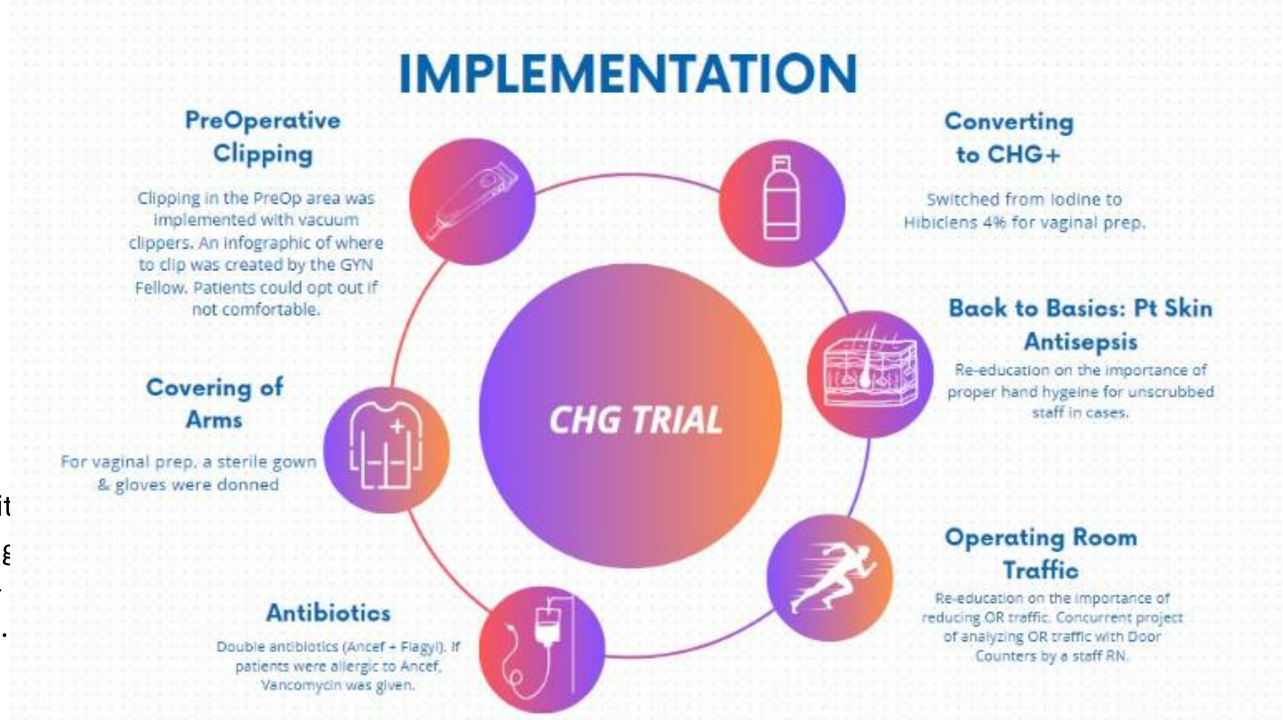
Float Like A Butterfly and Sting Like a Bee with CHG: A Team Approach to Knocking Out SSIs

Kara Itaas MSN, RN, Joan Madalone MS, RN, NE-BC, MHCDS, CCRN-K, Christine Andrea MSN, RN, CNOR, Janelle Kearney MSN, BA, RN, CNOR, Nancy Warren MHA, MLT(ASCP), CIC, Gina Mantia-Smaldone, MD, Jason Conger, MD , Janet Kollman, BSN, RN.

Significance:

A multidisciplinary workgroup at a NCI designated Cancer Center came together which consisted of a Oncologic Gynecologist, her fellow, Infection control, PeriOperative Nursing Leadership, Physician Asssistant, Surgical Step Down Leadership, & OR staff. The team was alucned to investigate a three quarter increase in post-operative surgical site infections (SSIs) in patients that had underwent Hysterectomy procedures.

Purpose: The root cause analysis of surgical sit infections failed to uncover a common cause among the cases. Multiple observations lead us to a multi-teered approach to initiate multiple improvements. The root cause included a breakdown of Pre-Op, Introa-Op, & Post Op elements. There were observations of Hysterectomy procedures as well as an audit of Environmental Services terminal cleaning and traffic control. Antibiotic administration with the appropriate timing was identified and implemented. The group also looked at the tracking of clean closure usage, and the closing technique and timing. Moreover, there was an implementation of clipping in the PreOp arena if the patient agreed.



Evaluation:

During the post implementation of this process there have been 3 consecutive quarters with no Hysterectomy SSIs.

Discussion:

This was an extremely collaborative project in which we had the full engagement of our surgeon and fellow champions. Much participation and education occurred with PreOp & OR staff. The next step in this effort is to look at patient compliance with CHG+ wipes in the post Operative period.

References:

Can be made available upon request

MAGNET RECOGNIZED AMERICAN NURSES CREDENTIALING CENTER
ACCREDITED PRACTICE TRANSITION PROGRAM AMERICAN NURSES CREDENTIALING CENTER
PERSON CENTERED CARE
FOX CHASE CANCER CENTER TEMPLE HEALTH
NCCN National Comprehensive Cancer Network®
NCI Designated Comprehensive Cancer Center