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Update on AHRQ's Activities for Preventing Healthcare-Associated Infections

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HAI Prevention: From Research to Implementation

- Support **research** to develop improved **methods** for preventing HAIs: **what to do**
- Support **research** to develop effective **implementation strategies** for HAI prevention (implementation science): **how to do it**
- **Translate** research findings into **tools** for implementing HAI prevention
- **Promote implementation** of HAI prevention with effective methods, strategies, and tools



HAI Prevention Research: Funding Opportunity Announcements

- HAI FOAs renewed September 2016
 - ▶ Research (R01) and Dissemination (R18)
 - ▶ Highlight intimate connection between HAI prevention and CARB
 - ▶ All settings – acute care, long-term care, and ambulatory care
 - ▶ Broad areas of research interest:
 - Efficacy and effectiveness of preventive interventions
 - Assessment of risk factors for HAIs and sources of antibiotic-resistant HAIs



Preventing HAIs: Currently Funded Research

Examples:

- Project PROTECT: Universal decolonization to reduce resistant infections in nursing homes
- Integrating personal and household environmental hygiene measures to prevent MRSA



Preventing HAIs: Implementation Research

Examples:

- Implementation of chlorhexidine bathing to reduce HAIs
- Project SMART: Implementing management strategies to reduce HAIs
 - ▶ Study will culminate in development of a Management Practices Toolkit for HAI reduction
 - ▶ Toolkits from AHRQ research studies exemplify translation of knowledge from research into tools for broad use, as recommended by PACCARB



Promoting Implementation of HAI Prevention

- Comprehensive Unit-based Safety Program (CUSP)
 - Improvement in:
 - ▶ Safety culture
 - ▶ Teamwork
 - ▶ Communication
 - Checklist of proven practices



CUSP Implementation Projects

- CUSP for CLABSI
- CUSP for CAUTI – Hospital
- CUSP for Safe Surgery – Inpatient
- CUSP for Safe Surgery – Ambulatory
- CUSP for Mechanically Ventilated Patients
- CUSP for CAUTI in Long-Term Care
- CUSP for Persistently Elevated CLABSI/CAUTI Rates in ICUs
- CUSP for Improving Surgical Care and Recovery



CUSP Implementation Projects

CUSP for CAUTI in Long-Term Care

- Completed in September 2016
- Achieved 54% reduction in CAUTI rates in over 400 nursing homes
- Toolkit to Reduce CAUTI in Long-Term Care Facilities – Released March 2017



PACCARB Recommendations: CUSP for CAUTI in LTC

- Coordination with other Agencies
 - ▶ CDC and CMS staff served on the Technical Expert Panel that guided implementation of the project
 - ▶ CMS and CDC staff are involved in dissemination of the toolkit
- Partnerships
 - ▶ HRET, APIC, Baylor College of Medicine, SHM, U. of Michigan, State nursing home associations



CUSP Implementation Projects

CUSP for Persistently Elevated CLABSI and CAUTI Rates in ICUs

- F/U to nationwide CLABSI and CAUTI projects
- Completed recruitment of >300 ICUs across 4 HHS regions
- Tailored CUSP interventions to ICUs with persistently elevated rates
- Established project infrastructure – State Hospital Associations as coordinating entities
- Implementation of CUSP interventions ongoing



PACCARB Recommendations: CUSP for CLABSI/CAUTI in ICUs

- Coordination with other Agencies
 - ▶ CDC and CMS are instrumental in identifying ICUs eligible for recruitment into the project
 - ▶ CDC and CMS staff serve on the Technical Expert Panel that guides implementation of the project
- Partnerships
 - ▶ HRET, ANA, APIC, MHA, SCCM, SHM, U. of Michigan, State Hospital Associations



CUSP Implementation Projects

CUSP for Improving Surgical Care and Recovery

- 5-year project, launched September 2016
- Promote implementation of evidence-based practices to enhance recovery, improve outcomes, and reduce complications, including SSI and CAUTI
- Currently recruiting for Cohort 1 on colorectal surgery – 150 hospitals so far
- Future cohorts planned for orthopedic, gynecologic, emergency general, and bariatric surgery



PACCARB Recommendations: CUSP Improving Surgical Care & Recovery

- Coordination with other Agencies
 - ▶ CDC and CMS staff serve on the Technical Expert Panel that guides implementation of the project
- Partnerships
 - ▶ Johns Hopkins University, American College of Surgeons, Westat



New CUSP

Implementation Toolkits

- **Toolkit to Improve Safety in ASCs**
 - ▶ Tailoring the implementation of practices to improve safety in ASCs, including the Surgical Safety Checklist
- **Toolkit to Improve Safety for Mechanically Ventilated Patients**
 - ▶ Incorporates project's bundle of evidence-based interventions
- **Toolkit for Safe Surgery – Inpatient**
 - ▶ Product of project that reduced SSI by 25-40%
 - ▶ Release planned for later this year



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