

From Guts to Glory: Standardized Bundled Approach for Colon Surgical Site Infection Reduction

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Poster #224

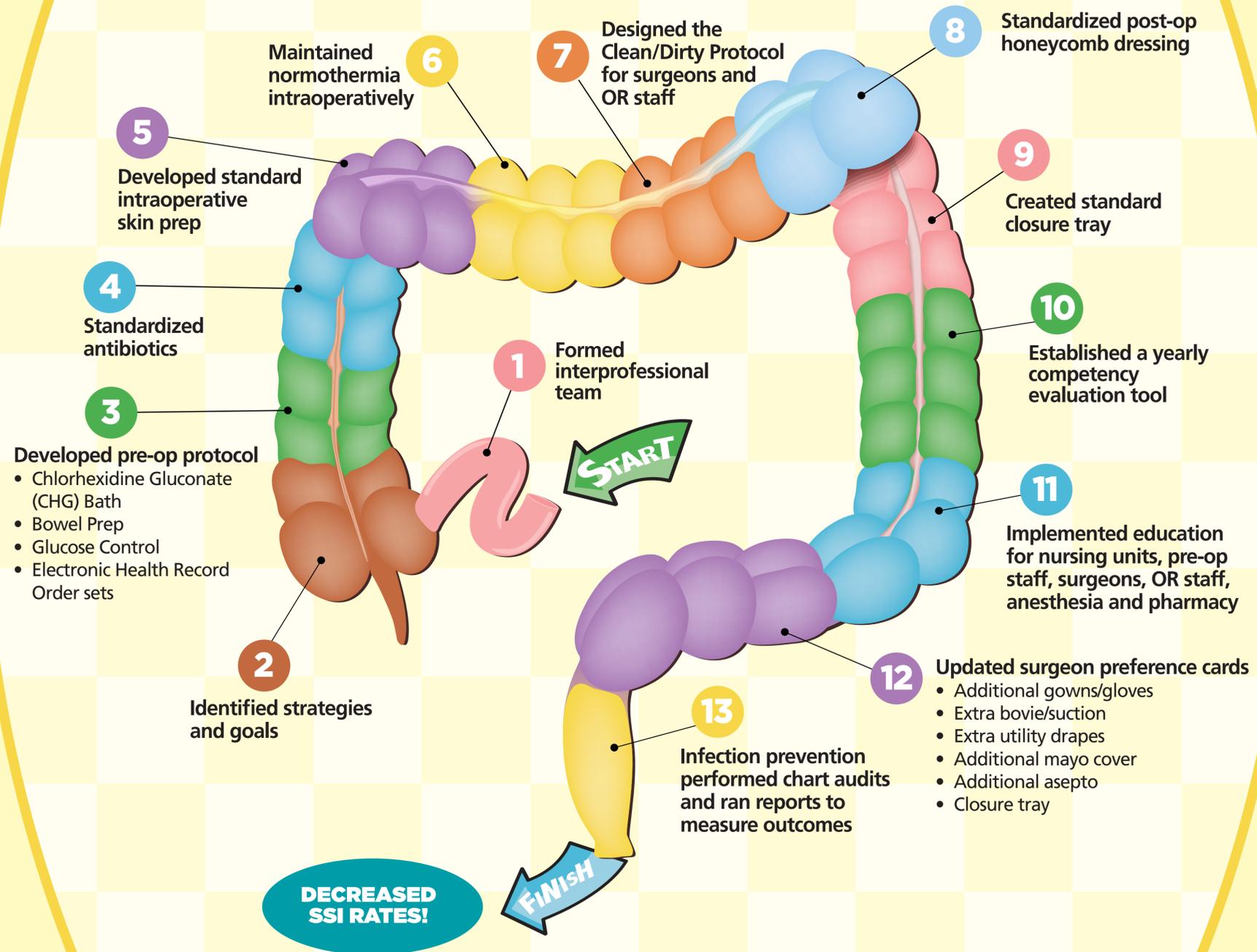
BACKGROUND

Surgical site infections (SSI) remain the most common type of hospital acquired infections for the surgical patients, impacting morbidity and mortality rates. Current literature reflects a bundled approach to address SSI is more effective than just one intervention. Armed with this knowledge and committed to make a difference, an interprofessional team accepted this challenge to identify innovative strategies for SSI prevention in the colon surgical patient population.

To start this hard work, key stakeholders were identified and engaged to form a Colon Surgical Site Infection Task Force throughout the continuum of patient care. Through regular meetings, this interprofessional team defined and determined the important elements for SSI prevention. As phase one of this journey began, the team discussed goals, challenges/barriers, strategies and outcomes for our patients. The goal was prevention of SSI in our patients.

The overarching interventions included standardization of pre-op preparation, antibiotic selection, prepping, clean/dirty technique protocol and dressings. One of the biggest challenges this interprofessional team met was creating a standardized bundle of care for an integrated health system of five hospitals.

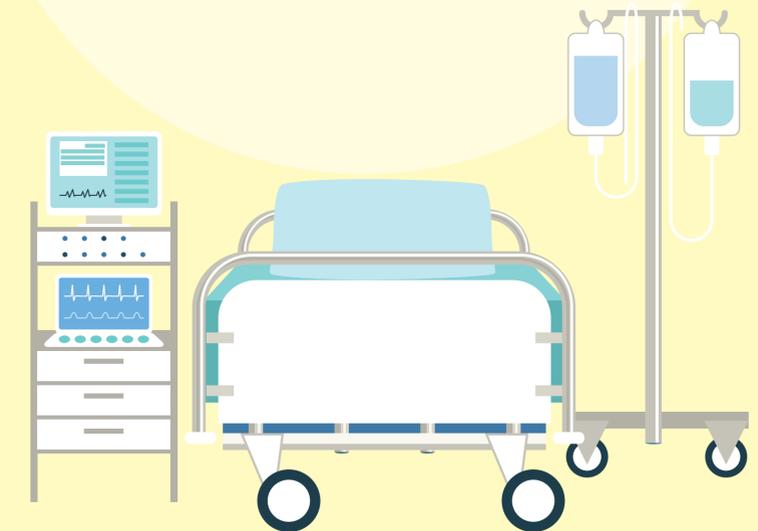
This standardized bundle approach has resulted in a 55 percent reduction of deep and organ space SSI. Additionally, 95 percent of patients who received five or more of the bundled elements avoided SSIs. As our organization is committed to providing exceptional patient care, this work continues as the team has now begun phase two of SSI prevention, which includes developing interventions surrounding a diabetes protocol, standardization of bowel prep and focused patient education. The colon taskforce meets regularly in order to improve processes and create change across our system. This presentation will share our journey, the tools and recourses, and how our team overcame barriers to make an impact on SSI for colon patients.



KEYS TO SUCCESS



1. Patient centered/safety first care
2. Engagement with staff
3. Positive interprofessional communications
4. Standardization of colon protocols
5. Continuous education
6. Enhanced workplace efficiency
7. Meaningful use data collection
8. Improved financial performance



OUTCOMES

1. 55 percent reduction of deep organ space SSI
2. 95 percent of patients who received five or more of the "bundle elements" avoided SSI