The Problem
In 2007, all 19 regional perinatal programs in New York began looking at the reduction of central-line associated blood stream infections because none of them were without incidence.

The Solution
Albany Regional Medical Center wanted to reduce CLABSI in their neonatal ICU. This New York hospital utilized the CLABSI reduction tools and training modules created by Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, http://www.hret.org/hret/programs/cusp/content/CLABSI_Toolkit.doc.

The tools embrace the idea that the nursing staff is key in reducing CLABSI. It insures that at every instance of insertion and maintenance there are full barriers, gowning, gloving and masking. The staff is instructed in the practice of scrubbing the central line hub. Medication administration and tubing set up is always performed in a closed environment to ensure it was the safest environment.

It is also essential to make sure that everything for the placement and maintenance of the line is in the central line pack. This includes masks, drapes, gloves, and the line itself. Having complete packs serve as a reminder of the steps of the initiative; it also eliminates running and hunting for resources.

Celebrating success is also important. Scores are posted and celebrations are routinely planned to keep employees engaged and aware of the processes.

Results
Zero CLABSI in neonatal ICU since February 2009.

HOSPITAL CHARACTERISTICS
ALBANY MEDICAL CENTER
- Albany, NY
- 600 beds
- www.amc.edu

S.T.E.E.E.P.

SAFE
Neonatal ICU patients have not experienced a CLABSI since February 2009.

TIMELY
By including all necessary materials in the central line pack, staff did not have to "hunt and run" to find what they needed to perform.

TEAM MEMBERS
Louis Fihour
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