



CENTRAL LINE-ASSOCIATED BLOODSTREAM INFECTIONS

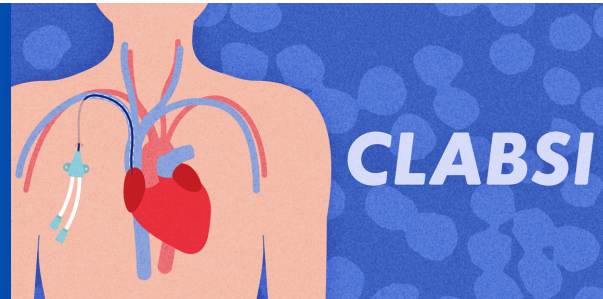
PROBLEM

Central line-associated bloodstream infections are very common, but preventable, when care bundles or evidence-based practices are included in client care. Following these interventions can reduce infection rates and even increase compliance among nurses (Gillis et al., 2022).

Especially in an intensive care unit, these central lines are utilized every single day and it essential to prevent CLABSIs in order to improve client outcomes.

PREVENTION

- Compliance of **daily chlorhexidine baths** by nurses should be implemented in order to reduce presence of gram negative and positive bacteria, which decrease CLABSIs rates by about sixty-five percent (Scheier et al., 2021).
- Compliance of **daily oral care and hygiene** by nurses should also be implemented due to common neglect of these practices, which can elevate patient safety and reduce rates of bacterial infection of central lines (Kemp et al., 2019).
- Nurses should maintain use of **antiseptic barrier caps** such as green Curoc caps in order to increase compliance and reduce CLABSIs by seven percent (Gillis et al., 2022). They should thoroughly **follow standardized blood culture procedures** as well to decrease additional device days and SIR rate (Gilman & Shapiro, 2022).
- Having a consistent **CLABSI rounding team** can ensure that bundles are completed and that nurses can be further educated by having standardized reduction processes (Pate et al., 2022). A **CLABSI questionnaire** can also be available to all nurses in order to self assess and evaluate what targeted CLABSI training is required (Dang et al., 2023).



WHAT IS CLABSI?

An infection that occurs when bacteria enter the client's bloodstream via central line, which can cause life-threatening complications or harm if left untreated.



NURSING RESPONSIBILITY

Nurses **must** complete accurate and appropriate documentation of central line necessity, condition, and placement daily.

Nurses **must** practice proper hand hygiene and don appropriate PPE before accessing the central line for blood draws, connections, etc.

Nurses **must** educate client and family on central lines and how to prevent infections to include/inform them of their care.

By doing all of these, nurses can ensure that clients have a decreased length of stay in the hospital, decreased days with central devices, and decreased rates of infection.

This leads to increased compliance among nurses, and more importantly, improves client outcomes.

REFERENCES



(Scheier et al., 2021)



(Kemp et al., 2019)



(Gillis et al., 2022)



(Gilman & Shapiro, 2022)



(Dang et al., 2023)



(Pate et al., 2022)