Implementation of an Integrated IV Catheter System: the Vancouver General Hospital Experience

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Context

Specific Aims

Peripheral IV Catheters

- Almost **90%** of hospital **in-patients** receive an intravenous device¹
- Peripheral IV Catheter (**PIV**) is the most frequently used device²
- **Costs** and **clinical impact** of PIVs are often **underestimated**.³
- Every PIV may be handled hundreds of times, by a wide range of clinicians with varying skill levels.

Vancouver General Hospital

- 1,500 acute beds and 86,000 annual discharges, vascular access is a critical function.
- The Vascular Access Team (VAT) was called up to 60 times a day to perform routine PIV insertions.
- Nurses were being exposed to blood during PIV insertion with the current products.
- Complications, such as occlusions, infection, dislodgement, or phlebitis occur frequently and may be costly.⁴
- Blood exposure for staff and patients poses a significant preventable risk.⁵



- Milestone #1
- Baseline assessments
- Benchmark results with global and local best practice guidelines⁵.

- Manipulation of catheter hubs to place extension sets was increasing the risk of complications.
- Policies concerning asepsis and best practice vein selection were not consistently being followed.







- Examine policies, practices, and products that are a part of vascular access at VGH.
- Perform145 vascular site assessments, 62 observations

Milestone #2

Policies: Updated policy **per guidelines** to remove PIV when clinically indicated with PIV reassessment and site care/dressing change at 7 days.

Practices: How to **train 5,500 nurses** on the policies and best practices to achieve vascular access excellence?

- Identified hot spots where there was a high volume of PIV insertions and significant training needs.
- Extensive in-service training with assistance from BD.
- Shadowing of 400 nurses helped create a team of experts who could support their colleagues.
- On-line, training programs on PIV practices continue to provide support.

Products: The VAT Team partnered with the Professional Practice and Clinical Equipment and Supplies teams to conduct a cost analysis and make a business-case proposal to change to the BD Nexiva[™] safety catheter.

Vancouver General Hospital partnered with BD Signature Solutions Vascular Access Management Program to achieve the following improvements.

Dwell time up **30%** (Dwell time up to 4 days from 3.1 days)

First stick success up to 77% from 71%

PIV removal documentation rate up to 79% from 39%

Blood exposure decreased to 0% from 25% Symptomatic removal rate decreased to 11% from 21% Dislodgement rate decreased to 2% Calls to VAT team down 50%

Milestone #3

Ongoing Assessment to

- Drive clinician practices to be congruent with worldwide industry standards,
- Assured compliance to policy
- Standardize products and practices.

(Decreased to 30/day from 60/day)

Single-site results — may not be indicative of future results

References

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