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The evidence-based practices in preventing surgical site infections

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Surgical site infections (SSI) are infections that develop within 30 or 90 days after surgery or within 1 year in the presence of a prosthesis.

SSIs patients are adversely affected in many ways in terms of physiologically, psychologically, socially, etc. SSIs affect the success of the surgical procedure, causing patients to be reoperated and treated in intensive care units. In addition, it is a type of infection with a high mortality and morbidity rate, which causes more antibiotics to be used and increased hospital costs. Studies show that SSIs can be prevented with evidence-based practices.

In this context, WHO (World Health Organization) has published a guide that includes the current and best scientific evidence to prevent SSIs. This guide includes evidence-based recommendations covering the surgical team, the patient, and pre-, intra-, and post-operative procedures. According to studies, about half of SSIs can be prevented with evidence-based practices.

As a result, it is recommended that the members of the surgical team know the evidence-based practices, apply them correctly and follow up-to-date approaches in order to prevent SSIs.

Biography

Zehra Aydin is doctor (PhD) in the Department of Surgical Diseases Nursing. She has been working in Department of Surgical Diseases Nursing, Faculty of Health Sciences, Hitit University, Corum, Turkey since 2013.

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