Eliminate Harm Across the Board

Days Since Last SSI

Operating Room Safety and Surgical Site Infection (SSI) Prevention:

- Develop and follow standardized order sets for each surgical procedure to include antibiotic name, timing of administration, weight-based dose, re-dosing (for longer procedures) and discontinuation.

- Ensure preoperative skin antisepsis, such as basic soap and water shower; use chlorhexidine gluconate showers.

- Develop standardized perioperative skin antiseptic practices utilizing the most appropriate skin antiseptic for the type of surgery performed.

- Develop a standardized procedure to assure normothermia by warming ALL surgical patients.

- Develop and implement protocol to optimize glucose control in ALL surgical patients.

- Develop protocol to screen and/or decolonize selected patients with Staphylococcus aureus.

- Adhere to established guidelines (e.g., HICPAC, AORN) to ensure basic aseptic technique (e.g., traffic control, attire) is adhered to uniformly.

- Establish a culture of safety that provides an environment of open and safe communication among the surgical team.

- Establish system so surgical site infection data is analyzed and shared.

- Develop a protocol to provide guidance on blood transfusion practices, as a unit of packed red blood cells should be considered a transplant/immune modulator and has been linked to a higher risk of SSIs.