BRANDING INFECTION CONTROL LINK NURSE IN FINNISH ICU

Educate yourself to educate others

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Improve your communication skills
Feedback and information is taken better when coming from peer level, instead from above. Role of Infection control link nurse is constant learning of communication.

Non-stop training
While doing prevalence’s, common problems and errors in aseptic behaviour can be spotted. Target monthly trainings to these issues, for example: isolation protocols, how to dress- and undress yourself (mask, apron, gloves) correctly without contaminating.

Educate yourself
• Be prepared to answer questions, and correct the myths.
• Make a year plan, (international hand hygiene day and campaigns, influenza).
• Plan together with your infection control nurse what local education could you get, from your hospital, town, organizations, companies etc.
• Which conferences to participate?
• Read publications, follow societies and organizations
• Twitter, LinkedIn, blogs, podcasts

Results
Lead with example, and admit also your own improvable aseptic behaviour. Measuring the effectiveness is important, and planning enough time for prevalence’s and statistics is crucial. Healthcare associated infections, and amount of alcohol-based hand rub used are good primarily considered measurements.

Education from your hospital district
Network with your infection control nurse and infection specialist doctor
Conferences + lectures
Publications, societies
Social media
Twitter, LinkedIn

Annual campaigns; around may 5th hand hygiene day, and from October to December
Influenza
Regular non-stop trainings about aseptics, isolation protocols and sample taking
Prevalence's (catheters, antibiotics, hand hygiene)

Measure your efficiency: alcohol based hand rub, gloves, healthcare associated infections, influenza vaccines taken.

Gain trust and authority. Your colleagues consult you. Up to date information increases the feeling of security.

Increase of alcohol-based hand rub use
Liters per month 2015 - 2017

Campaigns and prevalence's has increased liters used and created stability.