

What US hospitals are currently doing to prevent common device-associated infections: results from a national survey.

May 8, 2019

Saint S, Greene MT, Fowler KE, et al. What US hospitals are currently doing to prevent common device-associated infections: results from a national survey. *BMJ Qual Saf.* 2019;28(9):741-749.

doi:10.1136/bmjqs-2018-009111.

<https://psnet.ahrq.gov/issue/what-us-hospitals-are-currently-doing-prevent-common-device-associated-infections-results>

This study focused on three types of device-associated infections: [catheter-associated urinary tract infection](#) (CAUTI), [central line-associated bloodstream infection](#) (CLABSI), and [ventilator-associated pneumonia](#) (VAP). Investigators surveyed hospital infection control leaders at 528 hospitals about prevention practices for each of these infections. More than 90% of respondents had established surveillance for CAUTI rates throughout their facilities, nearly 100% used two key CLABSI prevention techniques as part of their insertion protocol, and 98% used semirecumbent positioning to prevent VAP. Gaps remain in use of antimicrobial devices across all three of these infection types. The authors conclude that, although implementation of evidence-based infection practices are improving over time, some gaps in device-associated infection prevention persist. A past [PSNet perspective](#) discussed the history around efforts to address preventable [hospital-acquired infections](#).