

GOVERNORS AUDIT OF HAND HYGIENE COMPLIANCE PRIOR TO MEAL TIMES

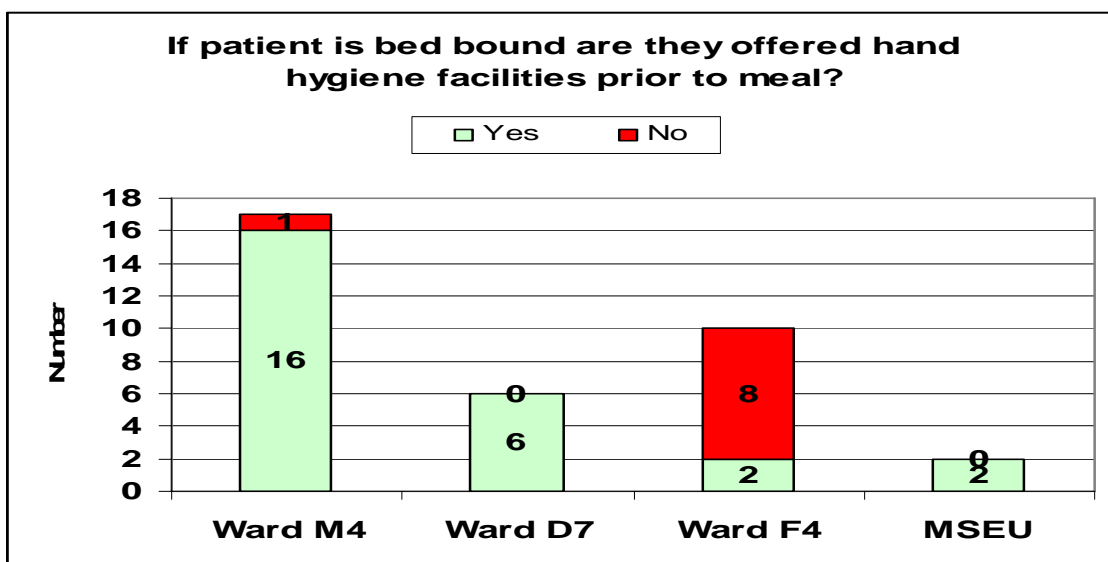
REPORT OF: Angela Thompson, Assistant Director of Nursing

Introduction

An invitation was extended, via the Foundation Trust Office, to Governors to participate in an audit of patient's use of hand hygiene facilities prior to meals. The audits took place on Monday 13, Tuesday 14, Wednesday 15 and Friday 17 October 2008. This audit linked in with other initiatives taking place throughout the Trust during Infection Control Week. Four Governors volunteered to assist in the audits. The Governors were invited to attend a training session but as none were able to attend on the time/date arranged an explanatory e-mail was sent to them and Governors were asked to arrive 15 minutes prior to the ward meal time in order that they could be briefed on the audit.

An audit tool was developed for the Governors (Appendix 1) to record whether hand hygiene facilities were offered to patients prior to meal times and, if so, the type of hand hygiene offered and whether it was used by the patient. In addition, the Governors were invited to make any other observations/comments regarding the meal time process or ward cleanliness. A schedule was issued to the Governors linking them up with a member of staff to undertake the audit (Appendix 2). A summary of the audit results and comments from Governors is shown below: -

Table 1:
If patient is bed bound are they offered hand hygiene facilities prior to meal?



Auditor Comments:

- Not observed as curtains drawn and family bringing food.
- Patient not eating.
- Patient refused to eat.
- Meal time interrupted by nursing attention; meal kept warm for later.
- Patient fed by nurse.

Table 2:

If yes, what form of hand hygiene was offered, eg individually wrapped wipe, wipe from pack, bowl/soap/water?

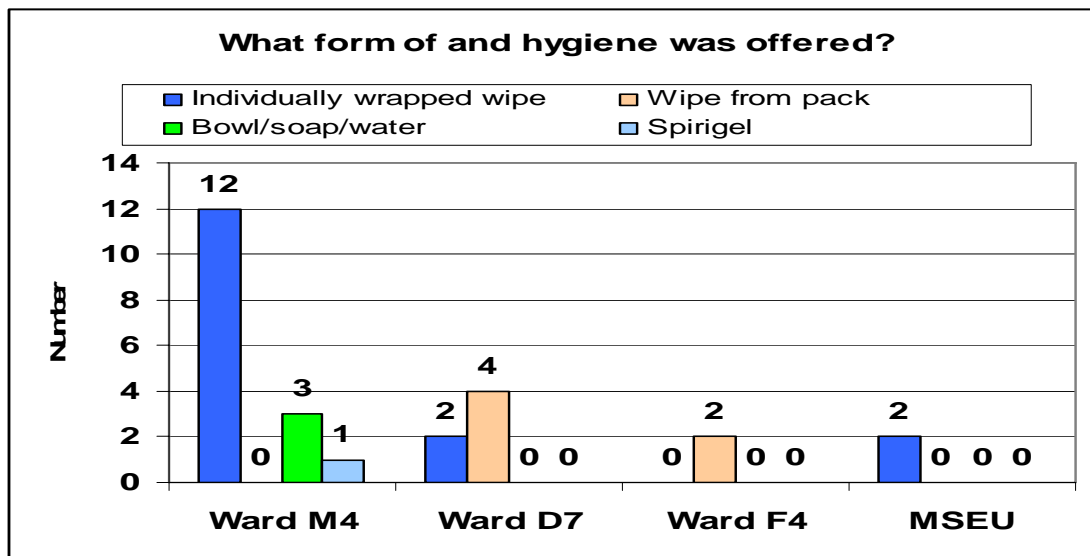
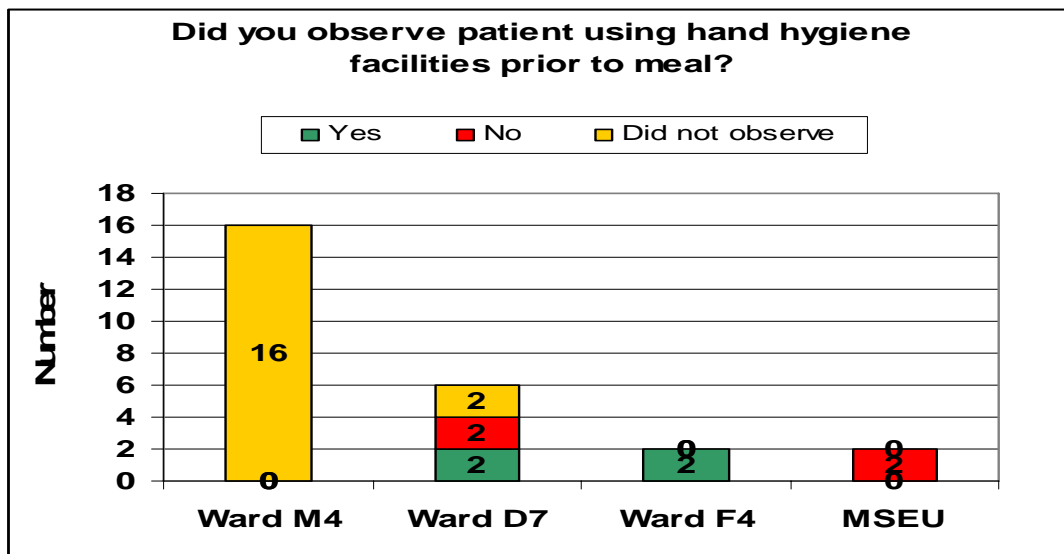


Table 3:

Did you observe patient using hand hygiene facilities prior to meal?



Additional comments:

- Patients interrupted whilst eating – cleaner cleaning.
- Doctor with watch and hair down.
- Cleaner with hair down.
- Cleaning ward at meal times.
- Good hand washing practice.
- Drinks offered after meal.
- Patients delighted with cleanliness and said ward assistant always cleaned under the beds.
- Bathrooms were very clean.
- 95% of patients were most favourable about food on ward.

Recommendations:

- That the results of this audit be fed back via the appropriate senior nurse forums and be used to inform practice. These audit results will be considered in conjunction with the results of the Trust-wide 'observation of mealtimes' which took place at the same time.
- The Trust would like to thank the Governors who gave up their time to assist in this audit; their input and comments are much appreciated.

Angela Thompson
Assistant Director of Nursing

October 2008

Schedule of Governors assisting with meal time observations during Infection Control Week

TIME/DATE	GOVERNOR	TRUST REP.	WARD
Monday 13 October Meet at Main Reception: 11.45am Meal time: 12noon	Mary Chaloner	Pam Bushen	MSEU
Tuesday, 14 October Meet at Main Reception: 11.45am Meal time: 12noon	Pamela Obey	Pam Bushen	F4
Wednesday, 15 October Meet at Main Reception: 11.45am Meal time: 12noon	Georgina Pharaoh	Lindsey Fitzgibbon	D7
Friday, 17 October Meet at Main Reception: 11.45am Meal time: 12noon	Gillian Francis	Rachael May	M4