

PREVENTING CENTRAL LINE-ASSOCIATED BLOODSTREAM INFECTIONS

Hospitals can reduce the risk of central line-associated bloodstream infections by following five important prevention steps outlined by the Institute for Healthcare Improvement. These steps include:

- 1) Hand hygiene (washing hands or using an alcohol-based waterless hand cleanser between patients, after using the bathroom, and at other appropriate times).
- 2) Using barriers to keep infection away from the central line (cap, mask, sterile gown and gloves for providers; head-to-toe sterile drape for patients).
- 3) Using appropriate antiseptic to clean the patient's skin.
- 4) Using the best site for the central line (research shows that a vein called the "subclavian vein" is the best place to insert the central line).
- 5) Reviewing the necessity of the central line every day and removing it as soon as it is no longer needed (the risk of infection increases over time as the line is left in place).

For more information about these prevention steps, click on:

<http://www.ihl.org/IHII/Topics/CriticalCare/IntensiveCare/Changes/ImplementtheCentralLineBundle.htm>

How to read the table: Hospitals were asked to self-report on which of the five prevention steps (listed above) they promote: an "x" indicates that they promote the prevention step (i.e., if an x appears under #1, the hospital reported that it promotes hand hygiene). Hospitals were also asked to report and provide evidence about whether staff are trained on the prevention steps and whether the hospital ensures that staff are using the prevention steps. The hospital's Chief of Surgery or Chief Quality Officer and Infection Control Practitioner completed and signed the self-reporting form.

Hospital Name	The hospital reported that it promotes the following five prevention steps:					The hospital reported that it trains staff on the prevention steps.	The hospital reported that it ensures staff are using the prevention steps.
	1	2	3	4	5		
Brattleboro Memorial Hospital	x	x	x	x	x	Yes	Yes
Central Vermont Medical Center	x	x	x	x	x	Yes	Yes
Copley Hospital	x	x	x	x	x	Yes	Yes
Fletcher Allen Health Care	x	x	x	x	x	Yes	Yes
Gifford Memorial Center	x	x	x	x	x	Yes	Yes
Grace Cottage Hospital ¹	x	n/a	n/a	n/a	x	Yes	Yes
Mt. Ascutney Hospital and Health Center	x	x	x	x	x	Yes	Yes
North Country Hospital	x	x	x	x	x	Yes	Yes
Northeastern Vermont Regional	x	x	x	x	x	Yes	Yes
Northwestern Medical Center	x	x	x	x	x	Yes	Yes
Porter Hospital	x	x	x	x	x	Yes	Yes
Rutland Regional Medical Center	x	x	x	x	x	Yes	Yes
Southwestern Vermont Medical Center	x	x	x	x	x	Yes	Yes
Springfield Hospital	x	x	x	x	x	Yes	Yes
Veterans Administration Medical Center	x	x	x	x	x	Yes	Yes

¹ This hospital does not insert central lines but does maintain central lines for patients transferring from other hospitals. Therefore, prevention steps 2, 3 and 4 are not applicable to this hospital.