Risk Assessment for Infection Prevention and Control Programs
Objectives

- Discuss three strategies to ensure a successful risk assessment;
- Develop an infection control plan from risk assessment results; and
- Create a progress report to track accomplishments of the infection control plan.
IC standards have made risk assessment and infection prevention goal setting more structured, formal process to enhance a well-designed and thoughtful approach to infection prevention activities.
Thoughtful examination of what could cause harm to patients, staff, families and visitors, or facility.

The important issues are whether a known or potential risk is likely to occur, if it will be significant should it occur, and whether the organization is adequately prepared to handle it so that the negative effects are eliminated or minimized.
The hospital identifies risks for acquiring and transmitting infections.
Risks Identified Based on:

- Geographic location, community, and population served.
- The care, treatment, and services provided.
- The analysis of surveillance activities and other infection prevention data.
Risks

- Reviews, identifies risks at least annually and with significant changes
- Require input from IP, medical staff, nursing, and leadership
- Prioritized and documented
Based on the identified risks, the hospital sets goals to minimize the possibility of transmitting infections.
Goals Include

- Limiting unprotected exposure to pathogens
- Limiting transmission of infections associated with procedures
- Limiting transmission of infections associated with use of medical equipment, devices, and supplies
Goals Include

- Improving compliance with hand hygiene guidelines
IC.01.05.01

- The hospital has an infection prevention and control plan
The hospital implements its infection prevention and control plan.
Implementation Includes

- Activities including surveillance to minimize, reduce, or eliminate risk of infection
- Standard precautions
- Transmission-based precautions
- Outbreak investigation
Implementation Includes

- Methods for storing and disposing of infectious waste
- Methods of communicating responsibilities for prevention and control to LIPs, staff, visitors, patients, and families
- Reporting information to staff and to local, state, and federal public health
Implementation Includes

- Reporting infection information to transferring and receiving organizations
- Reduction of risk associated with medical equipment, devices and supplies
  - Cleaning, disinfection, sterilization, disposal, storage
  - Issues related to reprocessing of SUDs
Implementation Includes

- Employee health-related issues
  - Screening
  - Handling of infections
  - Exposures
- Influenza vaccination program for staff and LI Ps
NPSG.07

- Prevention of Infection
- .07.01 – Hand Hygiene
- .07.02 – Sentinel Events – Root Cause Analysis
- .07.03 – MDROs (13 EPs)
- .07.04 – Central Line Associated Bloodstream Infections (17 EPs)
NPSG.07

- .07.05 – Surgical Site Infections (12 EPs)
- Phase-in requirements in 2009
- All implemented by 1/1/2010
NPSG.13

- Requirements for patient education (and documentation) in 2009
  1. Hand Hygiene
  2. Contact Precautions
  3. Respiratory Hygiene
  4. Surgical Site Infection Prevention
The hospital evaluates the effectiveness of its infection prevention and control plan annually and whenever risks significantly change.
Evaluation Includes

- Prioritized risks
- IPC plan’s goals
- Implementation of IPC plan’s activities
- Communication to patient safety program
- Use of findings when revising plan
Risk Assessment Process

- Homework & Planning
  - Forms
  - Standards
  - Data
  - Current issues
Risk Assessment Process

- Team Recruitment
  - Invitation
  - Solicit information in advance – What are the most important infection prevention & control problems?
  - What are our most frequent reasons for admission, procedures performed, etc.
Risk Assessment Team

- IP Staff
- EH
- Medical Staff
- Laboratory
- Pharmacy
- Nursing
- Surgery
- Housekeeping
- Maintenance
- Administration
- Central Processing
- Quality Department
- Joint Commission Coordinator
Risk Assessment Meeting

- Commitment for attendance/participation
- Time for thought and discussion
- Prioritizing risks
- Determine IPC Plan
Organization Evaluation

- Factors to include
  - Geographic and environmental
  - Population characteristics
  - Area endemic infections
  - Other area-related risks
  - Medical care characteristics
  - Services provided
Organization Evaluation

- Description of factors
- Characteristics that increase risk for infection
- Characteristics that decrease risk for infection
- Include findings in risk assessment tool
Risk Assessment Form

Components

- Probability of event occurring
- Impact/severity
  - Health
  - Financial
  - Legal
  - Regulatory, accrediting
- Current systems
Risk Score

- Derived from multiplication of three component numbers
- Group consensus vs. mathematical averaging or summation
Prioritization

- Rank order risks using risk scores
- Each organization's priorities will be different
Risk Assessment Exercise

- Discuss each potential risk
- Come to group consensus on assignment of number for each component
- Multiply component numbers to calculate risk scores
- Occasionally compare risk scores to validate with group
Infection Prevention and Control Plan

- Develop a plan for each strategy with persons, resources, timelines, etc.
- Get ICC and administrative support
- Develop partnership with key staff
- Don’t take on too many at one time
- Build in objectives, measurements and evaluation
The IPC Progress Report

- Rank ordered priorities
- Goals (broad statements)
- Objectives (specific & measurable – support the goal)
- Strategies (steps to take to achieve the objective)
- Evaluation (how you will measure your success)
- Progress and analysis (current status and next steps)
Group Exercise

- For top three risks identified, develop:
  - Goals
  - Objectives
  - Strategies for implementation
  - Method of evaluation
Risk Assessment/Planning

- Documentation of processes
- Group involvement/organizational support
- Process/forms for reporting
- Tracking of results
- Program improvement
Questions???