

Paris Regional Medical Center Ventilator Associated Pneumonia Success Story



Paris Regional Medical Center

Paris, Texas

Submitted by the J.C.R. H.E.N. with hospital permission

With the Partnership for Patients, Paris Regional Medical Center decided to address Ventilator Associated Pneumonia (V.A.P.) as our rates for the three years have been:

- Rate 2010 – 0
- Rate 2011 - 9.47
- Rate 2012 - 5.05

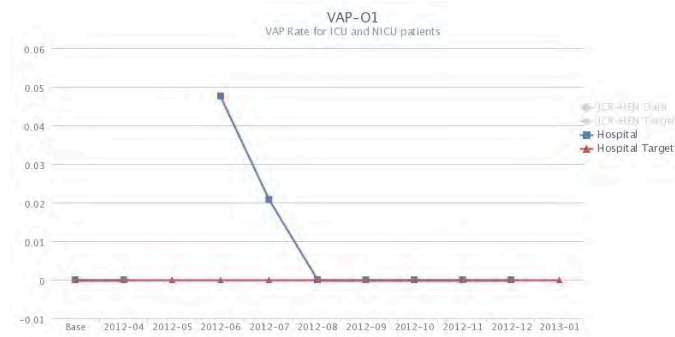
Because of our concern that we had a period of no V.A.P. and then had a cluster of them, we formed a team composed of nursing, respiratory therapists, anesthesiologist, and pulmonologist to drill down into the causes so we could address solutions. We conducted a Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (S.W.O.T) analysis to look at our current state. We also developed a high level flow diagram which identified our risks points, and a cause and effect diagram. By analyzing our current state, we found that we were not consistently using chlorhexidine gluconate oral care kits and that we also had several new nurses in the Intensive Care Unit (I.C.U.) who did not have proper education and training on V.A.P. prevention.

We set our V.A.P. goal at zero and developed a work plan as a roadmap to address things we needed to change. Our challenges and barriers included:

- Demonstrating that the use of chlorhexidine was evidence based and justified the additional expense of the kits,
- Education of nursing staff,
- Charting of compliance with bundle elements,
- Including communication with nursing and respiratory therapy.

We are very proud of the collaborative work we have done and are proud that our rate is back to zero with no V.A.P. since July of 2012.

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To sustain our success, we have:

- Developed new ventilator order sets that incorporate all elements of the bundles,
- Ensured that Chlorhexidine gluconate oral care kits are available for each patient the entire time they are ventilated,
- Included V.A.P. prevention in the orientation and annual competencies of the I.C.U. nursing staff, and
- Audit/observed staff for compliance with the bundles.

Respectfully submitted by: Christy Armes

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