

REPORT ON HAND HYGIENE CAMPAIGN @ KKCTH

About KKCTH:

Kanchi Kamakoti **CHILDS** (CHILDS is an acronym that stands for ‘Children Health Institute, Laboratory and Diagnostic Services’) Trust Hospital is the foremost affordable children’s medical care center in Chennai instituted in April 27, 1978 which was the International Year of the Child by late Dr. M.S. Ramakrishnan (MS, FACS, FAMS) who was an eminent pediatric surgeon . The primary motive is to ensure quality health care service at affordable cost, across the gamut of Pediatric disciplines so that a child can be cared for under one roof with 200 bedded hospitals . The hospital also provides free and concessional health care to deserving patients hailing from poor background.

Our ISO Certification is a feather in this well weathered cap. We are Pursuing NABH (National Accreditation Board for Hospitals and health care providers) and NABL (National Accreditation Board for testing and calibration of Laboratories) accreditation for our hospital. The hospital is currently undergoing excessive modification and renovation works to cope with the increasing demand on world class infrastructure facilities and health care.

. The Hospital has come under the stewardship of a new chairman Dr A. C. Muthiah who is leading businessman in south India and is ably supported by a group of leading industrialists and philanthropists as trustees. Today, this most prestigious pediatric health care institute is a shining example of human spirit.

The Need for the Campaign:

In Tamilnadu (a state in India) the handhygiene awareness came in the year 2009 – 2010. We were using antimicrobial soap for handwashing earlier, started to use alcohol based handrubs after analysing the cost, feasibility and effectiveness. To change the mind set of old employees , the infection control nurses adopted Multimodal strategies to bring in the culture of handhygiene during the 5 moments of patient contact. Initially people were resistant to use alcohol based hand rubs, stating that it causes

allergy, dry hands etc... Therefore we encouraged them to use alcohol based hand rubs by campaigning its effectiveness and how handhygiene prevents HAIs.

Use of Multi Modal strategy to bring in Hand Hygiene Awareness:

In the year 2010, as part of multi modal strategy, we placed reminders in the form of posters in all the hand washing areas and also the 5 moments of hand hygiene in all the patient areas.

Education using different methods of teaching was given to all employees and demonstrated handhygiene steps during induction classes in the year 2014.

However the hand hygiene compliance was not audited thus far, as there was no awareness about hand hygiene audit.

Therefore the management recognized the need for training for infection control nurse. The hand hygiene audit was done by the infection control Nurse and found that the compliance to hand hygiene was only 50 – 60 %.

Implemented handwash solutions across hospital and there was a poor compliance with physicians were noted. Hence **Nurses were empowered** to give handrubs to the doctors before and after they touch the patient and also before and after each procedure.

Management decided to bring in the compliance in Operation Room, by implementing hand hygiene scrub area with timer. **Each employee is empowered** to stop anybody who didnot comply with hand hygiene protocols. Thus we could achieve 80 - 90% of hand hygiene compliance. To improve this number we celebrated WHO Hand Hygiene day on 4th and 5th of May 2016. The gist of Hand Hygiene campaign is as follows:

Hand Hygiene Cmpaign 2016:

Empowered people played a bigger role in bringing hand hygiene compliance. This year we

commemorated WHO hand Hygiene day with a aim of **empowering kids (Patients) and their parents** on Hand hygiene.

Day 1: (04.05. 2016) Encouraged all employees and parents to participate in the campaign by placing a pledge board on Hand hygiene.



Fig 1. Pledge to Practice - Employee's participating in Pledge to practice

Poster competition was held to motivate all employees and the best posters were selected based on the predetermined criteria.



Fig 2: Caring Hands Carving Hand Hygiene Posters

Hand Hygiene Rally of KKCTH Employees was held to promote WHO Handwashing theme "clean care is safer care".



Fig 3: The transformers...Employees demonstrating Hand Hygiene



Fig 4: Housekeeping personnel performing Hand Hygiene and Hangouts.

Slogan Contest was held to generate slogans that can be used for Campaigning. Few samples were:

" Say Hi to Handwashing; Bye to Infection"

" A solution to Infection Prevention is Handwashing"

" My heart says LUB DUB, my hands says RUB, SCRUB"

" Skill Wash; Kill Germs"

"Say Hi to Handhygiene; Bye to HAI"

"MRSA, CRE, VRE – WheRe aRe we ? Join hands to make difference"

" Handwashing is a vaccine that prevents infection"

Day 2 : (05.05.2016)

Empowering Patients (Kids) and Parents:

Sowing the seeds of Hand Hygiene into the minds of children with the hope to inculcate the culture of hand hygiene practice from childhood and empower them to stop health care workers touching them without hand hygiene.



Fig 5: Parents and Kids demonstrating handwashing Techniques



Fig 6: Child to Child approach- Employee's kids participating in Handhygiene campaign



Fig 7: "Villupattu" – Using Villupattu as a teaching strategy –

Villupattu is an ancient form of musical story-telling where narration is interspersed with music. Simple tunes and simple verses make the story to be followed easily.

Conclusion:

Knowing that, Hand hygiene is the simplest and least expensive method to prevent HAI, our goal is now empowering the individuals – staff, patient and community towards Hand hygiene compliance. Using different strategies and methods inculcating the knowledge and practice of handhygiene. This program was successful, as the parents and kids were demonstrating hand hygiene and encouraging the visitors and employees to wash hands before they touch their kids.

- Infection Control Team , Department of Nursing -