

POSTER PRESENTATION

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# P015: Prevention of re-use of single-use suction catheter decreased the vap incidence density in a resource-limited adult ICU in Egypt

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## Introduction

Ventilator-associated pneumonia (VAP) had a major impact on patient morbidity and mortality in our ICU, an adult ICU in a tertiary hospital, in spite of application of ventilator-associated pneumonia prevention (VAP) bundle. Between March 2009 and May 2010 the incidence rate was 17/1,000 device-days.

## Objectives

This study aimed to identify and correct unsafe procedures related to care of the ventilated patient.

## Methods

Due to limited resources, the suction catheter was found to be reused for the same patient during a working shift (6 hours). This practice was prohibited and the hospital management was convinced to provide adequate regular supplies of single-use suction catheters. A new policy for suctioning was written and implemented.

## Results

From June 2010 till December 2012, a new sterile single-use catheter was used for each suction procedure then discarded immediately after single-use. The incidence rate was decreased to 5.6/1,000 device-days by the end of 2012 (67% decrease).

## Conclusion

Re-use of single-use supplies contributes to increasing the rate of healthcare-associated infections in low-resource settings. The infection preventionist should make a business case of infection control and analyze the cost-effectiveness of interventions.

## Disclosure of interest

None declared.

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