



# IPAC and EVS Together for Patient Safety

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# Objectives

Look at the two roles

- EVS
- IPAC

Discuss how a symbiotic relationship can only benefit the patient

# My Views

One good housekeeper can prevent more infections than a dozen doctors can cure (Rose 2012)

EVS is the backbone of preventing infections

If EVS is doing their job, IPAC looks great

# Environmental Services (EVS)

Maintain a clean and safe environment for patients, visitors and staff



# EVS

Functions include:

- Cleaning horizontal, vertical & specialty surfaces
- Disinfecting high touch surfaces
- Waste management & recycling (88% - US)
- Set up for events and furniture moves



# EVS – Duties continued!

- Floor care & refinishing
- Pest control (Bed bugs) (73%)
- Laundry (73%)
- OR terminal clean (82%)

# EVS

Hotel Clean – image or first impressions

Hospital Clean

- What are high touch surfaces that need focus?
- We know what are high touch surfaces
  - Which are high **risk** surfaces?
  - High risk of transmitting infection? (Huslage 2016)

# The Environment Plays a Role in the Risk of Transmission

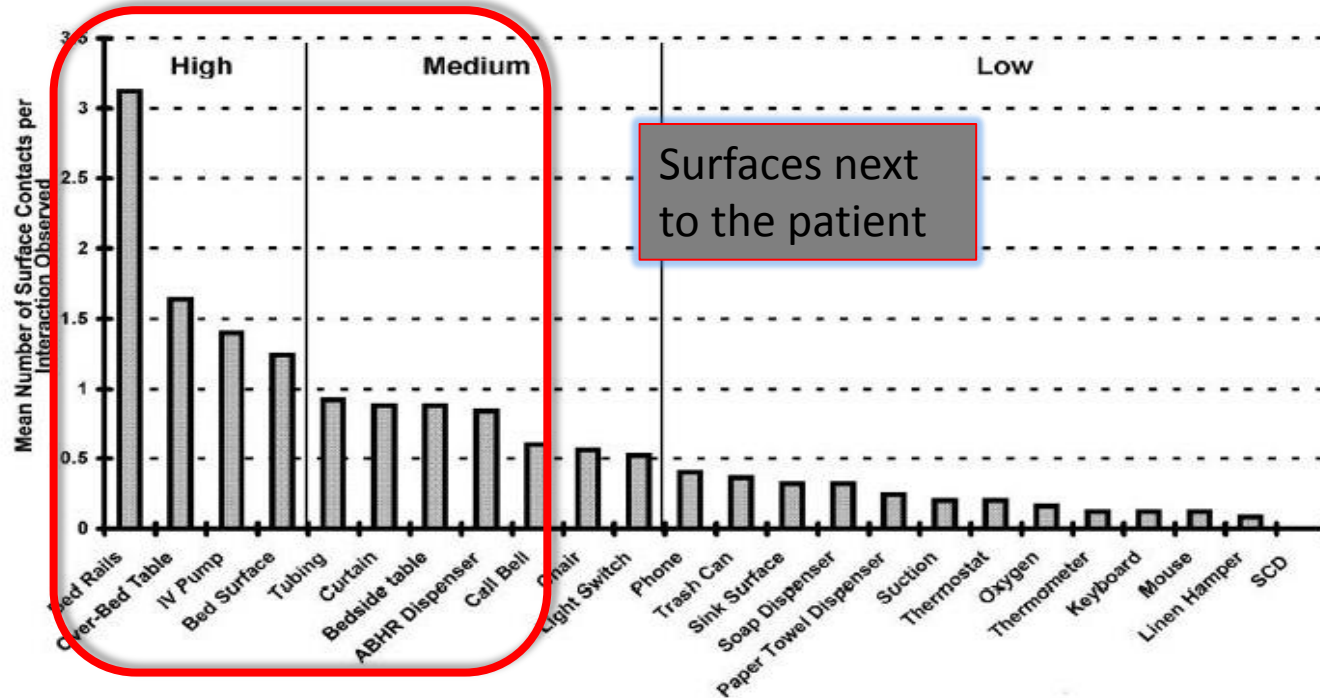


FIGURE 2. Mean frequency of healthcare worker contact for 24 surfaces on a general medical-surgical floor. ABHR, alcohol-based hand rub; IV, intravenous; SCD, sequential compression device.



# Infection Prevention and Control

Prevent and control the spread of infections

Provide statistics on infections

Provide education/consultation on prevention

Audit factors (EVS, Hand Hygiene)

Product Evaluation and Review



# Healthcare Associated Infections

Multifactorial problem!

Hand Hygiene can reduce infections (WHO 2009, Table 1.22.1)

The Environment plays a role in transmission (Otter 2011)

# Is This a Simple Issue?

Solving the HAI Equation; Don't be Obtuse, Check all the Angles

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DPSZQrJhdSg>

# Healthcare Associated Infections

$$\text{HAI(p)} = \text{PA} + \text{HH} + \text{ASP} + \text{CP} + \text{FWM} + \text{ED}$$

*Where:*

HAI(p) = Healthcare Associated Infection Prevention

PA = Patient Acuity

HH = Hand Hygiene

ASP = Antibiotic Stewardship Program

CP = Clinical Practices

FWM = Fecal Waste Management

ED = Environmental Disinfection

# Healthcare Associated Infections

$$\text{HAI}(p) = \text{PA}_{\text{vent}} + \text{PA}_{\text{poe}} + \text{PA}_{\text{old}} + \text{PA}_{\text{abtic}} + \text{PA}_{\text{co-m}}$$

# Healthcare Associated Infections

$$\text{HAI}(p) = \text{PA}_{\text{vent}} + \text{PA}_{\text{poe}} + \text{PA}_{\text{old}} + \text{PA}_{\text{abtic}} + \text{PA}_{\text{co-m}} +$$

$$\text{HH}_{\text{prod}} + \text{HH}_{\text{place}} + \text{HH}_{\text{audit}} + \text{HH}_{\text{mom}} + \text{HH}_{\text{champ}} + \text{HH}_{\text{pat}} + \text{HH}_{\text{fam/vis}}$$

# Patient Hand Hygiene

Assessment on admission for capability of performing hand hygiene

- Do you know what this is?
- Show me how to use it
- Signage if not able to do own HH

**Help  
Wanted**

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**With Hand Hygiene!**

# Healthcare Associated Infections

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{HAI}(p) = & \text{PA}_{\text{vent}} + \text{PA}_{\text{poe}} + \text{PA}_{\text{old}} + \text{PA}_{\text{abtic}} + \text{PA}_{\text{co-m}} + \\
 & \text{HH}_{\text{prod}} + \text{HH}_{\text{place}} + \text{HH}_{\text{audit}} + \text{HH}_{\text{mom}} + \text{HH}_{\text{champ}} + \text{HH}_{\text{pat}} + \text{HH}_{\text{fam/vis}} + \\
 & \text{ASP}_{\text{drug}} + \text{ASP}_{\text{route}} + \text{ASP}_{\text{duration}} + \text{ASP}_{\text{dose}} + \text{ASP}_{\text{restriction}}
 \end{aligned}$$



# Healthcare Associated Infections

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{HAI}(p) = & \text{PA}_{\text{vent}} + \text{PA}_{\text{poe}} + \text{PA}_{\text{old}} + \text{PA}_{\text{abtic}} + \text{PA}_{\text{co-m}} + \\
 & \text{HH}_{\text{prod}} + \text{HH}_{\text{place}} + \text{HH}_{\text{audit}} + \text{HH}_{\text{mom}} + \text{HH}_{\text{champ}} + \text{HH}_{\text{pat}} + \text{HH}_{\text{fam/vis}} + \\
 & \text{ASP}_{\text{drug}} + \text{ASP}_{\text{route}} + \text{ASP}_{\text{duration}} + \text{ASP}_{\text{dose}} + \text{ASP}_{\text{restriction}} \\
 & \text{CP}_{\text{skinprep}} + \text{CP}_{\text{decol}} + \text{CP}_{\text{prophy}} + \text{CP}_{\text{bundle}}
 \end{aligned}$$

# Healthcare Associated Infections

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{HAI}(p) = & PA_{\text{vent}} + PA_{\text{poe}} + PA_{\text{old}} + PA_{\text{abtic}} + PA_{\text{co-m}} + \\
 & HH_{\text{prod}} + HH_{\text{place}} + HH_{\text{audit}} + HH_{\text{mom}} + HH_{\text{champ}} + HH_{\text{pat}} + HH_{\text{fam/vis}} + \\
 & ASP_{\text{drug}} + ASP_{\text{route}} + ASP_{\text{duration}} + ASP_{\text{dose}} + ASP_{\text{restriction}} \\
 & CP_{\text{skinprep}} + CP_{\text{decol}} + CP_{\text{prophy}} + CP_{\text{bundle}} + \\
 & FWM_{\text{container}} + FWM_{\text{ppe}} + FWM_{\text{no rinse}} + FWM_{\text{protocol}}
 \end{aligned}$$

# Fecal Waste Management

Personal protective equipment (PPE) at point of care for any feces

Brief/diaper change protocol

- When to change gloves
- Where to place soiled articles
- What to disinfect after change

# Healthcare Associated Infections

HAI(p) = PA<sub>old</sub> + PA<sub>abs</sub> + PA<sub>co-m</sub> +  
HH<sub>prod</sub> + HH<sub>place</sub> + HH<sub>lit</sub> + HH<sub>om</sub> + HH<sub>champ</sub> + HH<sub>pat</sub> + HH<sub>fam/vis</sub> +  
ASP<sub>drug</sub> + ASP<sub>dur</sub> + ASP<sub>ose</sub> + ASP<sub>restriction</sub>  
CP<sub>skinprep</sub> + CP<sub>decol</sub> + CP<sub>rophy</sub> + CP<sub>bundle</sub>  
FWM<sub>container</sub> + FWM<sub>rinse</sub> + FWM<sub>protocol</sub> +  
ED<sub>evs</sub> + ED<sub>audit</sub> + ED<sub>nurse</sub> + ED<sub>other</sub> + ED<sub>family</sub> + ED<sub>prod</sub> + ED<sub>ppe</sub> +  
ED<sub>contact</sub> + ED<sub>dilute</sub> + ED<sub>compat</sub> + ED<sub>resource</sub>

# Responsibilities

**PA** = Patient Acuity

- All

**HH** = Hand Hygiene

- All

**ASP** = Antibiotic Stewardship Program

- IPAC, ID, Pharmacy, Lab

**CP** = Clinical Practices

- IPAC, Nursing, Physicians

**FWM** = Fecal Waste Management

- IPAC, Nursing, EVS

**ED** = Environmental Disinfection

- EVS, nursing...

# How Can We Work Together?

Culture of organization

Hofstede's Determinants (Borg 2014)

Looked at some characteristics of cultures (by country)

- Power Distance
- Uncertainty Avoidance

# Power Distance

“...strict and formal hierarchies in which subordinates are less likely to be consulted or involved in the decision-making process.”

“Ownership will therefore be more difficult to obtain, since less powerful stakeholders will defer implementation and responsibility to the power-holders who make all the decisions”

# Power Distance

“Instruments of accountability (such as audits) would not be popular, indeed resented, as they are regarded as targeting only the less powerful”

- Disinfection/cleaning audits
- Hierarchy of team in healthcare team



# Uncertainty Avoidance

Measure of the national ability to adapt to ambiguous situations

## High Uncertainty Avoidance Countries

- Poor driving practice brings high traffic accident mortality rates
- Ignored because not the driving behavior that creates uncertainty but the anxiety of not arriving on time

# Uncertainty Avoidance

High UA countries hate change, hate ambiguity

- EVS staff not cleaning properly because of fear of exceeding the time allotted for an 'average' room?
- Clear routines, cards, charts

Borg ties this determinant to overuse of antibiotics in countries with high UA

# Working Together

All staff need to appreciate what EVS is trying to do

Part of orientation

- Who are the EVS staff?
- What are they responsible for?
- How to use a disinfectant wipe
- What to use it on and when

# Canadian Perspectives

- ‘Working relationships of infection prevention and control programs and environmental services and associations with antibiotic-resistant organisms in Canadian acute care hospitals’
- ‘Environmental cleaning resources and activities in Canadian acute care hospitals’

Zoutman 2014 (1&2)

# Survey

Online survey

58.3% response rate (119 of 204)

Medium to large hospitals

- Mean number of acute care beds: 232, range 48-1100

# Survey

Looked at ARO rates of MRSA, VRE (new colonization and infection) and *Clostridium difficile* infections

Likert scales used

- Never, Rarely, Sometimes, Often, Always
- Poor, Some, Moderate, Good, Excellent
- Disagree Strongly, Disagree, Undecided, Agree, Strongly Agree



# IPAC Results

(Zoutman 1)

# Training

105 of 115 (91%) of IPAC programs provided education and training in IPAC to EVS

$\frac{3}{4}$  of IPAC programs informed EVS managers of latest findings and advancements in environmental cleaning



# Training

1/3 did not rate their EVS staff as adequately trained to cleaning standards

Nearly 40% did not judge their hospitals to be sufficiently clean for IPAC purposes! (62.4% felt they were sufficiently clean)

# Working Relationships

20% IPAC services and EVS did not frequently collaborate on cleaning protocols

A good working relationship was associated with lower ARO rates

# Working Relationship Analysis

Greater cooperation was associated with lower rates of MRSA ( $p=0.02$ )

Frequent collaboration had lower rates of both VRE infection ( $p=0.03$ ) and CDI ( $p<0.001$ )

# Working Relationships

Conclusion: Close collaboration between IPAC Programs and EVS leads to reduced ARO levels



# EVS Managers

(Zoutman 2)

# Staffing

46.9% felt they had enough staff to satisfactorily clean their hospitals to the required standard (only 5.2% strongly agreed)

If felt they had sufficient staff, mean of 4 beds per FTE

If felt they did not have sufficient staff, mean of 5 beds per FTE (p=0.02)

# Training

All but one hospital had introductory training programs

Mean 44.7h, median 37.5h, with range of 4 – 186

17% did not have ongoing training and professional development program

# Collaboration

95/96 agreed that EVS and IPAC services cooperated well with each other

92/96 reported that their cleaning and disinfecting products were frequently chosen in consultation with IPAC

91/96 indicated that IPAC was consulted before making changes to cleaning procedures and technologies



# American Perspective

Association for Practitioners in Infection Control and  
Epidemiology (APIC)

Association for the Healthcare Environment (AHE)

2000 Members surveyed and reported in 2011



# CleanSpaces HealthyPatients

A collaboration between APIC and AHE

[About the Project](#)

[Tools and Resources](#)

[Building Bridges series](#)

## Leaders in infection prevention and environmental services working together for better patient outcomes

AAA



Clean Spaces, Healthy Patients is a collaborative between APIC and the Association for the Healthcare Environment (AHE). Together they deliver practical strategies that endorse processes to improve patient outcomes and operational efficiencies.

### News and announcements:

- Learn from successful infection prevention and environmental services teams –[watch the Clean Spaces, Healthy Patients collaboration videos](#)
- Looking to educate team members? [Participate in one of the Clean Spaces, Healthy Patients on-demand webinars](#)
- Learn to make the business case for additional environmental services and infection prevention resources [here](#)

# Collaborative Website

<http://cleanspaces.site.apic.org/tools-and-resources/successful-collaborations/>

# Survey

51% found it difficult to locate useful resources about proper cleaning and disinfection

73% felt front line EVS were well trained but 54% felt other staff could be better educated about their role in cleaning

# Survey

- ~60% felt educational resources were needed for C-Suite
- ~50% felt patients and families should be a target
- ~33% felt general public should be a target

# Older Survey – 2008

38.5% of IPAC view the role of EVS with high value

52.6% of EVS view IPAC with high value!

# Association for the Healthcare Environment (AHE)

AHE Annual Trend Data Survey

Conducted online for 5<sup>th</sup> year

Identify trends within EVS and healthcare environment

190 Members surveyed

# Staff Turnover >6% per month

Year	Turnover
2013	19%
2014	35%
2015	40%

Majority of these departments have to replace at least 11% of their staff annually



# Staffing

81% have both management and EVS staff in house

11% contract out just management

# Vendor Expectations

## Training and Education

- Viewed as most important 56%
- In top two by 80%

## Follow up after purchase

- 62% in the top two services

# AHE Auditing

98% visual audit

ATP – 54%

EVS self audit – 89% of facilities

IPAC and EVS – 25% of departments

IPAC alone – 19% of departments

# Ah, yes, Auditing

Cannot be punitive

Problem solving

# Auditing – Non EVS areas

Use EVS to covertly mark equipment they are not responsible for?

# Disconnects

## Silos

EVS needs to cut budget

- May cause more infections
- Still needs to find that percentage

## IPAC

- Great programs in place
- Rates go up for no obvious reason

# Disconnects

EVS changes floor finish – Hand sanitizer marks it up worse

IPAC changes hand sanitizer – marks floor!

# Lines of Communication

Increase in diarrhea/vomiting

- Who ya gonna call?

Increase in community infectious agents (colds, flu, norovirus)

- Who ya gonna call?

Construction dust found in hallways...

- Who ya gonna call?



# Suggestions for Collaboration

Have ID/IPAC do rounds for EVS

- Perhaps tie in their role
- Indicate if hand hygiene, environmental factors could have been an issue

IPAC attend EVS staff meetings

Lunch and Learns

# Benefits of Good Collaboration

EVS see the entire site once per day

IPAC can see the entire site once per day (which I recommend)

All of us need to understand what is each other's responsibility

- Visible bugs – EVS
- Invisible bugs – IPAC and EVS

# Communication

What processes are in place to report issues:

- Spills
- Maintenance issues
- Breaks in technique

# Summary

EVS and IPAC must be 'one'

- Must fully appreciate that a change by one can affect the other

Clear lines of communication

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