Sustaining Zero: CLABSI Prevention with Innovation, Accountability and EBP
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Evidence:
Literature review suggests routine use of bundle components; checklist use and changes in nursing culture can eliminate or reduce HAIs.

Strategy:
Unit based "champions" reviewed EBP journal articles, Best Practices and CDC guidelines. Current practices were assessed via monthly line and infection case audits. Attitudes surrounding patient safety and CLABSI prevention were evaluated.

Practice Change:
CLABSI cases were referred to by the patient’s name bringing a face to CLABSIIs thus making infection rates less abstract. Staff were educated on the cost, extension of stay and change in mortality rates based on current evidence. Discussions during daily huddles and staff meetings emphasized CLABSIIs as preventable, hospital acquired infections. Education was constantly reinforced. Staff were empowered to hold all medical staff, including physicians, accountable for following bundles. "Safety Rounds" with executive leadership were implemented. Line carts and checklists were updated. New supplies were introduced including alcohol swabs impregnated with Chlorhexidine Gluconate (CHG), and dressings utilizing a CHG impregnated sponge. Lighthearted interventions include bundle education parties, introduction of a 15-second song to sing while “scrubbing the hub”, and humorous posters. Staff was praised for successes.

Evaluation:
CLABSI surveillance.

Results:
There have been no CLABSIIs in the CCU for over 400 days following the implementation of the aforementioned interventions. Staff report pride in this accomplishment and are using this momentum to tackle other HAIs.

Recommendations:
Adherence to bundle components and best practice guidelines. Examination of current safety culture.

Lessons Learned:
Nursing driven change and ownership of processes are vital to changing culture. Frontline nursing staff can and should lead efforts to problem solve these multifaceted, often multidisciplinary issues. Sustaining a rate of zero CLABSIIs is attainable through the application of innovation, accountability and evidence-based practice.

Bibliography:

