CLEAN 5 Campaign
Vancouver General Hospital
Burns, Trauma, High Acuity Unit
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Engage patients to perform hand hygiene
Team members

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Survey for BTHA, Patient Hand Hygiene v2

CLEAN 5

Patient survey questions:

1- How important on a scale of 1 to 5 do you think hand hygiene/ hand washing is to prevent infections? Circle: 1 2 3 4 5

2- Did your nurse tell you or give you information on the importance of your hand hygiene during your hospital stay? Circle: Yes/No

3- Did someone give you an opportunity to clean your hands today? Circle: Yes/No

4- Were you encouraged to perform hand hygiene at any specific times?
   Before eating a meal? Yes/No
   After using the toilet/bedpan/urinal? Yes/No
   Before touching your dressings or your incision? Yes/No

5- How many times do you recall having done hand hygiene today? _____ Time _____

6- Can you think of any ways we can help you to clean your hands?

Comments:

Surveyor:

Patient able to answer: Yes/No

Comments:

Survey questions modeled from:
Can improving patient hand hygiene impact CPOE-related infection events at an academic medical center? AJIC 45 (2017) 859-63
Four moments for patient hand hygiene: a patient-centered, provider facilitated model to improve patient hand hygiene ICHI 2013:36:36-9
Step 1: we interviewed patients re: Hand Hygiene (HH)

- Surveyed 20 patients
- All think HH is important
- 9/20 said a nurse talked to them about it
- 9/20 washed their hands on the day they were interviewed
- 20 patients only washed their hands 44 times that day

- So that means most patients had only washed TWICE in a whole day !!!
Survey for STAFF for BTHA Patient Hand Hygiene v1

CLEAN 5

Staff survey questions:

Staff initials ____________________

1. How important on a scale of 1 to 5 do you think patient hand hygiene/ hand washing is to prevent infections? Circle: 1 2 3 4 5

2. Did you talk to your patients or give them information on the importance of hand hygiene during their hospital stay? Circle: Yes/No

3. Did you assist a patient to clean their hands today? Circle: Yes/No

4. Are you willing to encourage patients to perform hand hygiene at specific times? Circle: Yes/No
   Before eating a meal?
   After using the toilet/bedpan/urinal?
   Before touching their dressings or their incision?

5. What are the barriers to helping patients perform hand hygiene?

6. Can you think of any ways we can help patients to clean their hands?

Comments:

Surveyor:

Comments:

Survey questions modeled from:

Can improving patient hand hygiene impact *Clostridium difficile* infection events at an academic medical center? AJIC 45 (2017) 595-63

Four moments for patient hand hygiene: a patient-centered, provider facilitated model to improve patient hand hygiene. JHE 2013.6396-9
Step 2: we interviewed nurses re: HH

- Surveyed 20 nurses
- 18/20 thought HH was very important
- 2/20 thought it was somewhat important
- 20/20 stated they talked about HH with their patients
- 15/20 stated they helped their patients with HH

- Barriers to helping patients with HH:
  - patients aren’t interested, or are bed bound, or non compliant, have burns on their hands or nurse too busy
While in hospital, patients need to wash their hands:

- Before eating food
- After using the toilet, bedpan or urinal
- After touching the environment, bedrails, phones, remote controls, etc
- After coughing, sneezing, blowing your nose
Patients: how to wash your hands?

Wash your hands with alcohol gel, soap and water, or sani-hand wipes.
Next steps: Patient bins

Messy TABLE TOP

Tidy table top with patient belongings bin & Microsan

Would you like some urine with your smoothie?
Improving patient hand hygiene: Staff engagement and barriers to the implementation of patient hand wipes before meals

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Introduction
- Hand hygiene is a key component in preventing hospital transmission of antibiotic resistant organisms (AROs).
- Improvement efforts on hand hygiene have focused primarily on health care workers (HCWs), with few resources dedicated to patients' hands and patient hand hygiene (PHH).

Context
- Many patients, for reasons of immobility or incapacity, are often incapable of performing hand hygiene independently or are unable to access hand hygiene facilities (Alcohol Based Hand Rub (ABHR) or soap and water).
- Patients rely on HCWs to encourage and assist with hand hygienes, though their perceptions and attitudes of PHH are unclear.
- In the context of higher ARO rates on a medical unit, patient hand wipes were introduced before meals to mitigate transmission by potentially contaminated hands.

Project
- A four week (June 2015) distribution trial of patient hand wipes before meals was conducted on a medical inpatient ward at an urban, academic hospital in Vancouver, Canada.
- Staff perception regarding PHH was assessed with pre and post-implementation surveys (May and July 2015).
- Survey analysis was restricted to nurses (RN, LPN, PN, SN) who provided direct patient care. Respondents could select multiple answers on the survey.
- Staff education was provided via a "one-pager" and posters (Figure 1) were placed in patient rooms to act both as a descriptor and as a visual reminder for patients before meals.

Results
- Surveys assessed the current levels of PHH engagement, feasibility, time considerations and the perceived barriers and concerns of a patient hand wipe intervention (Table 1).
- Thirty-five pre-survey results revealed that 80% of nurses felt that they 'Almost Never', 'Never' or 'Don't know' if they have had the opportunity to help patients clean their hands before meals.
- Usage compliance over the month was observed at 33%, and 77% thought it was easy to incorporate into their practice post trial.

Lessons Learned
- PHH is an important component of a healthcare experience yet it is rarely a priority for HCWs due to competing clinical demands.
- Despite the nursing staff's perceived benefits of PHH wipes before the study, engagement with this initiative required a change in perception where focus transitioned from workload constraints to improved patient care though PHH process improvements.
- Given that patients are dependent on HCWs, there is a pressing need and an untapped potential for a culture that supports PHH, such as patient hand wipes, as a component of any facilities’ multimodal hand hygiene campaign.

This project was completely based on the excellent work done by SPH IPAC. Thank you to Danielle Richards ICP for answering my million questions.
How do we know it’s working?

• Interviewed care aides who say, they love it!
• One care aide says she provides 2 wipes so that patients can clean their hands before and after eating as well.
• Supplies continue to be specialty ordered.
• 10/10 rooms still had signs posted
Next steps for sustainability:

• Next step: interview patients
• Evaluate any reductions in health care associated infections
• Have the posters professionally designed
• VGH has implemented on a limited basis on some units, that volunteers approach patients at meals and offer alcohol gel.
References:

Improving patient hand hygiene: staff engagement and barriers to the implementation of patient hand wipes before meals. St Paul’s Hospital Team

Can improving patient hand hygiene impact *Clostridium difficile* infection events at an academic medical center? AJIC 45 (2017)959-63

Four moments for patient hand hygiene: a patient–centered, provider facilitated model to improve patient hand hygiene ICHE 2015:36:986-9

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