## Cross-Cutting Strategies to Improve Infection Prevention & Control

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#### **Objectives**

- Understand how to use the performance tracking tool in your auditing/surveillance program
- Describe how to improve your competency and observation activities in your healthcare organization
- Develop an auditing/surveillance action plan
- Review the GPQIN Website to understand how to navigate for resources/tools

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### **Auditing/Surveillance**

- Auditing consists of measuring clinical outcomes and processes against standards set on policy, procedure or evidence-based medicine. Auditing is part of the continuous quality improvement process.
- Surveillance is defined as the ongoing systematic collection, collation, analysis and interpretation of data essential to the planning, implementation and evaluation of health practice.
  - · Monitoring infection incidence rates
  - Monitoring trends, including the detection of outbreaks
  - Provide early warning and investigation of infection problems and planning/intervention to control

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#### **Role of Audits**

- Process of conducting an objective review of specific practices/procedures
- Measure healthcare personnel's adherence with policies, procedures and standards designed to improve care for the patient/resident
- Effectively implemented, audits provide valuable information for improvement

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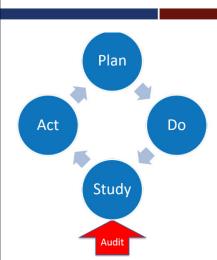
#### **Benefits of Audits**



- Combined with infection surveillance, can identify gaps and strengths in practice
- Monitor adherence to standards in high-risk settings
- Opportunity for improvement, not punishment

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## **Preparing**



- Choose an audit tool
- Train the observer (not just leaders in organization)
- Choose sample size
- Define frequency of audits
- Create your improvement plan
- Implement Interventions
- Audit processes to study impact
- Modify or re-educate if needed

## **Planning & Methods**

- What resources are available?
- What audits will you share?
- What do you want to assess?
  - Have you completed a risk assessment?



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#### **Important to Use a Systems Approach**

- Use data to identify quality problems but also opportunities for improvement
- Set priorities for action
- Perform Risk Assessments to identify gaps in processes
  - · Look at areas of high risk & high volume
- Root Cause Analysis to understand the heart of the problem
- Develop Performance Improvement Teams
- Plan Do Study Act
- Systemic change to eliminate problems at the source or root
- Develop a feedback and monitoring system

#### **Data & Monitoring**

- Use performance indicators (audits/checklist tools) to monitor processes that need quality improvement
- Review findings against targets/goals the facility has established for performance (goal setting)
- Tracking, auditing and investigating (pulling it all together)

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# Systematic Analysis & Action (RCA & PDSA)

- Systematic approach to determine cause of problems in care and services delivered
- Demonstrate proficiency in use of RCA
- Systemic actions look across systems to prevent future events and promote sustained improvement
- Continual learning = continuous improvement

#### **Action**

- Make changes that result in lasting and widespread improvement
- Use of checklists/audits to ensure compliance standards are met
- Should not fall on one person (with clipboard in hall)
  - Have auditing "helpers"
  - Create a culture that sets the tone of "doing the right thing even when others are not looking"

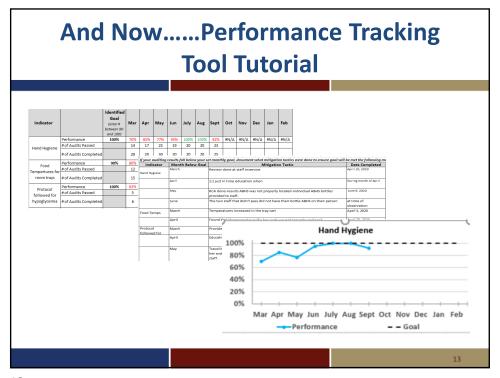
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#### **Best Practices**

- Make auditing a part of your program (not only part of a plan of correction)
- Set performance goal/s
- Aggregate your results
- Mitigation tactics (interventions) are IMPORTANT
- Remember 'just in time' education is important however, consider if it could be a system-wide issue
- Use mitigation tactics (interventions) that will ensure compliance for all

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## **Practice**

■ Tutorial on performance tracker utilization





## **Contact Information**





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