

Central Line-Associated Bloodstream Infection Prevention in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit

Background:

Central line-associated bloodstream infections (CLABSIs) are a preventable cause of illness in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU).

Initiative:

We implemented protocols, called *bundles*, for insertion and maintenance of central lines to reduce the rate of these infections.

Goal: Our ultimate goal is zero CLABSIs. Our minimum acceptable standard is a rate less than the national median of 2.4 CLABSIs per 1,000 line-days.

Outcome: Our NICU CLABSI rates have remained below the national median for more than 3½ years.

Updated February 7, 2013



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