

Evaluating an evidence-based bundle for preventing surgical site infection.

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Anthony T, Murray BW, Sum-Ping JT, et al. Evaluating an evidence-based bundle for preventing surgical site infection: a randomized trial. Arch Surg. 2011;146(3):263-9. doi:10.1001/archsurg.2010.249.

<https://psnet.ahrq.gov/issue/evaluating-evidence-based-bundle-preventing-surgical-site-infection>

[Checklists](#) of evidence-based interventions have resulted in notable successes in patient safety, particularly in preventing [central line–associated bloodstream infections](#). This randomized controlled trial attempted to extend the checklist approach to prevention of [surgical site infection](#). However, despite implementing five evidence-based practices in a bundled approach, the incidence of postoperative infections was actually higher in the intervention group compared with patients receiving standard infection prophylaxis. A [commentary](#) by the developers of the [Keystone ICU](#) checklist discusses the utility and limitations of checklists in improving safety.