

## Quality improvement initiative to decrease central line-associated bloodstream infections during the COVID-19 pandemic: a "zero harm" approach.

April 19, 2023

Redstone CS, Zadeh M, Wilson M-A, et al. Quality improvement initiative to decrease central line-associated bloodstream infections during the COVID-19 pandemic: a "zero harm" approach. J Patient Saf. 2023;19(3):173-179. doi:10.1097/pts.0000000000001107.

<https://psnet.ahrq.gov/issue/quality-improvement-initiative-decrease-central-line-associated-bloodstream-infections-during>

---

[Previous research](#) has found that [central line-associated blood stream infections](#) (CLABSIs) increased during the COVID-19 pandemic. This article describes the development, implementation, and evaluation of a quality improvement initiative (QI) at one community health system in Canada to [reduce](#) CLABSIs between July 2019 and May 2022. The QI initiative included changes in six areas – organizational oversight and accountability, [education and training](#), standardized central line processes, optimized central line equipment, improving data and reporting, and fostering a culture of safety. Over the study period, CLABSIs were reduced by 51% and the use of both central line insertion checklists and central line capped lumens increased.