

A Trauma Unit's Interprofessional Approach to Reducing Catheter Associated Urinary Tract Infections

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The Transitional Trauma Unit Staff

Lehigh Valley Health Network, Allentown, Pennsylvania

PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT INITIATIVE

This poster details specific efforts taken by staff on a 30-bed transitional and medical-surgical trauma unit in a Level I trauma center to decrease indwelling urinary catheter utilization and the subsequent dramatic decline in Catheter Associated Urinary Tract Infections.

CHALLENGE

- In 2008, the urinary tract infection (UTI) occurrence in our trauma population was nearly double the occurrence of UTIs in the state of Pennsylvania (6.1 and 3.1%, respectively).

DRIVING FORCE

- Evidence citing inappropriate use of indwelling catheters in the acute care setting prompted an organization-wide effort to reduce the use of these catheters.



How many days can we go without a CAUTI?



INTERVENTIONS

Development of Unit Population-Specific Criteria for Necessity and Continuation of Indwelling Catheters

- Epidural catheter
- Unstable pelvic or spinal fractures
- Stage III or greater posterior pressure ulcers
- Catheters placed by Urology

Quality Huddles

- Twice daily
- Nurses and unlicensed assistive personnel
- Staff engagement to question catheter necessity

Interprofessional Collaborative Rounds

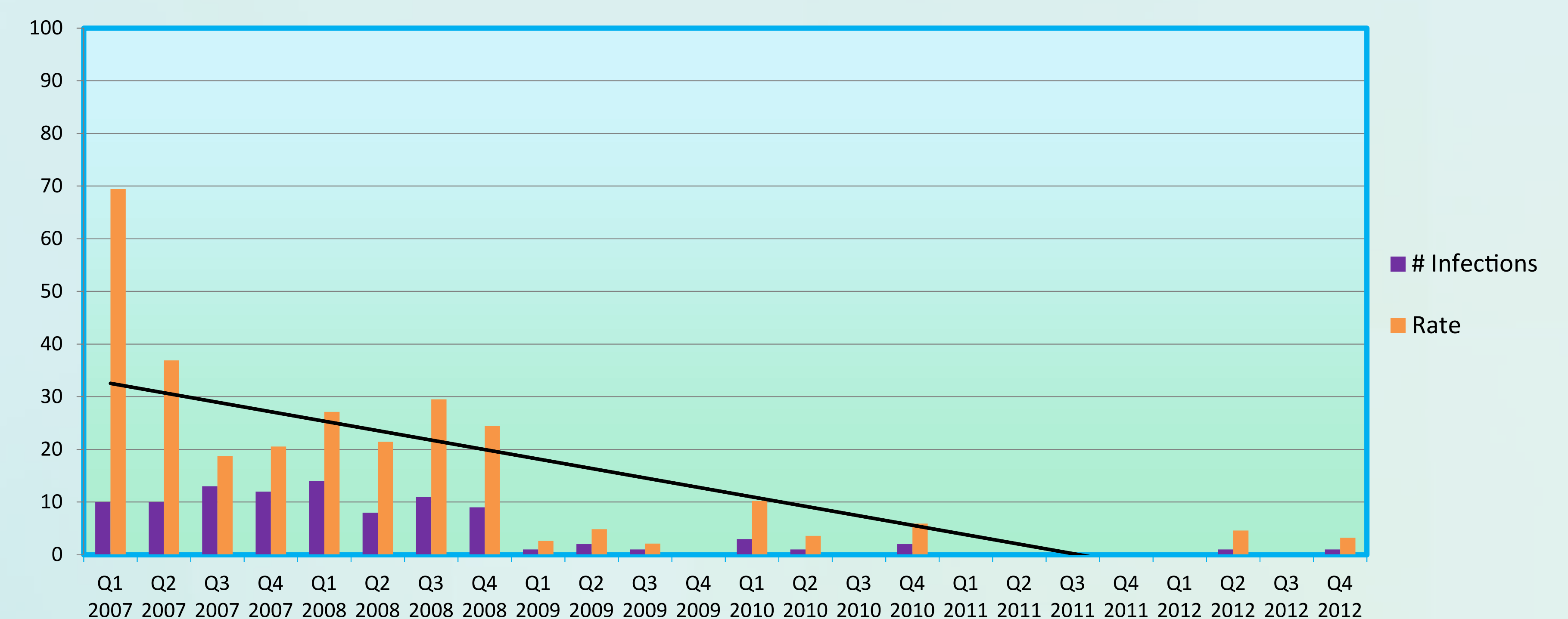
- Nurses, physicians, mid-level providers, patient, and family
- Nurse empowerment to prompt catheter removal

Organization Initiatives

- Education regarding use and risk of catheters
- Nurse-driven Urinary Catheter Removal Protocol
- Evidence-based Urinary Retention Protocol
- Competency-based Performance Evaluations

OUTCOMES

Transitional Trauma Unit CAUTI Number and Rate January 2007 - December 2012



SUSTAINING THE CHANGE

- Leadership team fosters an atmosphere of trust for peer accountability to remove or avoid catheters.
- Transparency of data through visibility boards fosters engagement and ownership.
- Reward and recognition prompts unified desire for best performance.

555 days without a CAUTI!



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