

Let's C-DIFFerence In Our Care

Tiffany Marie Snow, MSN, APRN, ACNS-BC, CCRN ❖ Korinne Muntz, BSN,RN, CCRN
Kristen Foulk, MSN, MS, RN, PCCN
Christiana Care Health System, Newark, DE

PLAN

Opportunity for Improvement

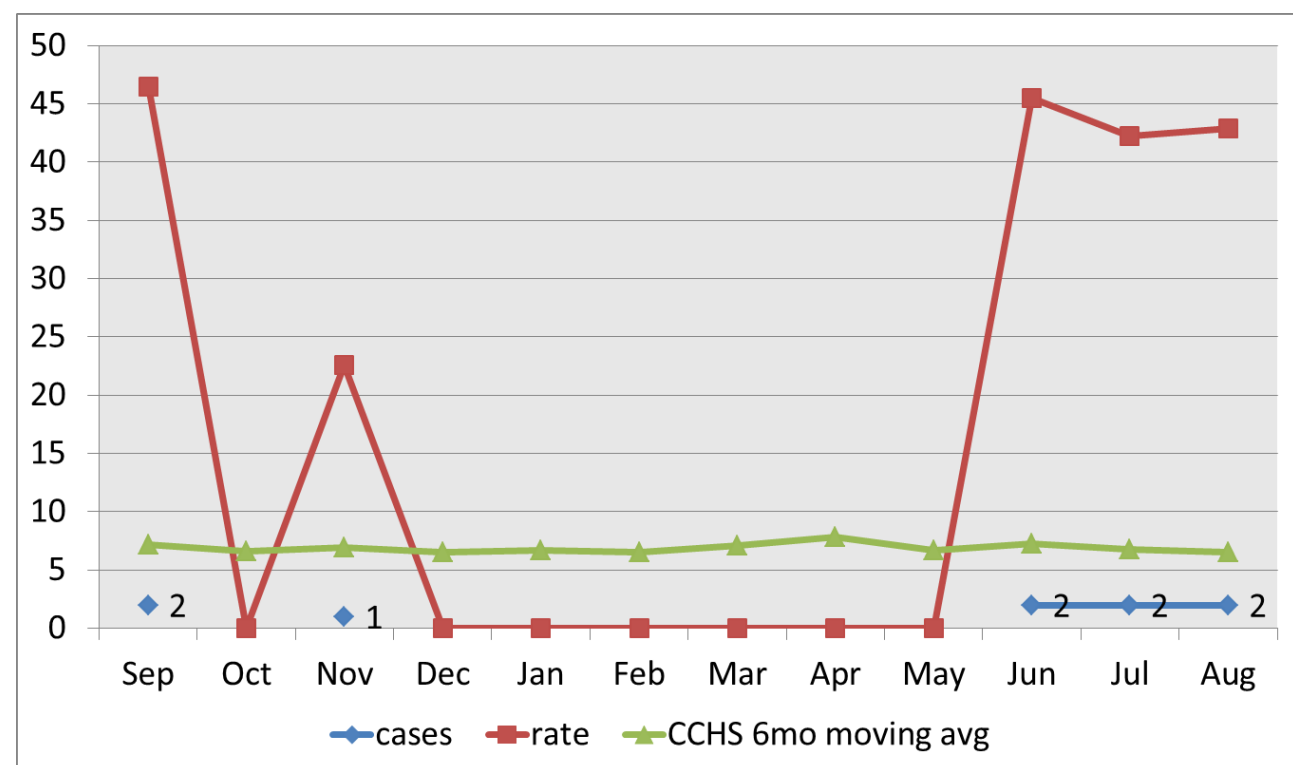
Reduce the prevalence of Clostridium difficile rates by 10% in the Transitional Surgical Unit (TSU) for FY2016

Background / Current Knowledge

- ❖ Clostridium difficile (C. diff) infection rate climbed to 11.42 in Fiscal Year 15 (FY15)
- ❖ C. diff is a preventable cause of patient harm
 - Enteric Contact precautions are essential for the prevention of C. diff infections
 - All hospital staff and visitors must use appropriate personal protective equipment and practice proper hand hygiene (no alcohol gel)
 - Advocate for antibiotic stewardship
 - Adequate disinfection and sterilization in C. diff rooms
 - Increased morbidity and mortality rate, longer length of stay, increased risk for recurrence & readmission

Center for Disease Control and Prevention. (2015a). Clostridium difficile infection. Retrieved on September 1, 2015 from https://www.cdc.gov/hai/organisms/cdiff/cdiff_infect.html

Center for Disease Control and Prevention. (2015b). Healthcare infection control practices advisory committee. <https://www.cdc.gov/hicpac/index.html>



Key Outcomes / Goals

- ❖ Decrease HA CDI rate by 10% in twelve months
- ❖ Increase level of awareness around C.diff testing, illness, and care of the C. diff patient



Action Plan: Solutions Implemented

- ❖ Collaboration with Environmental Services and Infection Control
- ❖ Use of Ultraviolet light (Tru-D) for all terminal cleans
- ❖ Individual education with all TSU staff
- ❖ Education for all patients, families, and visitors
- ❖ Smart C. diff testing guidelines, emphasized with all providers
- ❖ Revitalized hand hygiene surveillance
- ❖ Strict adherence to enteric contact precautions for all rooms with suspected or confirmed HA CDI

Environmental Services Partnership

What is Tru-D?

Ultraviolet light that provides expansive bactericidal effects

- ❖ Utilized Tru-D on every room within TSU to start
- ❖ Continued usage of Tru-D on every C. Diff infected room at that patients transfer or discharge

Smart C.diff Testing Guidelines

- ❖ **Hospital days 1-3**
 - Nurse-driven specimen collection and call to physician
 - Appropriate infection prevention interventions and treatment of the patient
- ❖ **After hospital day 3**
 - Nursing assessment communicated to physician
 - ❖ Amount of diarrhea, fever abdominal pain, WBC
 - ❖ Patient on antibiotics
 - ❖ Patient on laxatives
 - ❖ Patient with prior hx of C. diff
 - ❖ Duration of hospitalization
- ❖ **If deemed possible / probably C. diff**
 - Appropriate infection prevention interventions and treatment

Level of Awareness Enhanced by TSU Quality & Safety Council

In late August, 2015, staff education provided using different modalities to engage the adult learner (powerpoint, team meetings, bulletin boards, flyers)

- ❖ Proper hand hygiene (using soap vs. hand sanitizer) compliance
- ❖ Maintaining proper isolation precautions for enteric illness
- ❖ Appropriate disinfection and cleaning of room & equipment
- ❖ Smart C.diff testing guidelines enforced
- ❖ Patient, family, and visitor education flyer included in welcome packet
- ❖ Signage placed around the unit

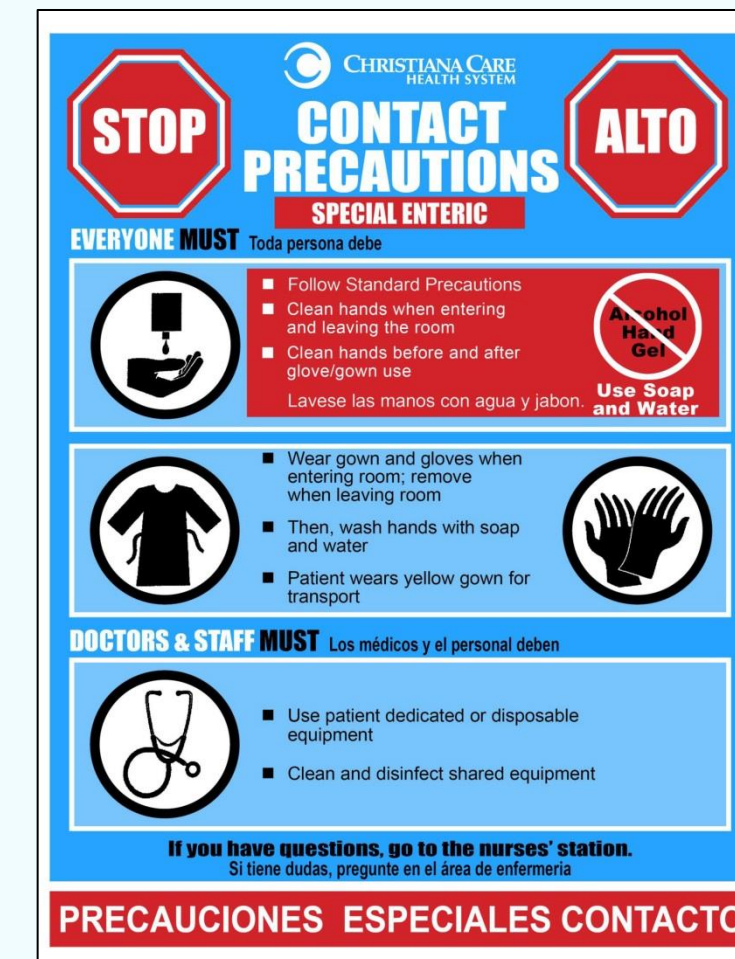
DO

Flyers in Welcome Packets

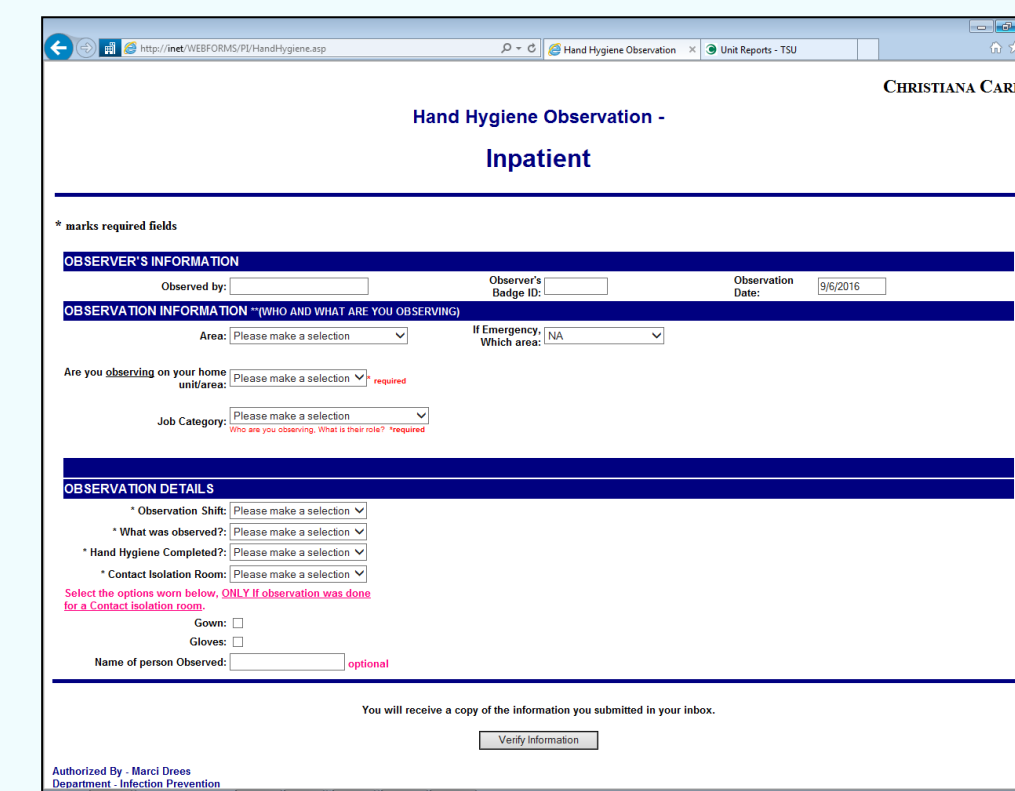


Signage reminders for proper hand hygiene and PPE

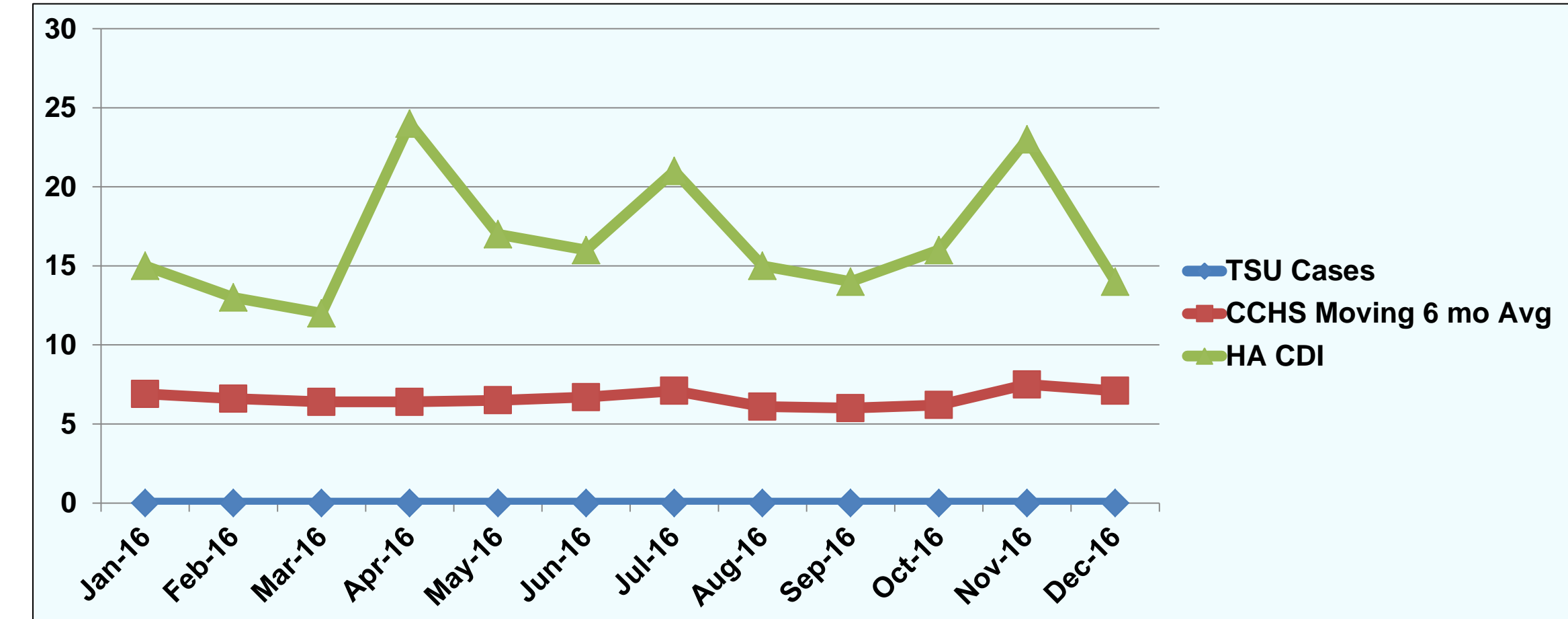
- ❖ “Do Not Use” signs on alcohol-based sanitizers within surrounding area of infected patient's room
- ❖ Correct usage of Enteric Isolation Precaution signage



Ongoing surveillance of proper hand hygiene, use of appropriate PPE



CHECK



- ❖ In alignment with Christiana Care's AOP Goal of Optimal Health, the targeted reduction of HA CDI to decrease patient harm
- ❖ The unit goal was to decrease C. diff rates by 10% in TSU; year-to-date from implementation was 100% HA CDI-free. FY15=11.42 VS FY16=7.05
- ❖ The goal was well surpassed, achieving a rate of Zero

TWELVE MONTHS C.DIFF-FREE!!!

Path Forward / Next Steps

- ❖ Biannual re-education of current staff and the incorporation of this education in TSU new employee orientation.
- ❖ Ongoing monitoring of all measures implemented by the Quality and Safety Council on a monthly basis and daily by leadership team
- ❖ Sharing successes with other units in the organization

Lessons Learned

- ❖ Identify key stakeholders at the start of the project
- ❖ Multimodal strategies are most effective in combination to achieve success in identifying and applying detailed solutions to complex problems
- ❖ Vigilance of surveillance is pinnacle in sustaining success and managing competing priorities
- ❖ Interdisciplinary approaches provide a multi-pronged effort