

Creative Solutions: A pilot project

By Ginny Riggall, RN, MS, CCRN
Clinical Nurse Specialist
Rochester General Hospital

In the past



Evidenced Based Practice

- “Specialized IV teams have shown unequivocal effectiveness in reducing the incidence of catheter-related infections and associated complications and costs.” (Center for Disease Control, 2002).

The Present



Pilot Project

- Establish a unit-based team of RNs that would provide site care and maintenance for CVCs, but not PICC Lines.
- Their role included educating all nurses on the unit about line care and site assessment.
- The goal is to reduce catheter related blood stream infections by improving patient care in the areas of central line dressing changes and improving the assessment skills of all RNs on the unit.

Pilot Project

- Trained 10 nurses for the team.
- Education was provided to the team on site assessment, on the IHI Central Line Bundle & RGHS Central Line Care and Maintenance Protocol.
- Each shift a nurse is assigned as the “Central Line Dressing RN” to assess each line site, the integrity of dressing and the need for the line.
- A log is completed and passed to the next shift as a means of communicating between shifts.

Project Progress

- Project started on August 1st.
- Created a team of nurses who are very dedicated to preventing line infections on one unit.
- Team will meet regularly to talk about continued education, process concerns and if a line infection does occur, they will do a root cause analysis for the unit.
- Increased the prevention awareness for the entire staff.
- In the future we hope to expand this project to other units.

References

- Center for Disease Control and Prevention. Guidelines for the Prevention of Intravascular Catheter-Related Infections, 2002 August 9, 2002/51(RR10);1-26.