

Improving Individual Patient Care in Hospitals

HealthInsight is working in Nevada, New Mexico and Utah hospitals to reduce infections that patients acquire while being treated for another condition in a health care setting. These infections include central line bloodstream infections, catheter-associated urinary tract infections, *Clostridium difficile*, methicillin-resistant staph and surgical site infections.

Through large-scale Learning and Action Networks and individualized technical assistance, we are accelerating the pace of change and rapidly spreading best practices.

We support our work by participating in and spreading programs such as the national Comprehensive Unit-based Safety Program (CUSP) to eliminate healthcare-associated infections and advancing antimicrobial stewardship programs to address inappropriate and overuse of antibiotics. We work closely with local professional infection preventionists and state programs and associations to enhance education and spread best practices.

HealthInsight activities have shown a number of significant outcomes:

- 16 Nevada hospitals participated in a national CUSP project from October 2010 through December 2012, demonstrating a 30-percent reduction in central line-associated blood stream infections.
- From February 2011 through December 2012, 14 Nevada hospitals realized a 65-percent decrease in catheter-associated urinary tract infections. More than 120 infections were avoided for a 13-percent decrease in infections and 10-percent decrease in catheters inserted.
- 16 New Mexico hospitals focusing on reducing hospital-onset Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) bloodstream infections from July 2008 through July 2009 showed a 48-percent reduction, avoiding at least 17 cases of this potentially lethal infection.
- 25 New Mexico hospitals improved two-fold in their use of a checklist every time they inserted a central line from May 2010 through April 2011. The checklist is designed to ensure all measures are taken to provide safe and effective placement of this catheter near the heart.
- *HealthInsight* Utah's support of hospitals in protecting patients from central-line bloodstream infections has helped them achieve a 50-percent relative improvement from Feb 1 through July 31, 2011. This is a result of our promotion of and active participation in the national CUSP project.
- Since September 2011 Utah hospitals participating in the Central Line-Associated Bloodstream Infections Reduction Initiative have continued to embrace and expand on CUSP principles.

All Medicare-participating hospitals also receive our technical assistance for reporting inpatient and outpatient quality data to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.



Learning and Action Networks

Learning and Action Networks bring together health care professionals, patients and other stakeholders around an evidence-based agenda to achieve rapid, wide-scale improvement. This model includes collaborative projects, online interactions, and peer-to-peer education to facilitate shared commitment, energy and knowledge that allows participants to learn from leaders as well as from each other.

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