CAUTION with Catheters
SJHH CAUTI reduction initiative

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• “First we have to recognize that we have a problem, and then we have to figure out how to come together as a community to solve the problem”

James B. Conway
Issue

The SJHH nurse sensitive data from the Canadian Hospital Reporting Project (CHRP) was elevated (CHRP) in several categories:

- Catheter Associated Urinary Tract Infections (CAUTI)
- Healthcare Associated Pneumonias (HAP)
Project

• Interdisciplinary team formed
• Literature review completed
• Scope defined
• Review Products (catheter kits etc) and Ensure Ease of Access
Project

• Engage & Educate Nursing staff
• Create evidenced based policies
• Support nurse driven initiatives
• Evaluate- Regularly assess performance measures
Interventions in hospital can overwhelm a patient’s innate immunity

- Put in devices only as needed
- Remove devices as soon as possible
- Support the body’s defenses e.g. catheter care
The Context in Acute Care

- 25-35% prevalence rates for urinary catheters
- Up to 63% do not meet indications
- 40% of MDs are unaware their pt. has a catheter
- 40% of HAIs are UTIs
- 80% of HAI UTIs are due to urinary catheters
Risks of Indwelling Urinary Catheters

• Disturbs bodies ability to eliminate bacteria from the lower urinary tract
• Can permit bacteria to enter
• Provide a surface for biofilms to form
• Duration of catheterization is most important risk factor
Evidence-based Strategies

• Catheterizations for appropriate indications only

• Use of aseptic technique, sterile equipment and proper maintenance

• Prompt removal
Supports

• Policy 1- indwelling catheter use, maintenance and removal
• Policy 2- Management of urinary retention
• Urinary Clinical Protocol
• Audit tool
Rate went from 1.6 to 1.3 CAUTI/1000pt days

On-going work

• Use new EMR to track catheter days
• Ensure that the protocols are being followed
  
  Regular evaluation will always be required
• Engage other groups outside of the working group (coders, physicians etc.)
• Data needs to be widely available
The Catheter’s Lament

I am a urinary catheter
Dark places I must go
My job is clear
I have no fear
I need to ease the flow

You are the one I am inside
It enters not your head
That if I’m left in
(a mortal sin)
You could just end up dead

At times, I am a useful aide
But my use you should not flout
On every day
Someone should say
It’s time to take me out!
Thank-you

The CAUTI working Group

Cheryl Evans, Pat Ford, Sandra Ireland, Anne Bialachowski, Anne Marie MacDonald, Mary Dunn, Sherry Noseworthy, Susan Ritchie, Yelena Potts
REFERENCES

- IHI Program to Prevent CAUTI http://www.ihi.org/
- SHEA/IDSA Compendium (ICHE 2008;29:S41-S50)

