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INFECTION PREVENTION CAMPAIGN

The Challenge: While progress has been made in public health and hospital care, infections continue to develop among hospital patients throughout the country. Hospital acquired infections (HAIs) affect almost one in ten hospital patients in the United States. Annual medical costs of HAIs range between \$28.4 to \$33.8 billion dollars (CDC, 2009).

The Solution: Together, 1199SEIU United Healthcare Workers East (1199SEIU), the 1199SEIU Training and Employment Funds (TEF), and Greater New York Hospital Association (GNYHA) developed and launched the Infection Prevention Control Campaign (IPC) in 2007. The project trained managers and staff in 18 hospitals on proper hand hygiene techniques and how to improve the cleanliness of the care environment. In order to facilitate communication, teamwork, and awareness of HAI, front line staff throughout the hospitals attended a one-day training and received a tool-kit including a training DVD, Glo-Germ and IPC posters as reference material for their hospitals. IPC meetings facilitated by Labor Management Project staff began shortly after, focusing on development of concise implementation plans and enhancement of labor-management collaboration. Each participating hospital utilized various mechanisms to promote infection prevention, including regular infection control rounding, scheduled infection control meetings, communications and marketing (weekly bulletins, monthly or quarterly newsletters, posters and buttons).

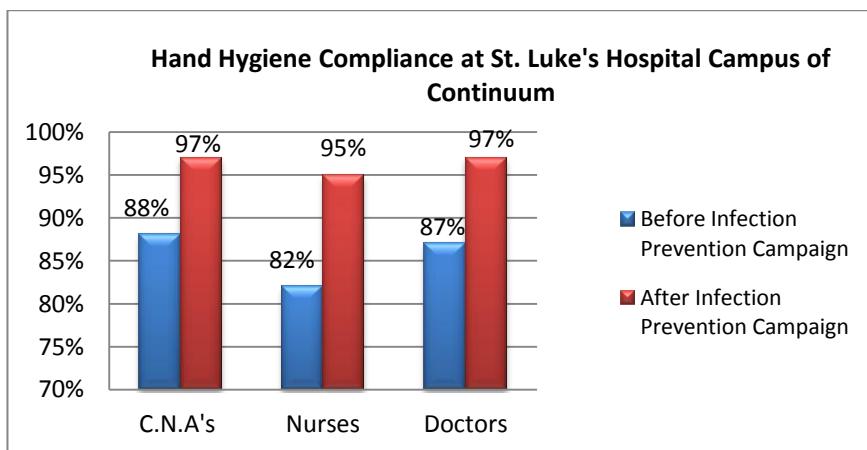
The Results: The LMP provided training and education to over 1100 IPC coaches in 18 hospitals. Coaches were then charged with promoting infection prevention with their colleagues and throughout the hospital. Notable measurable improvements include:

In 2011, St. Luke's Hospital increased hand hygiene compliance from 82% to 95% among nurses, 88% to 97% among certified nursing assistants and 87% to 97% among doctors.

From 2009 to 2011, Long Island Jewish Hospital cut the rate of surgical site infections by 11%; Methicillin-Resistant Staph infections by 36% and ICU Central Line Associated infections by 92%.

From the second quarter to the fourth quarter of 2011, The Roosevelt Hospital campus of Continuum increased hand hygiene compliance rate from 92% to 98% for nurses and from 64% to 78% for doctors.

At Montefiore Medical Center, hand hygiene compliance for all the campuses increased from 87% in the fourth quarter of 2010 to 91% in the first quarter of 2011; HCAHPS scores on cleanliness for the hospital improved from 69% in 2009 to 74% in 2012.



Positive Feedback:

"It has raised the leadership support of the ongoing Infection Control program as well as the individual accountability of all our healthcare workers, patients, and visitors to ensure a quality safe environment," stated Judy Fine, Director of Infection Control for Jamaica and Flushing Hospitals.