DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Urinary Tract Infections and the Home Care Setting

J.P. Mahoehney RN MPH | Nurse Specialist

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Collaborative Healthcare-Associated Infection Network (CHAIN)

- Focus on developing effective approaches for reducing and preventing healthcare-associated infections in Minnesota
- Survey results from previous Home Care Matters call:
  - Please choose 5 topics related to infections that are acquired in the process of providing home care services that are of most interest to you in no particular order." (N=195)
    - **Top 3 Responses: Urinary tract infections (181, 92.8%)**, **Multi-drug resistant organisms (149, 76.4%),** and **Clostridium difficile (147, 75.4%)**,
- More Resources can be found at the CHAIN website: www.mnreducinghais.org

Overview of today's presentation

- Review Research on UTIs in Home Care
- Discuss Unique Challenges in Home Care Setting
- Share ideas and tools to improve management of UTIs in Home Care

What is important to consider about UTIs?

- Asymptomatic bacteriuria (ASB) is very common especially among in older adults
    - 25% of individuals in study with persistent ASB had been treated with antibiotics suggesting they continued to be colonized (Rodhe et al, 2008)
- 2014 study in Finland reviewed 6,877 home care patient records (Parn, Makela, Lyytikainen, 2016)
    - Within the past 30 days 4.5% of home care patients had a UTI and 5.7% were antimicrobial treatment for a UTI (Parn, Makela, Lyytikainen, 2016)
- 2012 French point prevalence of 5,954 home care patients[2] found the most common HAI was urinary tract infection (26.6% of all infections that occurred) (Miliani et al., 2015)

The unique challenges to addressing UTIs in Home Care

- Few external resources
- Most patient care is provided by untrained personnel
- Continuity of Care issues
- Environmental Issues
- Many more…

What are appropriate ways to manage UTIs in Home Care?

- Antimicrobial Stewardship
- Improved methods of documenting and communicating symptoms of UTIs
- Patient and caregiver education
- UTI surveillance and monitoring

UTI Antimicrobial Stewardship (AS)

- AS focuses on appropriate use of antibiotics in order to maximize patient outcomes and minimize microbial resistance
- Elements of AS include:
  - Waiting for culture results prior to treating with antimicrobials
  - Using criteria (Loeb, McGeer, or APIC-HICPAC) to guide appropriate use of antimicrobials
  - Create agency-wide policies and statements of commitment to antimicrobial stewardship

UTI Communication and Documentation

- Use a standard form to document changes in a patient's urinary status
  - SBAR (Situation, Background, Assessment, Request) tool
  - Concerned-Uncomfortable-Safety (CUS) communication tool
  - Changes That Matter Tool
- Incorporate criteria (Loeb, McGeer, or APIC-HICPAC) into agency communications
  - Agency provided forms, smart phrases (for EPIC), and plan of care templates

UTI Patient Education

- Use criteria (Loeb, McGeer, APIC-HICPAC) to teach patients what signs and symptoms indicate a true UTI
- Continue to teach patients on proper catheter care
- Teach patients and caregivers why it is important to not treat asymptomatic bacteriuria with an antibiotic
- Teach patients why it is important to review culture results if they are on an antimicrobial

UTI surveillance and monitoring

- Identify a nurse/epidemiologist to work on infection prevention at your agency
- Instruct home care nurses to report signs or symptoms to infection control nurse/epidemiologist
- Consult an Infection Preventionist from a hospital associated with your agency
- Train staff in Infection Control and Prevention practices
    - APIC's Basic Infection Course

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Thank you!

J.P. Mahoehney, RN MPH

jp.mahoehney@state.mn.us

651-201-5276

Additional Resources

- Situation, Background, Assessment, and Request (SBAR) tool:
  - http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/idepc/dtopics/antibioticresistance/hcp/asp/ltc/apxg.pdf
- Loeb Criteria for Initiation of Antibiotics in long-term care residents
  - http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/idepc/dtopics/antibioticresistance/hcp/ltcabxcard.html
- MN Antimicrobial Stewardship Program Toolkit for Long-term Care Facilities
  - http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/idepc/dtopics/antibioticresistance/hcp/asp/ltc/index.html
- Antibiotic Use and Antibiotic Resistance: Answers for patients
  - http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/idepc/dtopics/antibioticresistance/basics/abxusefs.pdf
- APIC—HICPAC Surveillance Definitions for Home Health Care and Home Hospice Infections
  - http://www.apic.org/Resource_/TinyMceFileManager/Practice_Guidance/HH-Surv-Def.pdf

References

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