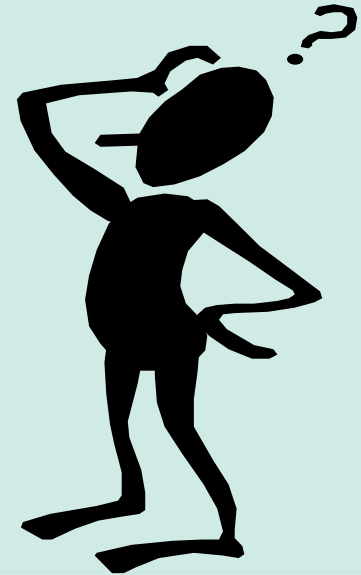


Gathering and Using Evidence & Data to Demonstrate Improvements Within Your Care Home

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Objectives

- Look at how gathering evidence and data can help you to demonstrate improvements in infection control practices implemented within your Care Home
- Introduce some of the tools which can be used to collect evidence and data
- Discuss what tools you have used or are going to use to monitor standards, compliance and improvements

Why do we need to demonstrate improvements in our infection prevention & control practices ?

- Infection is intolerable
- Infection prevention is integral to resident / visitor & staff safety
- Infection prevention is an integral part of care delivery
- Cleanliness is everyone's responsibility
- **HCAI is everyone's responsibility** *(DH 2008)*

The Financial Implications of HCAs

- Infection costs the NHS **£1 billion** pounds per year
- Cutting rates of HCAs is a key priority in health policy



The Human Cost of HCAIs

- Complications & adverse incidents
- Unnecessary anxiety, discomfort & pain
- Increased length of hospitalisation
- Extended use of antibiotics
- Delays in treatment & recovery
- Additional hospital visits
- Increased mortality & morbidity



Clear Message for us all

- The government have clear targets “no avoidable infections”
- Effective prevention and control of HCAs must be **embedded** into everyday practice and applied **consistently** to everyone

“Everyone’s responsibility”

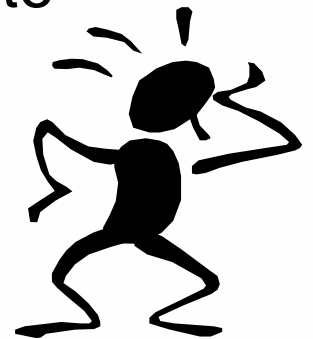
The Challenge for us all

Infections do happen BUT many Infections are preventable:

- If Policies are followed to improve cleanliness and safety of care

and

- Antibiotic prescribing guidelines are adhered to



Did you know?

- One of first clinical audits was undertaken by Florence Nightingale during the Crimean War of 1853 to 1855
- Appalled by the unsanitary conditions at the medical barracks hospital & high mortality rates among injured or ill soldiers
- Strict sanitary routines & standards of hygiene to the hospital and equipment were applied
- Meticulous records of the mortality rates among the hospital patients were kept



What did she achieve?

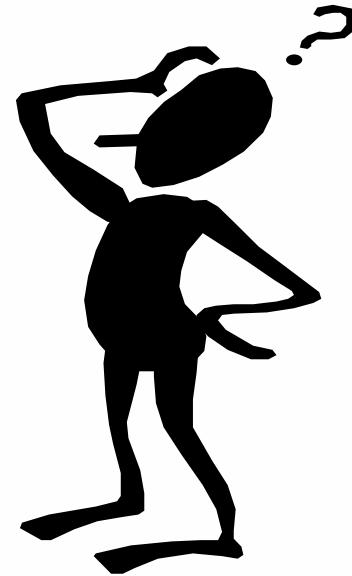
- Mortality rates fell from 40% to 2%
- Results were instrumental in overcoming resistance to new procedures



So....what can we do?

Simple Questions

- Why are we doing this?
- How are we going to do this?
- What do we need to do this?
- When are we going to do this?
- What support will we require?
- How are we going to communicate this to and to who?
- What are we going to do with any evidence / data we collect?



The Assessment Framework

- Aligned to Change Principle 5
- Section 5 Assessment Framework

“Using data to drive improvement”

This section will help you look at what systems / processes / measures are in place to look at infection control practices within your care home

Gathering Evidence

Evidence is collecting the facts to:

- Be able to demonstrate what you have implemented / achieved
- To show effectiveness / outcomes of any systems / processes in place
- Compliance & adherence to required standards

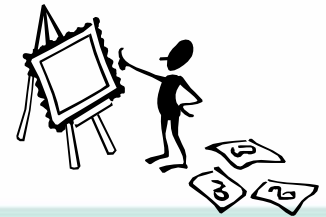


Evaluation

Evaluation is an essential part of all improvement activity to:

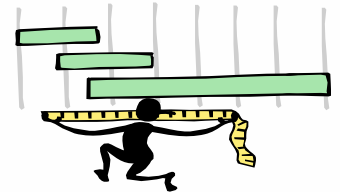
- Determine whether your aims have been achieved
- Check that you are making the right improvements
- Look at what has worked best

Is a systematic assessment of the implementation and impact of your initiatives



Gathering Data

- Be clear about the data you need / require - will it help you?
- Adopt an approach to collecting the data which does not impact on day to day work
- Determine what kind of data you want / need to collect i.e. quantitative or qualitative data?
- Are you going to collect retrospective (old) or current data ?
- Reliability / Validity ?
- Who will be collecting the data?
- What are you going to do with the data?



Remember

Depending upon what data you are collecting this must be in accordance with;

- Data Protection
- Confidentiality
- Ethical consideration

Quantitative Approach

Collection of numerical data through;

- Statistics
- Structured interviews
- Questionnaires
- Surveys

Data may also be gathered from routine information collected about the service in question to demonstrate changes as a result of an improvement

Qualitative Approach

Descriptive information in text form & involves recording experiences and the meanings that they attribute to events & behaviours by collecting data through the use of;

- Interviews
- Observation
- Document Analysis

Monitoring Standards & Compliance

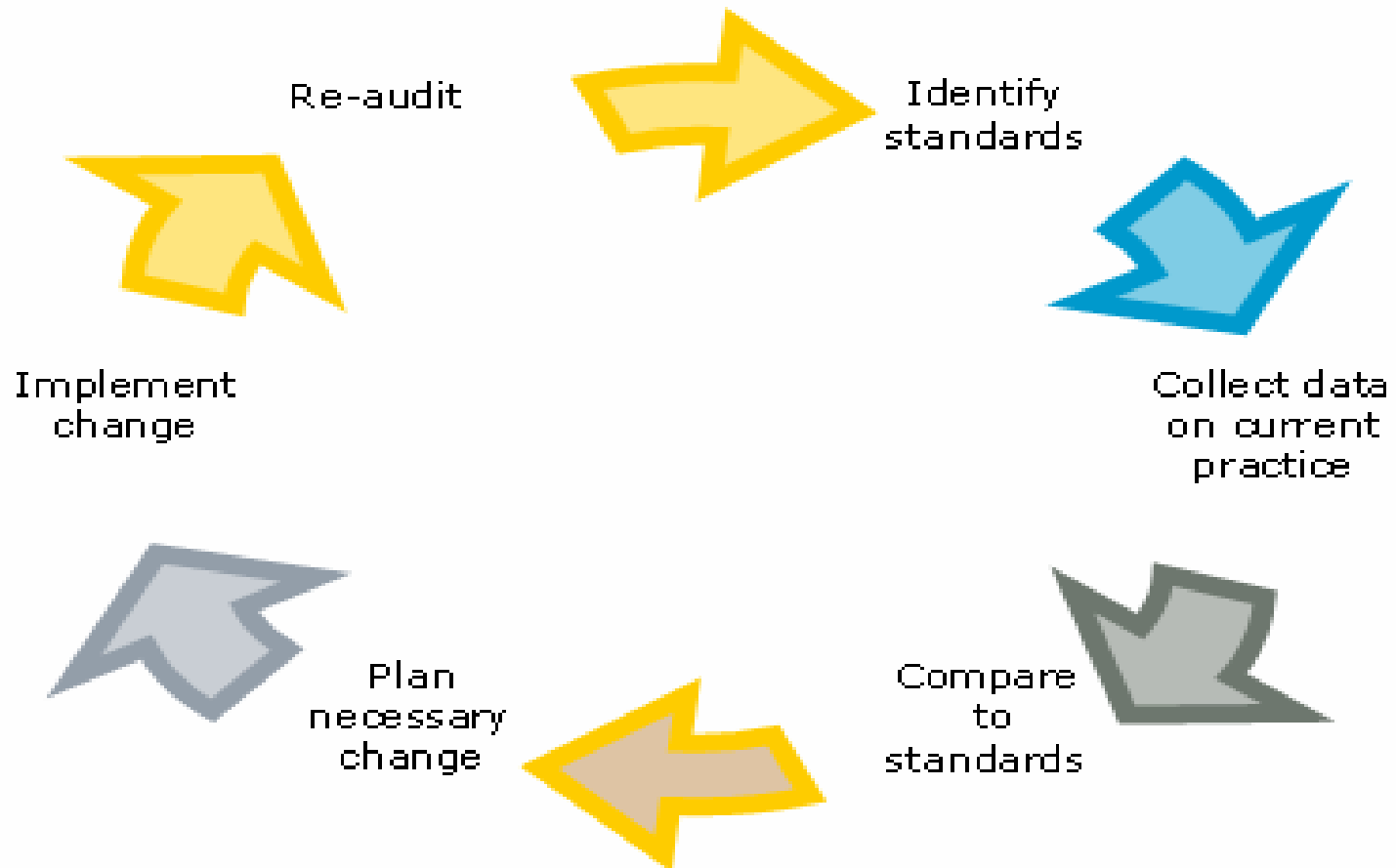
- **Audit** is an investigation into whether an activity is meeting the required standards for the purpose of checking & improving that activity
- External & ready made
- Internal as a self - review

“are we doing what we are supposed to be doing?”

What is the audit process?

- Identify or set standards
- Standards may be defined in advance (i.e. national standards or defined by the service provider for self-audit)
- Collect data on current practice
- Compare results with standards
- Plan changes in practice
- Implement changes
- Re audit to make sure improvements have been made

Audit Cycle



Sharing best practice

You can share your outcomes / results / findings with;

- Your staff / residents / relatives / visitors
- Other professional groups i.e. Care Home / PCT / HPA

by;

- Reports
- Newsletter
- Meetings / Workshops
- Publication in Journals & Professional Magazines
- Good News Articles with local media if appropriate

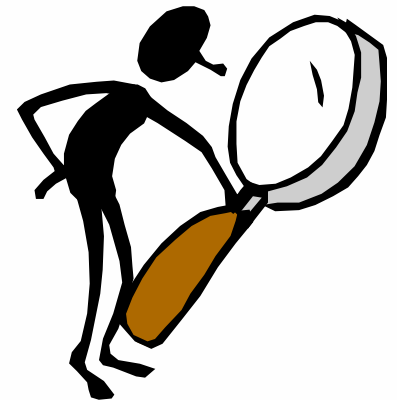
Considerations

- Communication, Support and Commitment
- Ensure all who have been involved are provided with any results / outcomes
- Key Stakeholders are informed & aware
- Findings & learning inform any future activity
- Future training incorporates any changes in practice which have occurred
- Is re training required?
- Are changes in practice required?
- Do policies or guidelines need to be updated?
- Do you need to access new policies?

Tools & Resources

- Investigate local & national tools which may be available to you (i.e. DH Essential Steps)
- Liase with your local PCT Infection Prevention & Control Nurses (i.e. PEAT)
- Contact your Community Matron
- Liase with your local HPU

or design your own!!



What have you been doing ?

Early trends have shown some great improvement work

The following are some of the examples of what improvements you have achieved

Next steps evaluate

- Effectiveness / Quality
- Compliance
- Sustainability

Reviewing and updating policies

- Review and update all infection control policies to be in line with national and local recommendations and requirements
- Review admission documentation, care plans and transfer documentation to incorporate HCAI status and relevant information
- Collate in-house policies for visiting pets (pet pass systems)

Audits of current practice

- Use of national & local audit tools to monitor compliance and standards
- Audits to identify if improved hygiene standards and hand hygiene compliance have impacted on incidence of infection
- Evaluation of current antibiotic prescribing within the home and analysis of trends

Improving compliance & implementing best practice

- Review current cleaning schedules within the care home and implementation of appropriate actions to ensure compliance with national guidelines and requirements
- Introduction of new daily cleaning schedules for toilets, commodes, slings, hoists and other re-usable medical devices and equipment
- Review infection control practice within kitchen environment and dining areas

Improving compliance & implementing best practice

- Setting up of clinical governance committees within the home to look at current infection control practices
- Uniform policy compliance
- Appropriate use of personal protective equipment
- Use of alcohol gel and monitoring of correct hand washing procedure
- Encouraging residents to hand wash prior to & after meals
- Introduction of weekly nail checks / nail cutting for residents (incorporated in to personal care plans)

Improving communication and multi-agency working

- Improved communications with PCT infection control teams and Health Protection Agency infection control nurses
- Development of posters and booklets to provide residents and visitors information on infection prevention practices within the home
- Implementation of monthly newsletters within the home to communicate participation in the programme, changes and improvements made to date and other general information regarding HCAs

Training

- Increase awareness of recognised training providers for infection prevention and control
- Training for all staff on reporting and managing an outbreak and appropriate actions which must be implemented
- Training followed by audit for compliance with policies and procedures i.e. hand hygiene

PLAN, DO, STUDY, ACT Cycles (PDSAs)

Remember to
continue to use the
PDSA cycles to
manage &
demonstrate your
improvements

**PLAN, DO, STUDY,
ACT**

PDSA cycle planning sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____

Change Principle:

Overall objective that this cycle links to

Specific objective for this cycle

What are you going to do?

Who will be involved?

Where will it take place?

When will it take place?

What do you predict will happen?

What are you going to measure in this cycle?

1

Sharing best practice & learning

- What evidence & data are you currently collecting to demonstrate your improvements
- What tools have you been using?
- What learning / key findings have arisen?

THANK YOU FOR LISTENING & PARTICIPATING

Any Questions?

