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A hospital collaborative: Bundle compliance form use in the reduction of central line associated bloodstream infections (CLABSI) and catheter associated urinary tract infections (CAUTIs)

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Background: CLABSI affect 80,000 patients in the ICU each year and are associated with 24,000 deaths annually. A patient's length of stay can double due to development of a CLABSI. CAUTIs account for more than 15% of infections reported by acute care hospitals and it is estimated that more than 13,000 deaths are attributed to CAUTIs. CAUTIs can increase a patient's length of stay by 1 to 3 days.

Methods: The Nursing and Infection Prevention teams collaborated in the development of a bundle compliance form that is utilized every 12 hour shift 7 days a week by the direct patient care nurses. The form is then faxed to the Infection Prevention department while making twice a day rounds on the Nursing units. This form is used in conjunction with an electronic report that lists patients by Nursing unit with central lines and indwelling catheters.

Results: Our infection prevention plan monitors and reports CLABSI and CAUTIs for each Nursing unit. There was a 60% reduction in CLABSI in the intensive care units and a 59% reduction in CLABSI for all Nursing units. There was a 33% reduction in CAUTIs in the intensive care units and 27.5% reduction for all Nursing units for 2014.

Conclusions: A combination of education of the Nursing unit staff in best practice elements via bundle compliance form every shift assessment to reduce device utilization and twice a day rounds by the infection preventionists resulted in a significant decrease in healthcare associated infections in our healthcare facility.

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How to engage with industry: The importance of dealing with individuals using practical solutions

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This paper discusses the use of "community engagement" to develop and sustain enrolments of students. The practical application of the six Cs of engaging with a community illustrates the "how to" and "how not to" manage engagement processes by focusing on capability, commitment; contribution, continuity, collaboration and conscience. The literature describes the key element of successful engagement as mutuality. That is, that there should be benefits for both parties if engagement is to be meaningful, sustained and successful. In the University sector engagement should be a planned process that encompasses working with middle managers or course coordinators to align and develop specialty course content and assessment for the mutual benefit of industry and professions. This interaction is characterised by a two way flow of benefits: for industry and professional groups it ensures a means of providing quality award-based educational programs and for the university it provides students. Designed and managed well, participatory planning can produce better substantive ideas, useful relationships and stronger civic institutions, new agreements across stubborn divides, and the kind of legitimacy and political support that's increasingly important for acting on community and industry problems. On the other hand, opening up the direction-setting process, particularly if participation is more "ritual" than reality, may lead to frustrated expectations, power grabs in which parochial interests dominate, technically deficient ideas, and deeper conflicts and mistrust. Understanding the pitfalls of work between the University sector and the employment sector when developing courses is especially important as attention to diversity in work culture, employment prospects, and threats of ideas and paths not clearly understood or articulated creates difficulties if not attended. Unfortunately, most how-to advice provided to assist those involved in community engagement projects emphasise participation tactics and techniques with little consideration of the human factors that may thwart the successful outcomes of any project. This paper, using a case study approach identifies problems related to community engagement; and, offers strategies to positively progress a community engagement project that has stalled.

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