



# The Impact of Patient Hygiene on Hospital Acquired Infections

26043B

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**Kathleen Vollman**  
ADVANCING NURSING THROUGH KNOWLEDGE & INNOVATION



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# Disclosures

- Consultant-Michigan Hospital Association Keystone Center
- Subject matter expert on CAUTI, CLABSI, HAPI, Safety culture for AHA
- Consultant and speaker bureau
  - △ Stryker's Sage business
  - △ LaJolla Pharmaceutical
  - △ Baxter healthcare
  - △ Potrero Medical

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# Objectives

- Describe the forces within the current healthcare environment that are targeting reduce bacterial load and HAI's
- Identify and detail the evidence-based practices for bathing critically ill patients
- Discuss possible barriers to practice changes and realistic solutions to assist the team in the implementation process



## Notes on Hospitals: 1859

“It may seem a strange principle to enunciate as the very first requirement in a hospital that it should do the sick no harm.”

- Florence Nightingale

Advocacy = Safety



Protect The Patient From Bad Things  
Happening on Your Watch



Implement  
Interventional Patient Hygiene



# Interventional Patient Hygiene

- Hygiene...the science and practice of the establishment and maintenance of health
- Interventional Patient Hygiene....nursing action plan directly focused on fortifying the patient's host defense through proactive use of evidence-based hygiene care strategies

**Hand  
Hygiene**

**Comprehensive  
Oral Care Plan**

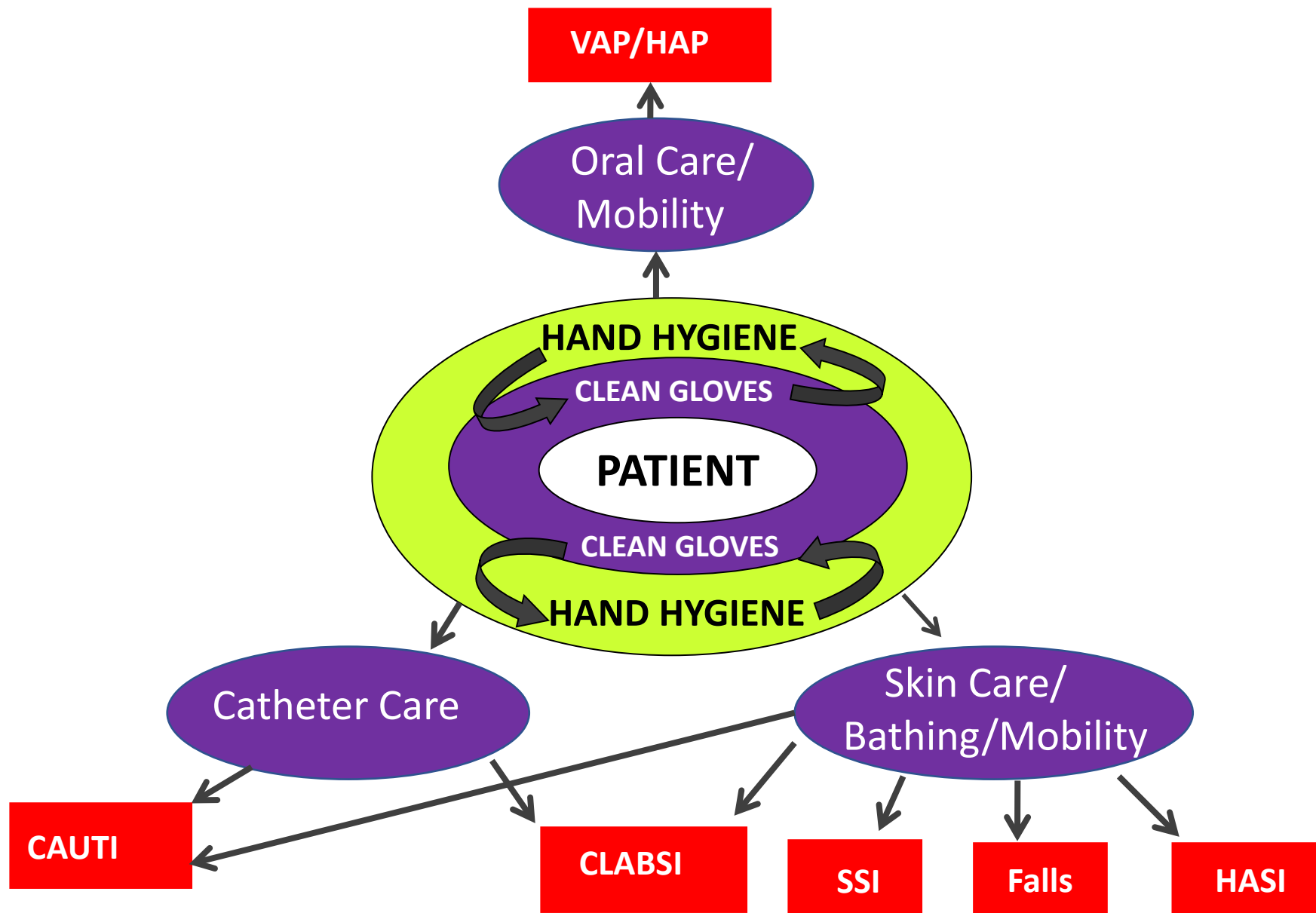
**Incontinence-  
Associated  
Dermatitis  
Prevention  
Program**

**Bathing &  
Assessment**

**Pressure  
Injury Risk  
Reduction**

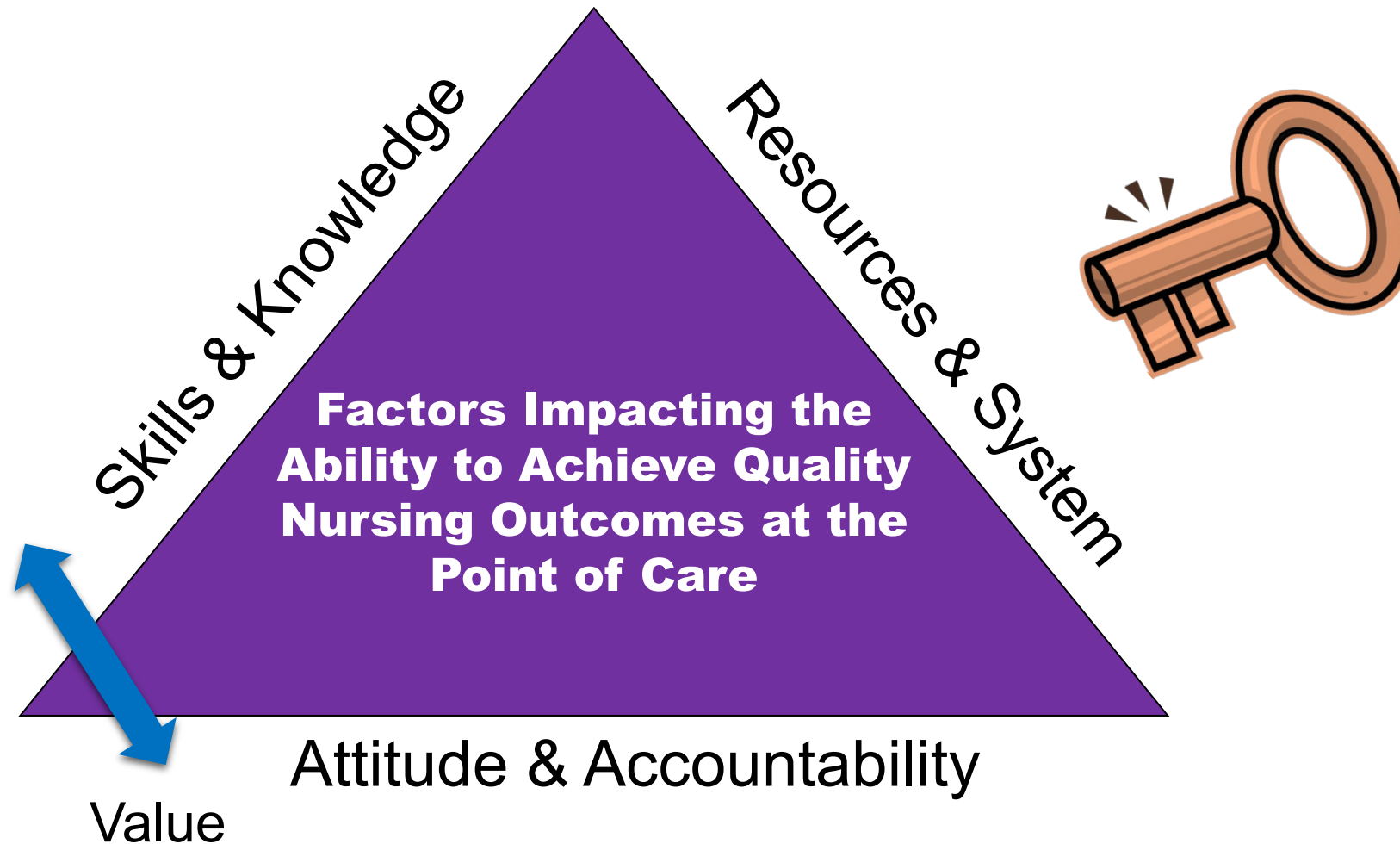
**Catheter  
Care**

# INTERVENTIONAL PATIENT HYGIENE(IPH)





# Achieving the Use of the Evidence

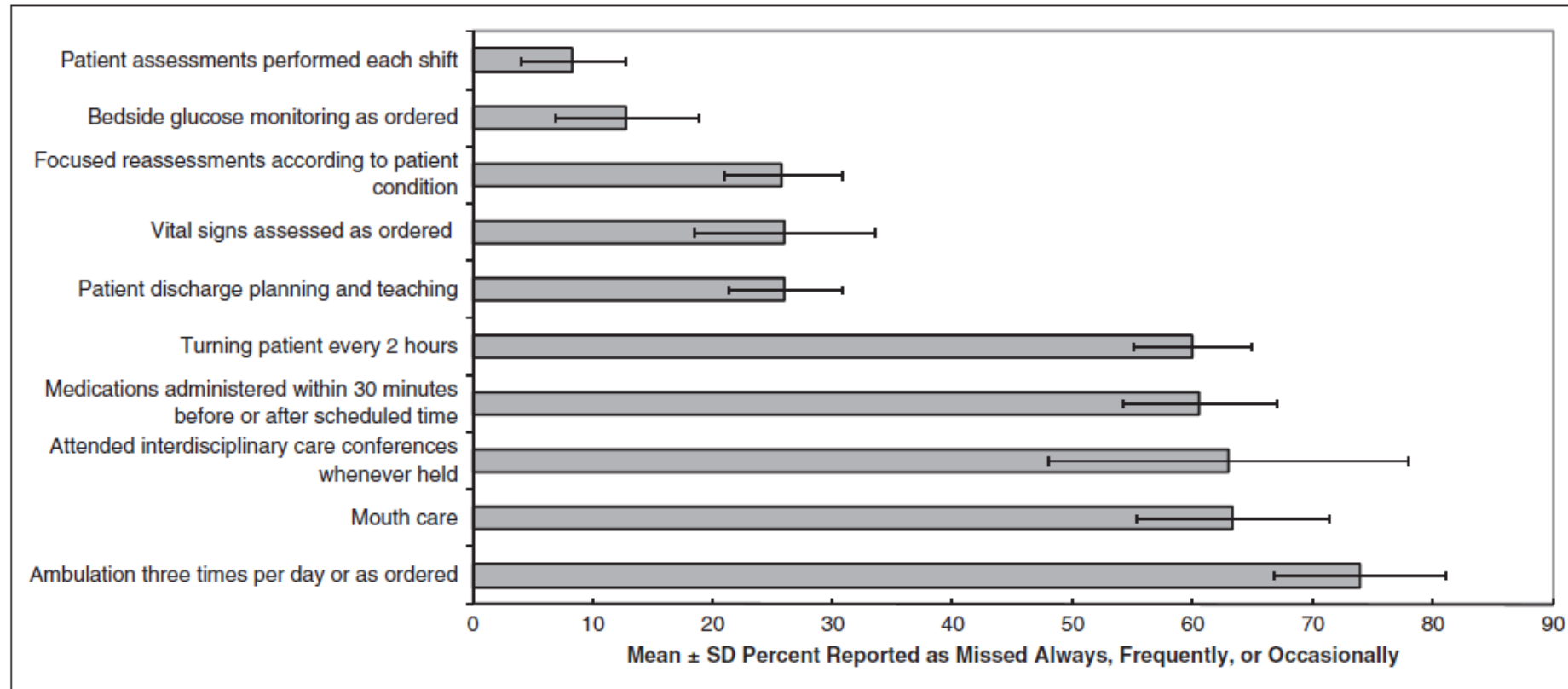


# Missed Nursing Care

- “Any aspect of required patient care that is omitted (either in part or whole) or significantly delayed.”
- A predictor of patient outcomes
- Measures the process of nursing care



# Hospital Variation in Missed Nursing Care



**Figure 2.** Elements of care most and least frequently missed. The solid bars represent the means across all 10 hospitals, and the range lines indicate the standard deviations.

# Patient Perceptions of Missed Nursing Care

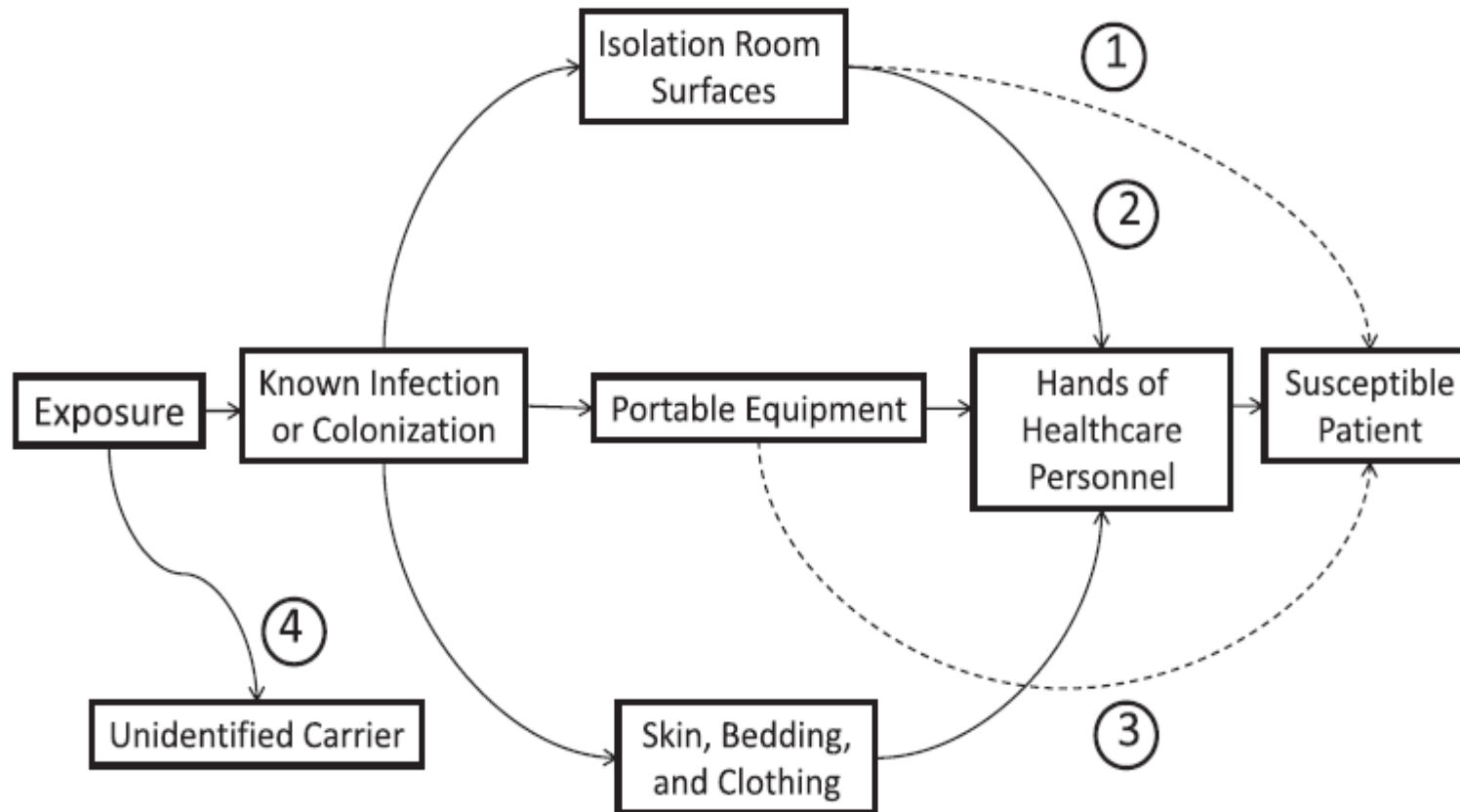
**Table 2. Elements of Nursing Care by Ability of Patient to Report and Extent Missed\***

	Fully Reportable	Partially Reportable	Not Reportable
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Patient assessment</li> <li>■ Surveillance</li> <li>■ IV site care</li> </ul>
Frequently Missed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Mouth care</li> <li>■ Listening</li> <li>■ Being kept informed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Ambulation</li> <li>■ Discharge planning</li> <li>■ Patient education</li> </ul>	
Sometimes Missed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Response to call lights</li> <li>■ Response to alarms</li> <li>■ Meal assistance</li> <li>■ Pain medication and follow-up</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Medication administration</li> <li>■ Repositioning</li> </ul>	
Rarely Missed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Bathing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Vital signs</li> <li>■ Hand washing</li> </ul>	

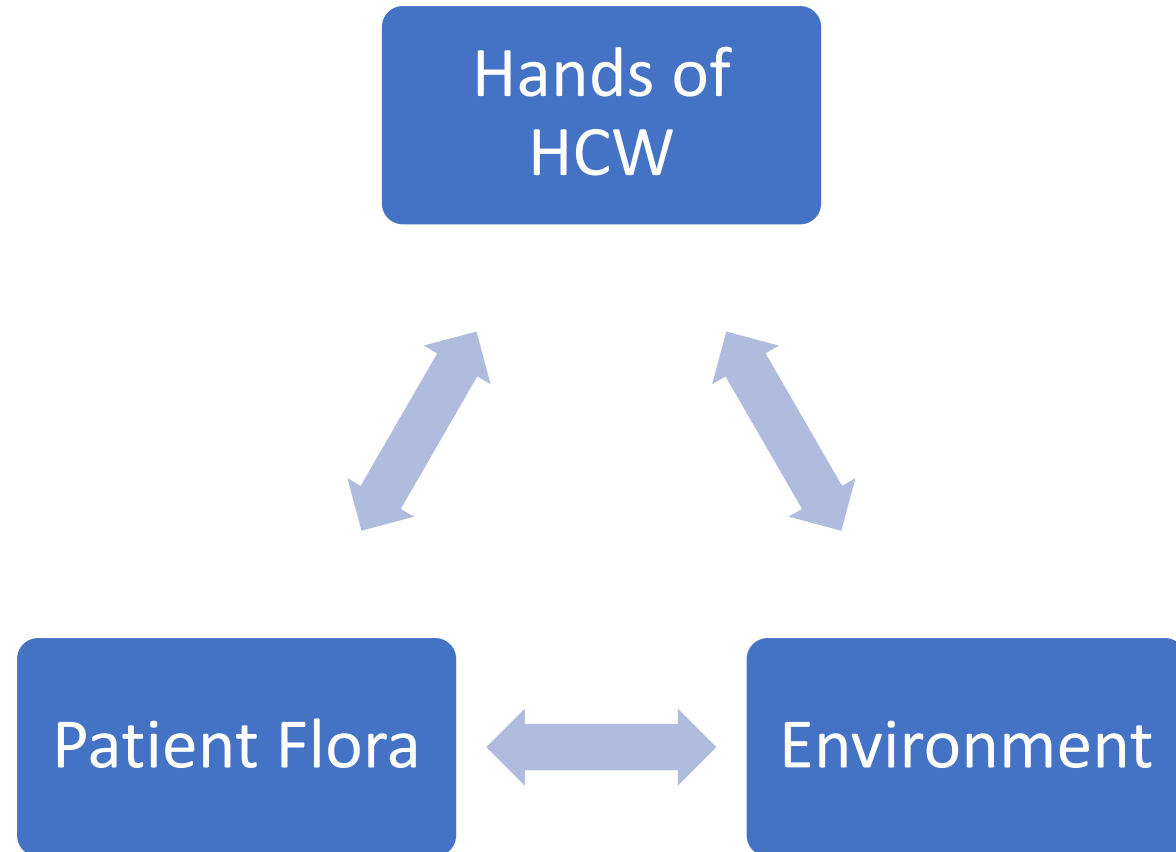
\* IV, intravenous.

# Common Routes of Transmission

*C.J. Donskey / American Journal of Infection Control 41 (2013) S12-S19*



# 3 Main Vectors of Infection



# Impact from the Vectors of Infection

- ▲ Patients' endogenous flora (40% - 60%)
- ▲ Cross-infection via the hands of healthcare personnel (HCP; 20% - 40%)
- ▲ Antibiotic-driven changes in flora (20% - 25%)
- ▲ Contamination of the environment (20%).

# Vertical vs. Horizontal

🔗 Vertical approach refers to a narrow-based program focusing on a single pathogen (selective of the specific MDRO)

- △ AST to identify carriers
- △ Implementation of measures aimed at preventing transmission from carriers to other patients
  - Isolation
  - Hand hygiene

🔗 Horizontal approach to infection prevention and control measures refers to broad-based approaches attempting reduction of all infections due to all pathogens

- △ No screening
- △ CHG bathing
- △ Universal nasal coverage
- △ No isolation
- △ Limit lines/tubes
- △ Hand hygiene



# The Bath: The First Line Of Defense

Early Detection of Skin Injury



Nurse!!!

Reducing  
Microorganism  
spread

Efficiency & Effectiveness

Health/Social Wellbeing



# Timing of the Bath












**40%** baths occur 2400 – 0600

- Timing for bathing varies globally
  - Consider patient need for sleep and energy reserves
- Avoid:

- △ Nurse preference
- △ Organizational factors
- △ Unit norms

# Activities That Increase $\text{VO}_2$

 Dressing change	10%
 Agitation	18%
 Bath	23%
 Suctioning	27%
 Increased work of breathing	40%
 Weigh on sling scale	36%
 Position change	31%
 Linen change – occupied bed	22%
 Chest physiotherapy	35%



# Patients At Risk

## Multi-Drug Resistant Organisms

- △ Immunodeficiencies
- △ Breaks in skin integrity related to invasive devices
- △ Open wounds
- △ Co-morbidities
- △ Hand transmission
- △ Equipment contamination/ Hospital environment

## Damaging the Natural Barriers to Infection...the Skin

- △ Bathing techniques
- △ Soaps
- △ Wash cloths



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# Optimal Hygiene

- 🌀 pH balanced (4-6.8)
  - △ Stable pH discourages colonization of bacteria & ↓ risk of infection
  - △ Bar soaps may harbor pathogenic bacteria
- 🌀 Excessive washing/use of soap compromises the water holding capacity of the skin
- 🌀 Non-drying, lotion applied
- 🌀 Multiple steps can lead to large process variation

# Traditional Bathing



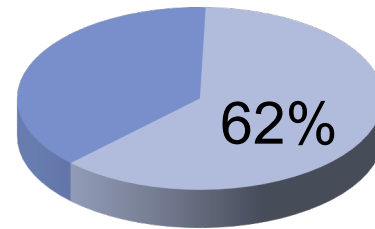
Why are there  
so many bugs  
in here?

Soap and water basin bath was an independent predictor for the development of a CLABSI

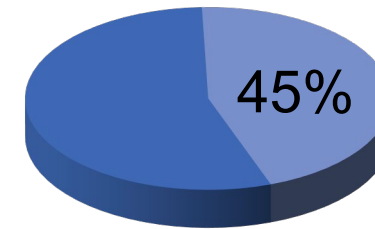
# Bath Basins: Potential Source of Infection

Large multi-center study evaluates presence of multi-drug resistant organisms

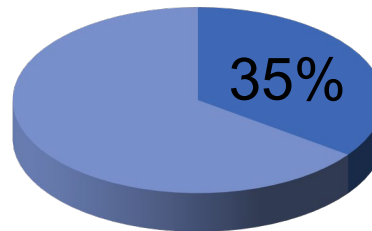
**Total hospitals:** 88  
**Total basins:** 1,103



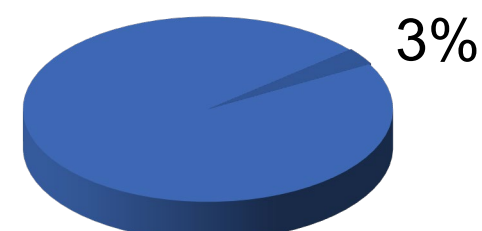
Contaminated  
686 basins/88 Hospital



Gram negative bacilli  
495 basins/86 hospitals



Colonized w/ VRE  
385 basins/ 80 hospitals



MRSA  
36 basins/28 hospitals



# Mechanisms of Contamination

🔗 Skin flora

🔗 Multiple-use basins

△ Incontinence cleansing

△ Emesis

△ Product storage

🔗 Bacterial biofilm from tap water



Shannon RJ, et al. *J Health Care Safety Compliance Infect Control*. 1999;3:180-184.

Larson EL, et al. *J Clin Microbiol*. 1986;23(3):604-608.

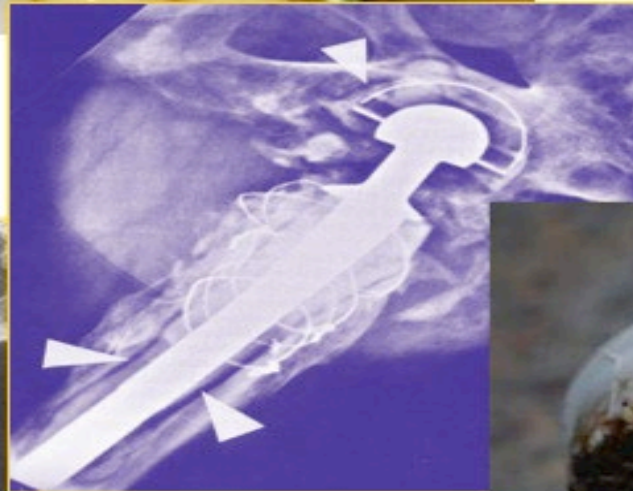
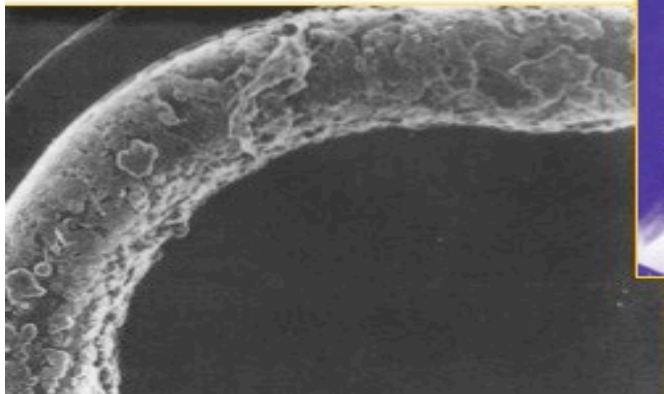
Johnson D, et al. *Am J Crit Care*, 2009;18(1):31-38, 41.

Marchaim D, et al. *Am J Infect Control*. 2012;40(6):562-564.

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# Biofilms are Ubiquitous



*Pathogens* **2015**, *4*, 373–386; doi:10.3390/pathogens4020373

OPEN ACCESS

***pathogens***

ISSN 2076-0817

www.mdpi.com/journal/pathogens

*Review*

## **Opportunistic Premise Plumbing Pathogens: Increasingly Important Pathogens in Drinking Water**

**Joseph O. Falkinham, III <sup>1,\*</sup>, Amy Pruden <sup>2</sup> and Marc Edwards <sup>2</sup>**

*Clinical Infectious Diseases*

INVITED ARTICLE

HEALTHCARE EPIDEMIOLOGY: Robert A. Weinstein, Section Editor



## **Healthcare Outbreaks Associated With a Water Reservoir and Infection Prevention Strategies**

**Hajime Kanamori,<sup>1,2</sup> David J. Weber,<sup>1,2</sup> and William A. Rutala<sup>1,2</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>Division of Infectious Diseases, University of North Carolina School of Medicine, and <sup>2</sup>Hospital Epidemiology, University of North Carolina Health Care, Chapel Hill

Health | Local News | Northwest | Puget Sound

## **Operating-room machines test positive for Legionella at UW Medicine**

Originally published September 19, 2016 at 2:19 pm | Updated September 19, 2016 at 7:31 pm

# Understanding Water

- 🔗 All water with the exception of sterile water and filtered water is contaminated with microbes (eg, potable water, tap water, showers, and ice).
- 🔗 In healthy persons, contact or ingestion of such water rarely leads to infection.
- 🔗 However, contact or ingestion of such water may cause infection in immunocompromised persons or when applied to non-intact skin
- 🔗 Transmission of these pathogens from a water reservoir may occur by direct and indirect contact, ingestion and aspiration of contaminated water, or inhalation of aerosols\*
- 🔗 Compared sink & water based care activities to non sink and non water based care activities on GNB colonization in ICU. Found rate dropped from 26.1 to 21.6 colonization pre 1000 ICU days. ↑ reduction with longer ICU LOS's

# Waterborne Infection

## Hospital Tap Water

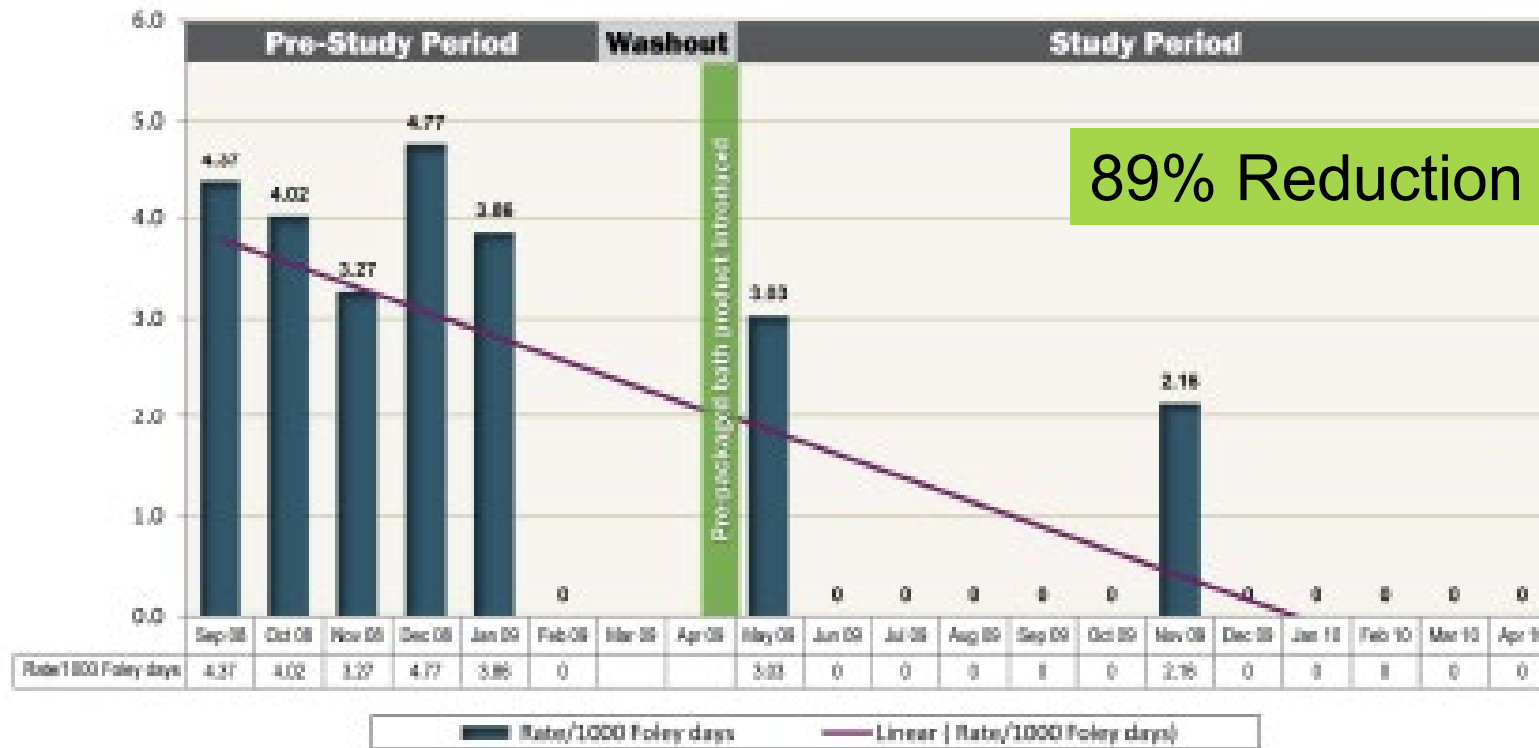
- 🔗 Bacterial biofilm
- 🔗 Most overlooked source for pathogens
- 🔗 29 studies demonstrate an association with HAIs and outbreaks
- 🔗 Transmission:
  - △ Drinking
  - △ Sinks
  - △ Bathing
  - △ Rinsing items
  - △ Contaminated environmental surfaces
  - △ Contaminated ice machines
- 🔗 Immunocompromised patients at greatest risk



Anaissie EJ, et al. *Arch Intern Med*. 2002;162(13):1483-1492.  
Cervia JS, et al. *Arch Intern Med*, 2007;167:92-93  
Trautmann M, et al. *Am J of Infect Control*, 2005;33(5):S41-S49,  
<https://www.pinterest.com/pin/332914597437828576/?l=t>  
Kanwar A, et al. *Am J Infect Control*. 2017;45(11):1273-1275.

# Reducing UTI's Through Basinless Bathing

FIGURE 2. Hospital-Acquired CAUTI on 2 Medical/Surgical Units

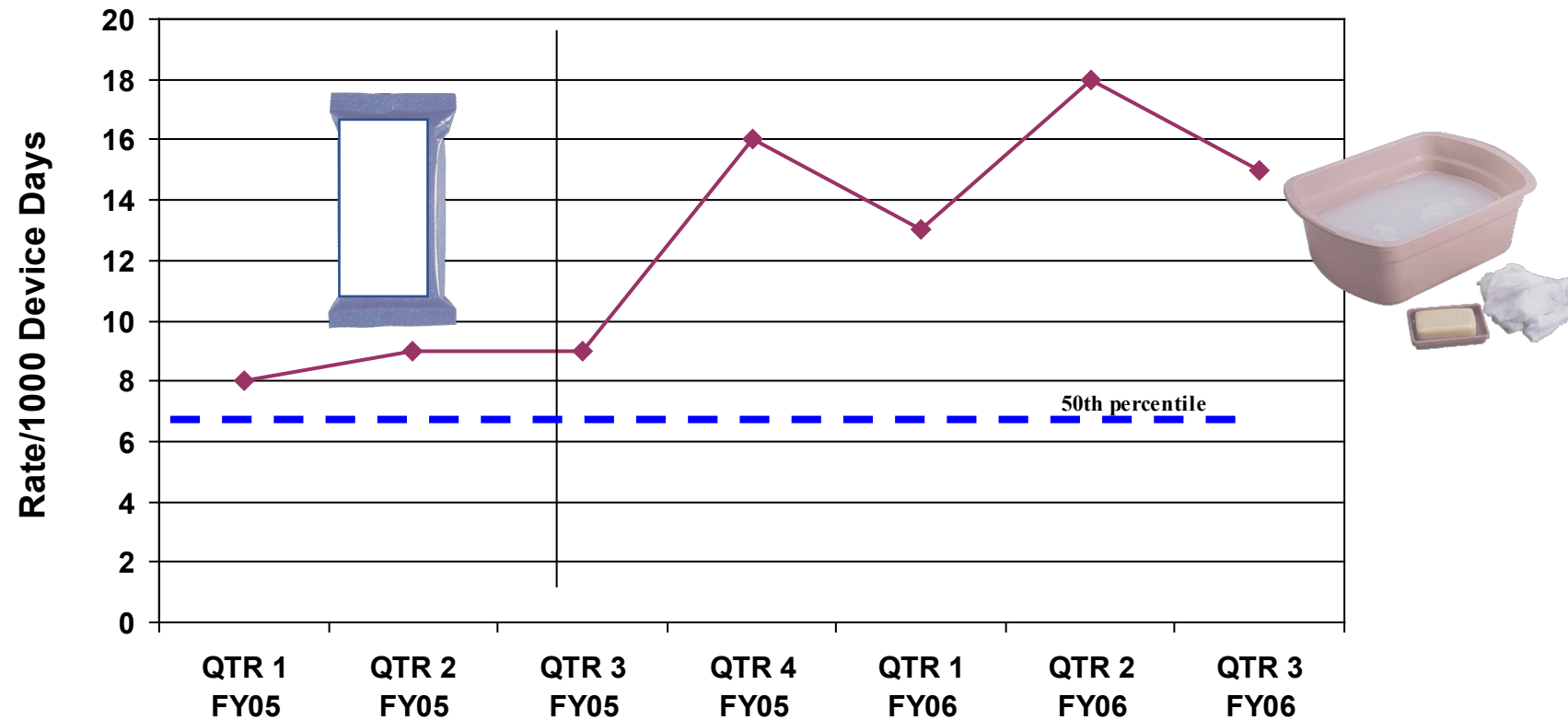


CA-UTI 7.5 per 1000 catheter days to 4.42 per 1000 catheter days, then to .46 per 1000 catheter days



# Impact on UTI with Basin Bathing

UTI Rate- Removal of Prepackaged Bath Product QTR 3 FY05



# The Effect of Bathing with Basin and Water and UTI Rate, LOS and Costs



<b>Unit Census: 14</b>				
<b>Phases</b>	<b>Product Cost</b>	<b>No. of UTI</b>	<b>Median<sup>4</sup> LOS 17 Days</b>	<b>Median<sup>4</sup> Cost (4857.00)</b>
I- Pre-Packaged Bathing Washcloths (9 months)	\$10,530 <sup>1</sup> (\$3.00)	25	175	\$117,175
II- Basin/Water (9 months)	\$3,510 <sup>2</sup> (\$1.00)	48	336	\$224,916
III- Additional Product Cost, UTI, LOS, COSTS	\$7,020	23 <sup>3</sup>	151	\$107,741

<sup>1</sup>Based on 3 packages of 8 towels each <sup>2</sup>Based on product cost of towels, soap, and basin<sup>3</sup> Difference between phase I pre-package/phase II basin water<sup>4</sup>



# Review of Literature: Bathing & CAUTI's



- ▶ Bacterial contamination of bath basins is common leading to the recommendation that bathing wipes replace bath basins to reduce HAI's & CAUTI's
- ▶ Non medicated basinless bathing lowered the incidence of CAUTI's, decreased bathing time and resulted in a cost savings
- ▶ No data to support benefit of CHG wipes in reducing CAUTI's
  - △ Studies on going





# Cleansing of Patients with Indwelling Catheter

- ▲ Indwelling catheter care should occur with the daily bath (basinless bathing), as a separate procedure using clean technique
- ▲ There is no evidence to support 2x a day indwelling catheter care
- ▲ If a large liquid stool occurs, bathe the patient with basinless bathing
- ▲ Apply barrier cloth to area of skin requiring protection

# Comparison of Wash Basin Baths & Disposable Baths

- ▶ RCT comparing basin bath to disposable bath
- ▶ 58 patient served as own control
- ▶ Baths were observed
- ▶ Nurse bathed same patient using both methods
- ▶ Measured
  - △ Duration & quality of bath
  - △ Patient satisfaction
  - △ Nurse satisfaction
  - △ Cost-
    - Basin bath: towels, soap, moisturizer, hot water, basins
    - Disposable package bath and towels

**Table 1** Duration

	<i>Disposable baths (n = 58) Minutes (interval)</i>	<i>Wash basins (n = 58) Minutes (interval)</i>	<i>Wilcoxon signed-rank test (p-value)</i>
Preparation	4 (2–5)	5 (3–10)	<0.001
The bath	21 (8–35)	26 (13–42)	<0.001
Cleaning up	4 (1–6)	5 (2–8)	<0.001
Total	29 (14–44)	36 (22–54)	<0.001

Less time was used with the disposable bath in all three categories.  
This was significant ( $p < 0.001$ )

**Table 2** Patients' bath type preferences

<i>Patient interview</i>	<i>Prefer disposable bath</i>	<i>Prefer wash basins</i>	<i>Equal</i>
n = 51*	24 (47%)	11 (22%)	16 (31%)

**Table 3** Nurses' bath type preferences

<i>Nurse ID</i>	<i>Prefer disposable baths (n)</i>	<i>Prefer wash basins (n)</i>	<i>Equal (n)</i>
Nhl -1	5	0	0
Ulb -2	5	1	0
Nbj -3	12	1	0
Hm -4	11	2	0
Jl -5	8	0	0
Cp -6	6	2	1
Total	47 (87%)	6 (11%)	1 (2%)

A significant number of nurses preferred the disposable bath when comparing the two bath types ( $p < 0.01$ ).

# Changing IP Culture at the Unit Level

2 subacute medical units with ↑ HAI's

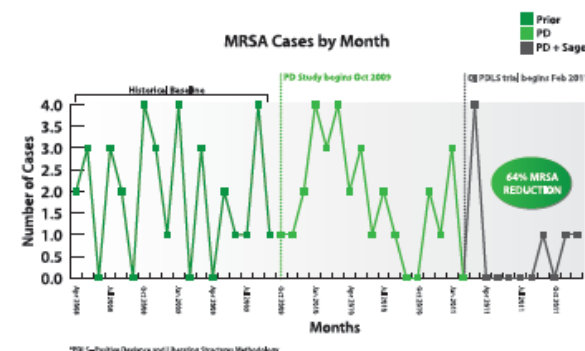
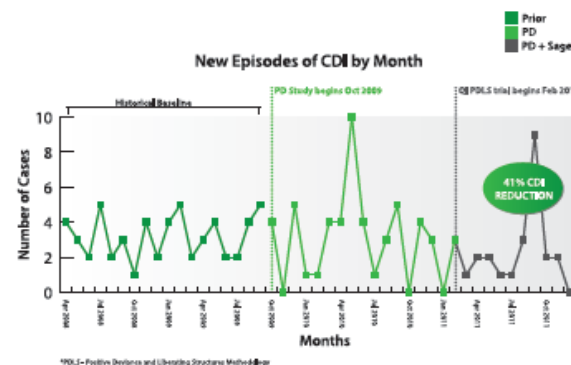
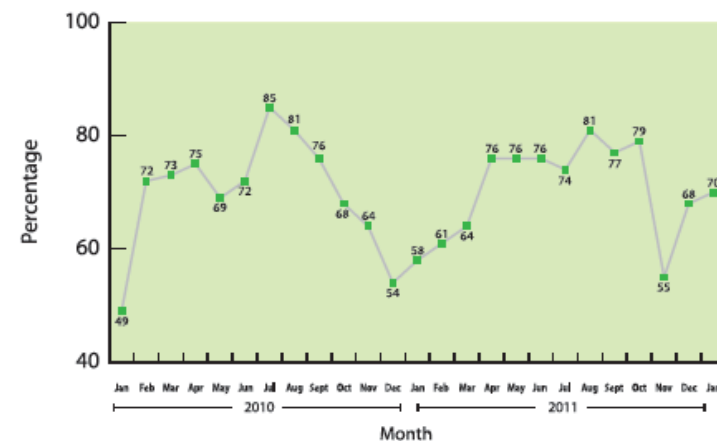
QI initiative to change infection prevention culture

- △ Environmental cleaning
- △ hand hygiene
- △ word policy and procedures
- △ patient care
  - basinless bathing/removed basins
  - single use toiletry
  - isolation BP cuffs
  - IP checklist

## RESULTS

Since the commencing of the project in October 2009 to December 2011, hand hygiene compliance has increased by over 30%, MRSA rates have decreased 64% and C. difficile has decreased 41%. Since the removal of the washbasins in January of 2011, there have been no gastroenteritis outbreaks.

Figure 1. Hand Hygiene Compliance CP7



# For Successful Banning of Basins for Patient Care

🔗 We need to provide alternatives for the other functions:

Current	New
Emesis	Emebags being installed in every adult and ped pt. room, ACU, PACU
Storage of patient items	Clear plastic “baggies” Trial of “Concierge List” to decrease waste of unused/unneeded products
Foot soaks	Shampoo caps, prepackaged
Shampoo patient’s hair	Shampoo caps par’d on all units
24 hour urine, ice	Store some basins in lab to be dispensed with each 24 hour jug
Bath cloths with no insulation, cold halfway through bath	Bath cloths with insulation to stay warm longer

# Changing Bathing & Incontinence Management Impacts CAUTI's



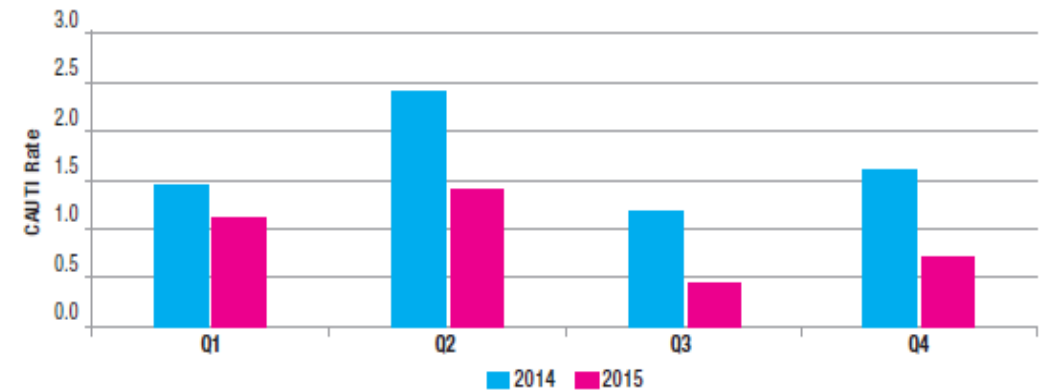
## Pre implementation

- △ Daily bath with reusable basin & soap and tap water
- △ Incontinence cleaning, peri-spray, soap and tap water

## New bathing & incontinence protocol

- △ Basins eliminated
- △ Prepackage bathing & peri spray/prepackage cloths

59% reduction



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2014 Catheter Days	1,210	1,211	1,063	1,276	999	1,056	1,095	1,121	1,146	1,105	1,076	987
# of CAUTI	2	3	0	3	4	1	2	2	0	2	0	3
2014 CAUTI Rate	1.7	2.5	0.0	2.4	4.0	0.9	1.8	1.8	0.0	1.8	0.0	3.0

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2015 Catheter Days	916	710	961	697	714	681	886	822	540	883	866	1050
# of CAUTI	2	0	1	2	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	0
2015 CAUTI Rate	2.2	0.0	1.0	2.9	0.0	1.5	1.1	0.0	0.0	1.1	1.2	0.0

The removal of the basin has been shown to reduce risk factors for UTIs!


ROI for 12-month intervention: \$33,234.00



“Even if you are on the  
right track, you will get  
run over if you just sit  
there.”

*Will Rogers*





**Forbid yourself to be  
deterred by poor odds just  
because your mind has  
calculated that the  
opposition is too great. If it  
were easy, everyone would  
do it.**



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