

SSI Core and Supplemental Prevention Measures

General SSI Prevention Strategies

Core Measures

- Identify and treat remote infections before elective operation
- Administer the correct agent and timing of antimicrobial prophylaxis in accordance with evidence based standards and guidelines.
- Adjust antimicrobial prophylaxis dose for obese patients (body mass index>30)
- Remove hair at the operative site only when necessary and then only by clipping or depilatory agent.
- Prepare the skin at the surgical site with an appropriate antiseptic agent
- Re-dose antibiotic at the 3 hour interval in procedures with duration >3 hours.
- Reduce unnecessary OR traffic and keep doors closed during surgery
- Protect primary closure incision with sterile dressing for 24-48 hours post-op
- Maintain immediate postoperative normothermia
- Discontinue antibiotics within 24 hours after surgery end time (48 hours for cardiac)

Supplemental Measures

- Feedback surgeon specific infection rates

Specialized SSI Prevention Strategies

Core Measures

Colorectal surgery patients:

- Mechanically prepare the colon (enemas, cathartic agents)
- Administer non-absorbable oral antimicrobial agents in divided doses on the day before the operation

Cardiac surgery patients:

- Measure blood glucose level at 6 Amon POD #1 and #2 with procedure day = POD #0
- Maintain post-op blood glucose level at <200mg/dL

Supplemental Measures

Elective orthopedic and neurosurgery patients with implants

- Nasal screen and decolonize only
 - Staphylococcus aureus carriers with preoperative mupirocin therapy
- Arthroplasty and spinal fusion patients
 - Screen preoperative blood sugar levels and maintain tight glucose control POD #1 and POD #2
- Patients undergoing other select procedures
 - Use at least 50% fraction of inspired oxygen intraoperatively and immediately postoperatively