Programmes

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An 'Immediate Feedback Program' to enhance hand hygiene compliance 'before clean/aseptic procedures'

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Introduction

Although hand hygiene (HH) is paramount to prevent healthcare-associated infections, adherence to compliance is not always satisfactory. Audit results in early 2015 revealed low hand hygiene compliance (41.2%) to moment two (i.e. before clean/aseptic procedures). This low compliance might lead to increase patient morbidity and mortality (McLaws, M.L., 2015). An enhancement program was developed for improvement.

Objectives

- 1. To enhance the hand hygiene compliance to moment two by 40%.
- 2. To raise the hand hygiene compliance of doctors in moment two by 50%.
- 3. To increase the overall hand hygiene compliance.

<u>Methodology</u>

With the support from the management and the department heads, an immediate feedback program targeting on hand hygiene compliance 'before clean / aseptic procedure' was launched in 4Q 2015. This program involved all staff categories and the following procedures: aseptic procedures including tapping of sterile sites, intravenous (IV) access, care of respiratory tract and wound, e.g. tracheal/ endotracheal tube suction, and blood collection. There was a two week grace period where immediate feedback and education was given when non-compliance was observed. After the grace period, data of non-compliance were collected (including name and department of staff, time, place and procedure involved) and sent to the supervisors for further actions.

<u>Result</u>

1. The compliance to hand hygiene before clean/aseptic procedures increased sharply from 68% in 2015 to 98.6% in 2016. The high compliance was maintained in 2017 (99.1%).

2. Doctors' compliance to moment two reached 96.4% in 2016 (49% in 2015) and attained 100% in 2017.

3. The overall hand hygiene compliance rate (all five moments) rose from 73.2% in 2015 to 84.9% in 2017.

The 'immediate feedback program' was useful in improving and sustaining the hand hygiene compliance before clean or aseptic procedures.