

Clean hands/patient/environment

Q: Any evidence that CHG over other antiseptics as oral care is important?

A: PROBABLY SIMILAR BUT LESS RESISTANCE WITH CHG

Q: Patient cleaning, what is the protocol?

A: SEE OUR ARTICLES (BLEASDALE ET AL; VERNON ET AL) – REFS AT BOTTOM OF SLIDES IN MY PRESENTATION.

Q: Would you please describe environmental cleaning of C.diff rooms with bleach products?

A: USED AS PART OF SURFACE WIPE-DOWN.

Q: What is the difference between using Chg vs Betadine for surg preps?

A: CHG FASTER, MORE DURABLE BACTERIAL KILLING.

Q: Are you aware of studies which used CHG for foley care to reduce UTI?

A: NO EVIDENCE OF BENEFIT BUT NOT WELL STUDIED.

Q: Any thoughts on the use of CHG scrub or prep-caps for hub disinfection versus alcohol?

A: DON'T KNOW OF ANY STRONG DATA FOR THIS PURPOSE.

Q: CDC guidelines do not include hand hygiene prior to donning non-sterile gloving - what is your opinion?

A: JCAHO EXPECTS THIS THOUGH NOT CLEAR IN GUIDELINES.

Q: When selecting soap for routine staff use, is it better to choose soap with PCMX, Triclosan, or CHG?

A: CHG BUT I PREFER ALCOHOL HAND RUB

Q: Regarding using chg for oral hygiene - what is the recommended frequency for using chg mouthcare and is there a concern for chlorhexidine toxicity?

A: FREQUENCY NOT WELL DEFINED 2 TO 4 TIMES A DAY. I HAVE NOT SEEN DATA TO SUGGEST RISK OF TOXICITY.

Q: What is the time frame for routine environmental cleaning?

A: DAILY AND AFTER DISCHARGE AND WHEN GROSS SOILING OCCURS.

Q: We are seeing skin rashes using chloraprep mainly with our ortho patients and I was wondering if you have heard of this from anywhere else?

A: THIS IS NOT OUR EXPERIENCE.

Q: Studies are showing that alcohol-based handwashing is causing dry, cracked hand. Frequent handwashing may not be helped by emollients added to it. Last I heard, soap and water was being recommended over alcohol in the hospital environment - do you agree?

A: NO. I HAVE NOT SEEN DATA TO SUPPORT THESE STATEMENTS.

Q: Is there evidence that using commercially prepared cloths is better than using CHG liquid soap products, bath basins and washcloths?

A: I DON'T KNOW OF SPECIFIC COMPARISON. CLOTHS ARE EASIER TO USE AND CONCENTRATION IS CONTROLLED.

Q: I work clinic in a...more people going home with C Diff that I believe doesn't respond to alcohol based products as well. What advice for the pt caregivers/families to keep the "environment" cleaner?

A: IF NO DIARRHEA RISK IS GREATLY REDUCED. IF DIARRHEA, CLEAN UP WITH BLEACH.

Q: I have a group of surgeons who will not use CHG for patient surgical prep. Do you know of any one source that specifically says CHG should be used over an iodophor for surgical site prep?

A: NO.

Q: Does Dr. Weinstein consider there may be a correlation between the increased use of alcohol hand hygiene products and the observed rise in Clostridium difficile diarrhea cases? (alcohol is not sporicidal for asymptomatic spore-shedders)

A: NO. THIS ISSUE WAS ADDRESSED BY REVIEWING C DIFF RATES IN AREAS WITH HIGH ALCOHOL GEL USE AND NO RELATION.

Q: Would it be your opinion that the use of antimicrobial soap (vs regular soap) in ICUs is not necessary if alcohol foam is available?

A: CHG HAS RESIDUAL, DURABLE ACTIVITY THAT IS EXPECTED FOR THOSE DOING HAND HYGIENE BEFORE A PROCEDURE.

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| Q: We currently utilize Hibiclens for open heart prep. Would you recommend the CHG cloths to replace the Hibiclens? |
| A: EASIER FOR PATIENTS TO USE IF YOU MEAN THE SELF-CLEANSING. |
| Q: Any benefit for using chlorahexidine wipes for out patient dialysis prior to staff prepping for hooking up to dialysis machine? |
| A: I DON'T KNOW OF DATA FOR THIS. |
| Q: Is there concern for development of CHG resistance particularly when using for daily patient cleansing? |
| A: WE HAVE LOOKED AND FOUND NONE. |

MRSA/surveillance etc

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| Q: When you identify a nosocomial MRSA infection, what questions do you suggest to drill down with the investigation? |
| A: STANDARD EPI WORK-UP, ESPECIALLY PRIOR LOCATIONS (HOSPITAL, NH, JAIL) AND RISKS (ATHLETE, MSM) ASSOCIATED WITH CA-MRSA. |
| Q: In your hospital, do you isolate patients that are colonized not infected? |
| A: CONTACT PRECAUTIONS ARE REQUIRED BY STATE. |
| Q: Are there comparative effectiveness studies underway to determine if universal versus targeted surveillance is more cost effective? |
| A: PROBABLY SOMEWHERE. |
| Q: Any studies on guidelines for OB pts infected with MRSA and subsequent care for pt and babies? |
| A: YES. SEE WEINSTEIN RA, BOYER K, LINN E. ISOLATION GUIDELINES FOR OBSTETRICAL PATIENTS AND NEWBORNS. AM J OB GYN 146: 353-360, 1983. |
| Q: Should surveillance cultures for MRSA be done on healthcare workers? |
| A: IF EPIDEMIOLOGIC SUGGESTION OF SPREAD FROM HCW TO PATIENTS. |
| Q: Do you have any information regarding the donning of gloves and a gown on room entry for patients on contact precautions? |
| A: SEE HICPAC CDC ISOLATION GUIDELINES (ON CDC WEBSITE) |
| Q: When performing active surveillance cultures on admission, does it matter if the patient is taking antibiotics? |
| A: ANTIBIOTICS (DEPENDING ON SPECIFICS) MAY LOWER DETECTION RATES. |

Miscellaneous

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| Q: There's a lot of news articles about HCW uniforms and lab coats outside of the hospital. Your thoughts please. |
| A: HYPE THAT MEDIA LIKES. |
| Q: How do you feel about Silver Urinary Catheters? |
| A: BETTER TO REMOVE CATHETER WHENEVER POSSIBLE. |
| Q: Is ventilator associated pneumonia an appropriate outcome to be measured for the purpose of public reporting and interhospital comparisons? |
| A: NO. DEFINITIONS TOO DIFFICULT TO APPLY UNIFORMLY FOR SITE TO SITE. |
| Q: What is your opinion about neutropenic precautions? We have DC'd them at our hospital based on CDC recommendations? We got a lot of pushback from our staff when we dc'd them. |
| A: MAJOR FOCUS SHOULD BE HAND HYGIENE AND MASKING (OR EXCLUDING) HCWs WITH URIs |
| Q: What role does surgical instrument design play in reducing SSIs? Specifically, several new designs (flushable Kerriosn rongeurs, etc) have been documented to remove bioburden with a simple flush. |
| A: I HAVEN'T SEEN CONVINCING DATA. |
| Q: Are you aware of successful behavioral approaches for getting physicians to remove unnecessary central venous catheters or foley catheters? |
| A: EDUCATION, FEEDBACK – AGAIN AND AGAIN. |