Infection Connection

“The Intent is to Prevent”

November 2010

Welcome (again) to DiGi

Steph DiGiovanni has now joined the Infection Control & Prevention Department as full-time Infection Preventionist/OR Liaison covering all three sites. The best way to reach Steph is through email or by paging her – pager# 4780.

Influenza Symptoms Pocket Card

Influenza Symptoms pocket cards are now available. This new card may be added on to your H1N1 keyring. Please contact the Infection Control & Prevention department at 610-402-0680 to request your copies today!

Asepti Wipes for All

 Holders for Asepti germicidal wipes are currently being mounted in every patient room and ancillary department. Infection Control & Prevention will supply the initial order of wipes for your unit/department. Please contact us at 610-402-0680 to place your order.

Gel IN, Gel OUT

The 5 Moments for Hand Hygiene signs will be replaced with new “Gel IN, Gel OUT” signage. The expectation is for all healthcare providers to use the alcohol-based waterless hand sanitizer every time they enter the room "Gel IN", and exit the room "Gel OUT”.

2010-2011 Seasonal Influenza Vaccine Pocket Information Guide

Please contact the Infection Control & Prevention department at 610-402-0680 if your department is in need of 2010-2011 Seasonal Influenza Vaccine Pocket Information Guides. These FREE guides will provide you with information on:

- indications and contraindications for the vaccines
- information on targeted populations to be vaccinated
- details on how to administer the vaccines
- talking points for patients

IV Pumps

After IV Pumps have been discontinued, they should be cleaned with a hospital approved disinfectant wipe. Please clean cautiously. Leakage into cracks = corrosion.

September 30, 2011 - A Date to Remember

Mark your calendars to save the date to attend the 3rd Annual Fleming Infection Prevention and Infectious Diseases Symposium at LVH-CC!
Cough Etiquette Stations
Cough Etiquette Stations must remain stocked at all times with masks, tissues, and hand gel. If you need a cough etiquette station, please contact the Infection Control & Prevention department at 610-402-0680. For supply ordering information, please click here.

MRSA Screen Results for Discharge Instructions
Please remember to document on the discharge instructions if a patient has been screened for MRSA and the results. Hospitals are required to communicate to transferring facilities the status of patients with resistant organisms. Both paper and electronic versions of the discharge instructions enable documentation of MRSA screening results.

Isolation Caddies
Are you in need of additional isolation caddies for your unit? If so, please contact the Infection Control & Prevention department at 610-402-0680.

New BARD Foley Kit
Bard has updated their foley catheter tray to enhance compliance with CDC Prevention of Catheter Associated Urinary Tract Infections guideline. A few key improvements to the tray are a checklist for appropriate indications for catheter use, inclusion of a castile soap towelette to cleanse the peri-urethral area prior to insertion, directions for use for the healthcare provider, patient education information and the addition of the StatLock stabilization device as a component of the tray. Coming soon to a unit near you!

Cidex OPA
A very important email will be forthcoming outlining once again the critical safety components as well as the unit and staff responsibilities associated with utilizing this chemical. These are NOT OPTIONAL. Please look forward to this email and assure if you are a user of this product that your department is represented on the spreadsheet. If not, contact the Infection Control & Prevention department immediately. Thanks in advance for your anticipated cooperation.

Dispatch
Dispatch (solution and wipes) has been the product our network has used to disinfect areas following a C. difficile or Norovirus contamination or when an outbreak has been identified with a multi-drug resistant organism (i.e. MRSA or Acinetobacter). This product contains a hypochlorite solution. We will be migrating to a CHLOROX solution and wipe as our stock of the Dispatch products become exhausted. Please be aware of this change and assure your staff understand the change. When surveyed they will need to be able to identify the product being utilized in these situations and assure it is readily available at all times.

Outpatient Exposures
When a healthcare worker sustains a blood or body fluid exposure to a patient in an outpatient facility, please make every attempt to keep the patient in your area until the event is reported to Employee Health Services and the Infection Control and Prevention Departments. It is in the best interest of the patient to receive pre-test counseling for HIV consent while they are still in the office setting. After consent is obtained the patient can be directed for blood work if necessary.