Improvement of compliance to hand hygiene (HH): Best practice as one of the patient safety goals (PSGs)

Introduction: Healthcare-associated infections (HAIs) lead to increased morbidity & mortality, disability, increase length of hospital stay, and increase in antibiotic resistance. Hands are the most common vehicle to transmit HAIs including (MDRS). Compliance with HH is one of the Egyptian PSGs. Most healthcare providers (HCP) believe they’re practicing appropriate & effective HH, though it doesn’t exceed 40% in most of the organizations according to WHO. Assessment of compliance to PSGs was done at Al-Zaytoon specialized multispecialty governmental hospital that provides various medical, surgical and diagnostic services for about 2 million of the population.

Methodology: Data collection was made by meetings with key persons & stakeholders, Structured Observation and reviewing of available forms, documents, and records. SWOT analysis was made focusing on factors related to PSGs including HH. Assessment of awareness & compliance to Egyptian PSGs was done by Questionnaire and Observation. The least rates were reported to HH (60% awareness and 40% compliance). To increase overall HH awareness and compliance to 90% over 1 year. Phase I objectives (over 2 months) were to increase HH awareness from 60-80% and improve compliance from 40-60% among HCP that will improve PS. Cause, effect diagram and in-depth analysis of Possible Causes of non-compliance to HH were done, followed by Pareto Chart formulation. Remedy selection for the few vital causes (Lack of training and Lack of supervision) was followed by implementation and reassessment.

After Improvement: Finally, a control chart was made to ensure consistency & further improvement in terms of how, where, who, what in relation to the overall goal.

Biography
Maha Hamdy is a Professor of Medical Microbiology & Immunology, Faculty of Medicine-Ain Shams University (ASU) and The Head of the department at Armed Forces College of Medicine. She participated in International research projects collaborated with Pasteur Institute & Co-authored international Publications. Actively participated as an infection prevention and control consultant (APIC member#180759), in the upgrading of medical services and accreditation of governmental & teaching hospitals according to Egyptian standards. As an Associate trainer (IBCT-MENA-AT063/08), she trained their staff on infection control measures. She is an Arbitrator (Promotion Committee, Supreme Council of Universities), Vice president of quality assurance unit, ASU & Egyptian fellowship in healthcare management. She is a member of Egyptian Scientific Societies of Medical Microbiology, immunologists, Infection Control, Arabic Society of Infectious diseases & antimicrobials. She passed medical education courses from University of Michigan and is a member in Arabic association of medical education. She had been recognized as the “Ideal doctor” Egyptian Medical Syndicate, March 2006.

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