

Surgical Site Infection A cut above the rest!

ANGELA MC ARDLE, SURVEILLANCE NURSE, ST JAMES HOSPITAL
SAFER PATIENT CARE COURSE RCSI 04 SEPT 2019



Objectives

- Discuss why we do surveillance.
- How we started out – one speciality and get that right.
- How surveillance made a difference.

What is Surveillance



Surveillance is defined as “the ongoing, systematic collection, analysis, interpretation and evaluation of health data closely integrated with the timely dissemination of these data to those who need it” .

• Global Guidelines for the Prevention of Surgical Site Infection (2016)

Surgical Site Infection

It is an infection that occurs within 30 days of surgery and can be described as:

A superficial incisional infection

A deep incisional infection

Organ/space

ECDC - European Centre for Disease Control

The Value of Surveillance



- National and International Guidelines. Establishes best practice and a culture of safety.
- Better outcome for the patient.
- Reduces the mortality and morbidity risks for patients.
- Supports the national AMR plan 2017-2020 - Optimise the use of antibiotics in human health.
- Cost implications.

GLOBAL GUIDELINES
FOR THE PREVENTION OF
SURGICAL SITE INFECTION



 World Health
Organization

Changes in practice - what difference it made

Skin Prep:
Shaving –Clipping
Bethadine- Chloraprep
Change in products – Wipes
Mupiricon/Chlorhexidine shower
Nurse Led Wound Clinic/Pre assessment clinic
Close relationship with theatres
Electronic antibiotic prescribing
Communicating to all staff/education – HCAs
Audit on correct usage of products 2018
Hygiene audits
Surgical Site Committee

Audit Results

- Learn from it!
- Disseminate results to wards, theatres and teams
- Present to Micro team and IPCN
- Liase with CNMs- Pictures/Checklists/Clipping/ Theatre audit
- Quality improvement initiatives
- Repeat

National Plan

- An objective of the AMR HCAI National Response team.
- Work in progress on gathering information on what surveillance is happening presently.
- SSI Care bundle 2012 developed by the RCPI/RCSI

Any Questions ?



References

- <https://www.who.int/infection-prevention/publications/ssi-guidelines/en/>
- <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng125>
- <https://www.hpsc.ie/a-z/microbiologyantimicrobialresistance/infectioncontrolandhai/surveillance/hospitalpointprevalencesurveys/2017/>
- <https://ecdc.europa.eu/en/surveillance-and-disease-data>
