

Roxborough  
Memorial Hospital

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Mr. Mark P. Volavka, Executive Director PHC4:

Roxborough Memorial Hospital, located in Philadelphia, PA would like to join APIC, HAP, and every other acute care hospital facility in Pennsylvania, in expressing our concern over the hospital-specific hospital-acquired infection (HAI) statistics as presented in a widely published report by the Pennsylvania Health Care Cost Containment Council (PHC4).

Roxborough Memorial Hospital adheres to the strictest regulatory reporting standards for all hospital-acquired infections in response to our ongoing organizational quality improvement initiatives driven by a zero-tolerance HAI patient safety driven goal; we report HAI's for the 'whole house'/entire facility minus *PHC4* determined exclusions for mental health as per the original intent and specifically requested by PHC4.

Our facility does a very good job of identifying and reporting hospital-acquired infections. PHC4 statistical derivations using 'cases' as the denominator is not as statistically meaningful to the operations of Roxborough Memorial Hospital as the equations utilized by our Certified Infection Control nurse using 'Per 1000 Patient Days' in determining our infection rates as recommended by National Nosocomial Infections Surveillance (NNIS).

At Roxborough Memorial Hospital we employ a full-time Certified Infection Control (CIC) nurse with impeccable credentials who also serves as a mentor to national organizational peers, actively participates in APIC, her professional organization, as well as, maintains her certification through ongoing continued education credits. Our, CIC, implemented each new infection control guideline(s) for prevention of Ventilator-associated Pneumonia, Urinary Tract Infections, and Central line infections, as well as, Hand-hygiene guidelines prior to the release of IHI (Institute for Healthcare Initiatives) Bundles re: same . When the IHI Bundles were released, Roxborough Memorial Hospital did a cross-walk of the initiatives and updated accordingly. Additionally, teams were formed to monitor, implement, track/trend, and intervene as appropriate regarding our organizational commitment to decrease to zero tolerance our HAI rates. The CIC reviews every HAI chart per the CDC and APIC guidelines and reports using the strictest interpretation of the guidelines.



Additionally, we are happy to report that implementation of evidence-based guidelines (bundles) has helped decrease our HAI's even further.

Roxborough Memorial Hospital has reported every Central line infection using tightly monitored controls as to what may be included in the denominator and numerator.

Proactively, we have identified an area for improvement in the Central line infection rate.

As part of our internal initiatives, in conjunction with FCRI and Independence Blue Cross, Roxborough Memorial Hospital actively participates as a member of the tri-county *community-wide* FMEA (Failure Modes Effects Analysis) initiative to decrease our rates; as central line infection rates are identified as high throughout the country (for any number of clinical reasons, co-morbidities not able to be addressed in this format)

We continue to participate with PHC4's infection control initiatives as part of the state's quality improvement program to help decrease infections; the concept is worth-while, though we question the statistical meaningfulness.

Respectfully,



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