



Improving Point-of-Use Decontamination

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HISTORY and DESCRIPTION

Poor decontamination practices are a leading factor of surgical site infections attributing to \$10K - \$43K/patient per infection. After internal checks identified areas of improvement on point-of-use decontamination practices throughout Naval Hospital Camp Pendleton's Main Operating Room and 13 clinics, the leadership team focused on measures to establish uniform policies and streamline educational channels. Creating a 6:26 minute descriptive video via QR code and linked to YouTube allowed easy access to proper steps and consistent transfer of knowledge despite high personnel turnover. This new educational resource has contributed to the goal of command compliance in the removal of gross soil and keeping instruments wet. Only after a month of implementation, spot inspections in June 2021 showed a dramatic increase in compliance from 91% to 99%. Data collection continues with this evidence-based initiative with the anticipated data collection and analysis completion in June 2022, a full year after implementation.

References:
ANSI/AAMI ST79, 2017
AORN, 2019
BUMEDISNT 6220.9B, 2018

Implications for Nursing

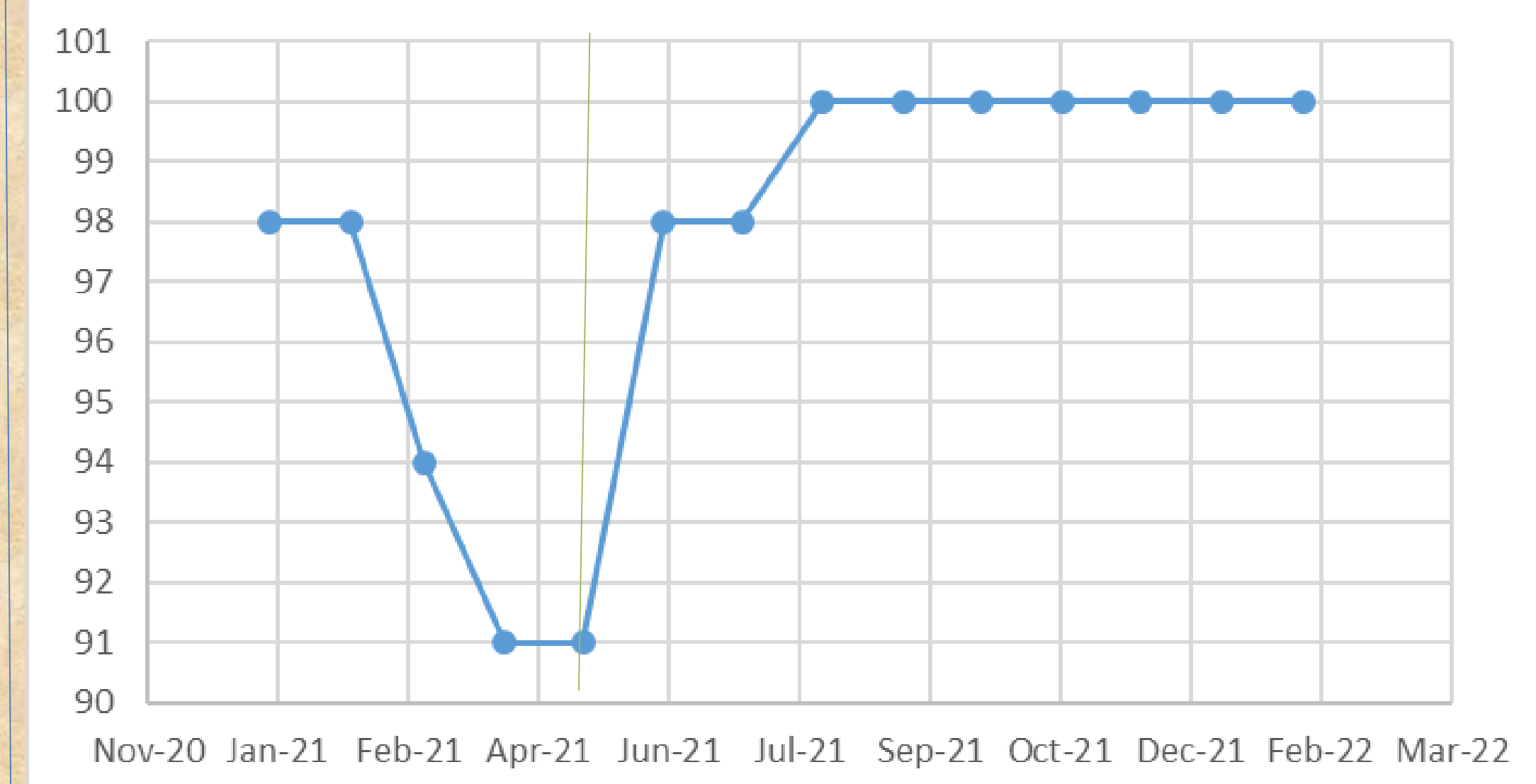
Prompt point of use pre-cleaning removes bioburden and foreign material, prevents the formation of biofilm and improves the efficiency and effectiveness of the decontamination process, ultimately prolonging the life and quality of instrumentation utilized in surgery. Procedures for safely transporting contaminated instruments from point of use to a sterile processing location are important because patients, personnel and the environment can be exposed to potentially disease-producing microorganisms during transport.



Scan QR Code Below to view NHCP Point of Use Decontamination Process Video



Point of Use/ Removal of Gross Soil Compliance



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