

ONCODAILY MEDICAL JOURNAL

abstract

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DOI: 10.69690/ODMJ-018-0425-1961



SIOF Asia, 2025, Saudi Arabia

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Introduction: Central Line-Associated Bloodstream Infections (CLABSI) pose a critical issue at University of the Philippines -Philippine General Hospital (PGH), due to high rates and a lack of standardized procedures. In June 2022, Pediatric Hematology-Oncology nurses organized a one-day online seminar, attended by 300 nurses, with support from Division of Nursing, Education, and Training (DNET), St. Jude Research Hospital, and National University Hospital (NUH). The seminar emphasized aseptic techniques, medication administration, and Central Venous Access Device (CVAD) maintenance, targeting nurses caring for pediatric cancer patients but relevant to all staff involved in CVAD management.

Methodology: The Hospital Infection Control Unit (HICU) performed quarterly surveillance of CLABSI rates across various units, including the Burn Unit, Medical ICU, Neuro ICU, Neurosurgery Special Care Unit (NSSCU), Pediatric ICU (PICU), Central ICU (CENICU), and Kaagapay ICU in 2022

and 2023. Data collection and comparative analysis aimed to evaluate the seminar's effectiveness over time.

Results: Post-seminar, CLABSI rates initially decreased from 4.86% in May 2022 to 3.13% by Aug 2022. However, rates varied significantly in the succeeding months. In 2023, the CLABSI average rates varied across units, with the highest rate recorded in the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU), where the rate rose to 45.11% in November 2023.

Conclusion: Although the educational seminar addressed the lack of knowledge and skills among nurses at PGH regarding CVAD care management, further interventions are needed to sustain low CLABSI infection rates. Collaboration with St. Jude Research Hospital and NUH will continue with the finalization of the PGH nursing Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) and the creation of a mandatory course/seminar on central line management.