

Title:

Improving Hand Hygiene Compliance Using Evidence-Based Practice

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Session Title:

Rising Stars of Research and Scholarship Invited Student Posters

Keywords:

Barriers, Compliance and Hand hygiene

References:

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Abstract Summary:

Hand hygiene compliance can be improved by using evidence-based practices such as found in the Joint Commission Center for Transforming Healthcare’s Targeted Solutions Tool. These include identifying barriers, using direct observation of hand hygiene, and employing supportive strategies.

Learning Activity:

LEARNING OBJECTIVES	EXPANDED CONTENT OUTLINE
The learner will be able to discuss why improved compliance with hand hygiene is a patient safety issue and what barriers exist to improving compliance.	1) Discuss how hand hygiene compliance can improve patient outcomes. 2) Discuss common themes regarding noncompliance.

<p>The learner will be able to discuss how the use of the Joint Commission Center for Transforming Healthcare’s Targeted Solutions Tool can improve compliance with hand hygiene.</p>	<p>1) Present how to register online to use the tool. 2) Discuss how the tool can address barriers. 3) Discuss how the tool can provide solutions to assist in overcoming barriers.</p>
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Abstract Text:

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention supports hand hygiene compliance by stating that one of the simplest yet most effective ways to fight infection is to practice hand hygiene. Every day about 1 in 25 hospitalized patients have a healthcare acquired infection (HAI). Healthcare workers can prevent the spread of the germs that cause HAI’s by performing hand hygiene, yet they only clean their hands half the times that they should. Noncompliance with hand hygiene is a patient safety issue that affects all health care organizations (Centers for Disease Control, n.d.).

The project that is the subject of this presentation took place in a federally run 27 acute care bed facility that is combined with 160 long-term care beds in a small town in Ohio. The problem identified was that hand hygiene compliance was consistently below the goal established by the facility and required action to increase compliance. A review was made of 30 peer-reviewed credible sources on the subject of hand hygiene that were published within the last five years. Each source was reviewed for applicability to the project, had an evidence grade assigned, had a general appraisal of the findings, and had a determination made of whether the source would be included or excluded from the final list of sources for the project. Based on the review, an evidence-based plan was written that proposed to use the Joint Commission Center for Transforming Healthcare’s Targeted Solutions Tool for Hand Hygiene. A PowerPoint presentation was made to the Infection Control Committee and nursing leadership at the facility. The presentation included three identified best practices, which were direct observation of staff, identifying barriers, and employing supportive strategies. It included an explanation of how the Joint Commission Center for Transforming Healthcare’s Targeted Solutions Tool for Hand Hygiene can be utilized to improve hand hygiene compliance.