#### Protocol for Prevention of Hospital-Acquired Infections

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### Objectives

- Define hospital-acquired infections (HAI's)/nosocomial infections
- Outline the general strategies of infection prevention and control
- Identify the five most common HAI's and the pathogens responsible for each
- Describe the mode of transmission and the mechanisms of prevention of each type of HAI



#### Introduction: Hospital Acquired Infections



# Most Common HAI's

1) Respiratory tract infections (RTI) 2) Surgical site infections (SSI) 3) Bloodstream infections (BSI) 4) Clostridium difficile infections (CDI) 5) Catheter-associated urinary tract infections (CAUTI)



# General Strategies of Prevention and Control

- 1) Personal Protective Equipment
- 2) Administrative Control
- **3) Engineering Control**
- 4) Substitution

5) Elimination



# **Respiratory Tract Infections**

#### Mode of transmission

 Airborne droplets from sneezing or coughing
 Direct oral contact

**Causative Agents:** 

Bacterial
 67% G 33% G+



# **Viral Causes**

 Adult study:
 61% Rhinovirus, 11% RSV, 11% Adenovirus



- Pediatric studies:
  - First study= 73% Rhinovirus
  - Second study= 51% RSV, 19%
    Influenza Virus

# Incidence is 10 folds higher in pediatric patients

# **Prevention of RTI's**

- Influenza vaccine (4 types)
  - Inactivated influenza vaccine
  - Live attenuated influenza vaccine
  - Trivalent vaccines
  - Quadrivalent vaccines



# **RSV Vaccine**

 Palivizumab (synagis) once a month for five months IM in thigh

• Not true vaccine (contains Ab's in it, passive immunization)



#### Mode of transmission

- Transfer during surgery by respiratory droplets
- Direct contact with surgical team's skin
- Through contaminated surgical equipment

Fungal: Candida Albicans

# Surgical Site Infections



### **Bloodstream Infections**

Mode of transmission
 Complication of an infection like pneumonia

During surgeries that involve mucous membranes (GIT)

Due to catheters or other foreign bodies

Most common: E.Coli



# **Clostridium Difficile Infections (CDI)**



# Prevention of SSI, BSI & CDI's

- Sterile clothes & drapes
- Careful use of antibiotics to prevent resistance
- Maintenance of neutrophil count above 500 neutrophils per mL



# Prevention of SSI, BSI & CDI's

- Controlled body temperature 98.6°F (37°C)
- Proper hair removal before surgery
- Wound care especially for burn patients



Catheter-Associated Urinary Tract Infections

- Mode of transmission
   Direct inoculation of microorganisms into bladder
- May occur during insertion or after removal of device



**Insert using septic** technique and sterile equipment

Hand hygiene and standard precautions

# **Prevention of CAUTI's**

COVER PATIENT w/ BLANKET

**Insertion and** maintenance by trained personal

#### **Insert for** appropriate indications & time

ASK THEM to OPEN LEGS & BEND KNEES



UNCLIP the CATHETER TUBING from the BEDSHEET

Maintain unobstructed air flow



PUT GLOVES ON

# Breaking the Chain of Infection

1. Rapid and accurate identification of the organism

Routine blood and urine cultures as well as skin and throat swabs

Control or elimination of infectious agent
 ➢ High level disinfectants: 2% activated glutaraldehyde
 ➢ Low level disinfectants: 70% methylated spirit

#### Conclusion

Hospital acquired infections are an important topic that is often overlooked. Unfortunately, most of its causes are bacterial and as we know, there aren't any vaccines to prevent against bacteria. This makes it very crucial for us to follow proper hospital procedures in order to keep ourselves as well as the patients as far away from harm as possible because hospitals are a place for healing not a place to get even more sick.

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