

# Preventing CLABSI in NICU: Drive to Zero

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## AIM

- Reduce CLABSI rates by 20% by December 2024
- Remain below SPS benchmarking rate (1 /1000 central line days)

## CONTEXT

- Surge of CLABSI rates in NICU starting June 2022 up to 4 episodes per quarter
- High nursing turnover - 60% <1-3 years experience
- High census and acuity
- Chlorhexidine availability (stick vs swab)

## INTERVENTIONS

- New signage for Bare Below the Elbow
- SAFE-ALL bundle, umbilical catheterization guidelines
- Incentives for nurses performing CLABSI audits
- QR tracking for 20 central line SPS audits/month
- Scrub the Hub with alcohol swabs

### SAFE-ALL to Prevent CLABSI

#### Are you bare below the elbow?

- Sleeves rolled up
- No watches or wrist jewellery
- No rings
- No artificial nails or nail polish

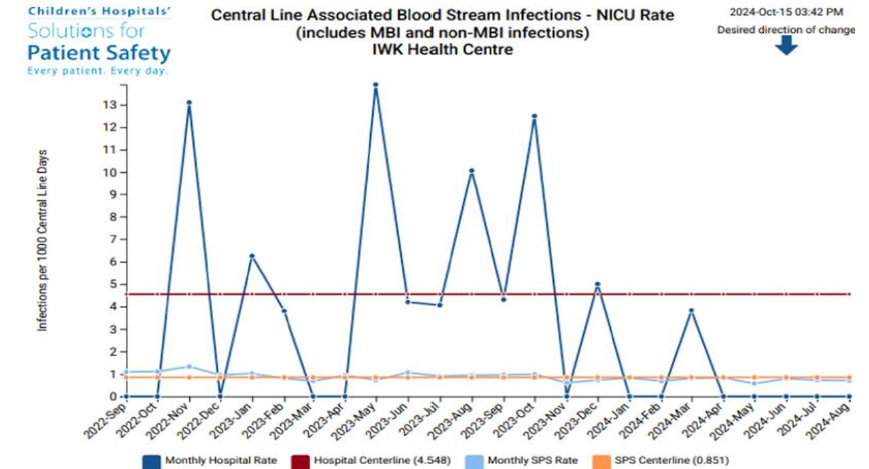
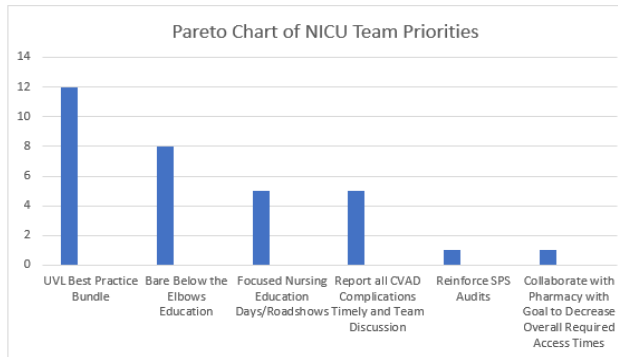
## PREVENTING CLABSI IN NICU

### What can you do?

- SCRUB THE HUB:** 30 SECOND SCRUB, 30 SECOND DRY WITH ALCOHOL 70%
- WASH/SANITIZE YOUR HANDS DIRECTLY PRIOR TO EVERY LINE ACCESS**
- CRAB A FRIEND AND DO A CLABSI AUDIT. NO BETTER WAY TO LEARN BEST TECHNIQUES THAN TOGETHER**
- BARE BELOW THE ELBOWS!** NO RINGS, WATCHES, BRACELETS, SLEEVES, POLISH, REMIND FAMILIES AND EACH OTHER
- ENGAGE AND EDUCATE FAMILIES TO PROTECT THEIR BABIES FROM LINE INFECTIONS**
- ENSURE CVAD DRESSINGS DRY AND INTACT, CHANGE AS SOON AS COMPROMISED**
- SAFE-ALL TO PREVENT CLABSI!**
- SCRUB THE HUB**
- ADVOCATE AND EDUCATE**
- FOUR MOMENTS OF HAND WASH AND BEFORE LINE ACCESS**
- ESTABLISH BEST PRACTICES FOR UMBILICAL LINES**
- ALL "BARE BELOW THE ELBOW"**

## RESULTS

37 weeks CLABSI Free  
Zero CLABSI for last 3 Quarters



	2023-Sep	2023-Oct	2023-Nov	2023-Dec	2024-Jan	2024-Feb	2024-Mar	2024-Apr	2024-May	2024-Jun	2024-Jul	2024-Aug
# of CLABSI Events	1	2	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
NICU Central Line Days	232	160	240	200	199	98	261	174	232	224	245	258
Monthly Hospital Rate	4.31	12.5	0	5	0	0	3.831	0	0	0	0	0
Hospital Centerline (4.548)	4.548	4.548	4.548	4.548	4.548	4.548	4.548	4.548	4.548	4.548	4.548	4.548
Monthly SPS Rate	0.966	0.986	0.615	0.735	0.823	0.693	0.809	0.841	0.581	0.791	0.793	0.712
SPS Centerline (0.851)	0.851	0.851	0.851	0.851	0.851	0.851	0.851	0.851	0.851	0.851	0.851	0.851

## KEYS TO SUCCESS

- Multidisciplinary team, collaboration with IPAC
- Auditing of CLABSI records to identify patterns
- Priorities and needs informed by staff
- Optimized multimodal communication
- Focused education sessions
- Knowledge mobilization throughout IWK
- Hand hygiene rates in NICU (92% before , 95% after)