AN EVIDENCE-BASED INITIATIVE TO REDUCE CAUTI IN THE PICU

Catheter Associated Urinary Tract Infections (CAUTIs) are the most common healthcare associated infections (HAIs) that patients experience while being hospitalized. Approximately 80% of these infections are associated with the use of an indwelling urinary catheter (IUC). According to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), CAUTI is considered a HAI and, therefore, hospitals are no longer receiving reimbursement for CAUTI related treatment costs. CAUTI is a burden that increases hospital expenses, patient length of stay, and is associated with increased morbidity and mortality. It is not surprising why The Joint Commission (TJC) has recognized the prevention of CAUTI as a national patient safety goal for 2012.

(AACN Bold Voices, January 2012)

Background

Purpose

The purpose of this initiative was to increase knowledge and awareness of CAUTI in the PICU and to standardize nursing care and surveillance of pediatric patients with an indwelling urinary catheter (IUC).

Goal

Implementation of evidence-based practice strategies to enhance the delivery of patient care by:
- Reducing CAUTI rate <2.0 per 1000 catheter days
- Standardizing nursing care for patients with an IUC
- Monitoring compliance to sustain positive outcomes

The Process

Observations

The process of this initiative was to increase knowledge and awareness of CAUTI in the PICU and to standardize nursing care and surveillance of pediatric patients with an indwelling urinary catheter (IUC).

(AACN Bold Voices, January 2012)

Action Plan

MCH Practice Bundle “Kiko the Kidney”

- A visual cue was created for all patients with an IUC. Our colorful mascot was named "Kiko the Kidney".
- Small laminated cards were designed with a picture of Kiko, including a standardized list of nursing interventions (practice bundle) to decrease CAUTI.
- "Kiko" is placed in a visible location, at the bedside, for every patient with an IUC.
- "Kiko" serves as a reminder for the nursing staff and medical staff to provide the necessary interventions to help reduce CAUTI.

Conclusions

"Kiko the kidney" is an effective visual cue for standardizing nursing practice.

Staff involvement is key to implementing change.

Unit champions are instrumental in motivating and encouraging the staff.

Nurses play a vital role in creating and sustaining an evidence-based practice environment.

References

- American Society for Microbiology. (2014). Selecting an infection prevention and control committee. Infection Control & Hospital Epidemiology, 35(12), 1234-1239.