

Peripherally-Inserted Central Catheter Process Improvement

The Problem

It has been determined that Peripherally-Inserted Central Catheter (PICC) placement meets the BIDMC definition of invasive procedure and presents more than minimal risk to patients. There is currently no consistent process for patient education regarding PICCs and patient consent is not documented in the medical record. In addition, nursing staff responsible for insertion of the PICC did not have the authority to obtain consent, as this has been solely the responsibility of the patient's physician.

In addition, data regarding the appropriate use of PICC lines and tracking of complications of insertion and catheter use is sporadic, compromising the ability to perform root cause analyses of catheter-related complications and provide recommendations to reduce patient harm.

Aim/Goal

By obtaining informed consent for PICC line insertions, we will achieve compliance with current BIDMC guidelines and increase awareness regarding the risks of this invasive procedure. In addition, the development of a PICC database will provide necessary information to ensure optimal patient safety. The qualitative measures for this project will be:

- PICC Consent Compliance Audit
- The number of PICC lines inserted per month
- The number of PICC lines removed in 24 hours (or less) after insertion
- Rate of complications as compared with available benchmark data
 - Catheter-Related Bloodstream Infections
 - Phlebitis
 - Catheter Occlusion
 - Thrombus Formation
 - Device Failure requiring repair/replacement

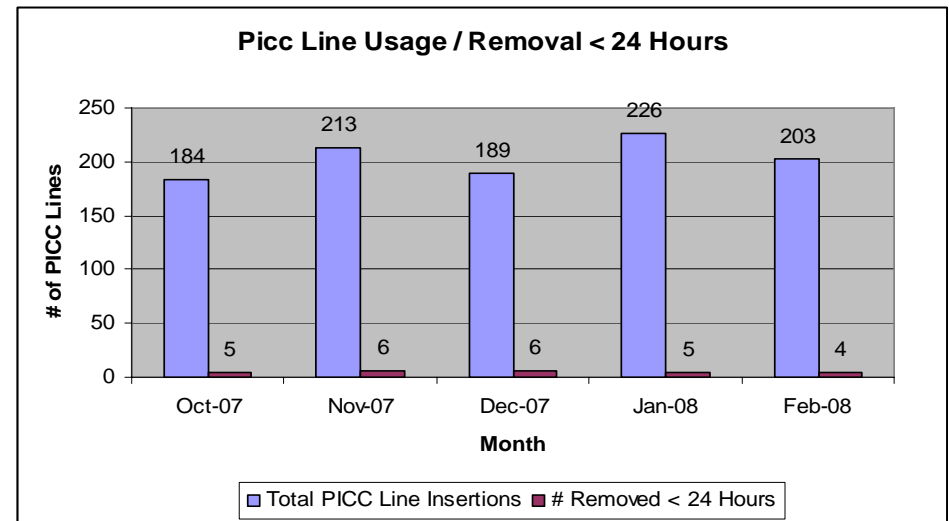
The Team

- Lauren Stone RN, Nurse Manager Venous Access Team
- Yolanda Milliman RN, Nurse Manager Radiology
- Andrew Mackler RN, PEVA Consultant Venous Access Services
- Davin Janicki, Project Manager Healthcare Quality Process Improvement

The Interventions

- Education of Venous Access Nurses regarding informed consent process and addition of PICC informed consent competency to Venous Access Nursing annual educational requirements
- Staff Physician Education Plan
- Development and approval of PICC consent form
- Edit to current POE PICC ordering template to include reminder prompts for ordering physicians to assess patient competency to provide informed consent and ensure that consent is obtained
- Creation of PICC database in Performance Manager
- Implementation of data entry by Venous Access Nurses

Current PICC Line Data

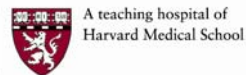


Progress to Date

- Authorization granted for nurses to gain consent by BIDMC Medical Executive Committee
- Development and approval of PICC line specific consent form
- Creation of PICC line Performance Manager Database
- Full Implementation of Consent process and data gathering to Begin May 1st, 2008.



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