

PART 5: APPENDICES

APPENDIX I: TOP TEN CHECKLIST

Associated Hospital/Organization: HRET HIIN

Purpose of Tool: A checklist to review current interventions or initiate new ones for CDI prevention in your facility

Reference: www.hret-hiin.org

Clostridium Difficile infections (CDI) Top Ten Checklist

-  Develop or enhance your antibiotic stewardship program to ensure optimal antibiotic prescribing and reduce overuse and misuse of antibiotics.
-  Evaluate the use of antibiotics by infection type and by unit to better understand where the opportunities for stewardship exist; be sure to include patients with urinary tract infections and lower respiratory infections.
-  Evaluate the use of antimicrobials among patients with CDI and provide feedback to medical staff and facility leadership.
-  Develop processes to minimize testing of patients at low probability for CDI to minimize false positive polymerase chain reaction results for CDI.
-  Establish a lab-based alert system to immediately notify the infection prevention team and providers of newly-identified patients with positive CDI lab results. Ensure the system includes holiday and weekend notification.
-  Remembering that CDI is a clinical diagnosis and not a lab diagnosis, develop processes where discussion occurs between physicians and other clinicians when a lab test for CDI is reported as positive.
-  Establish cleaning protocols for a cleaning solution that is effective against CDI spores.
-  Utilize a monitoring system to evaluate and validate effective room-cleaning, and to provide feedback, reward and recognition to those responsible.
-  Engage and educate patients, visitors, families and community partners (e.g., home care agencies, nursing homes) to prevent CDI across the continuum of care.
-  Establish and maintain an effective, creative, innovative and engaging hand hygiene program.