

Three U.S. Hospitals Reduce Costly Catheter-Related Bloodstream Infections

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SAN DIEGO, Sept. 27 /PRNewswire/ -- Clinicians from three U.S. hospitals today reported significant progress in the fight against deadly IV catheter-related bloodstream infections (CRBSI). Data analyzed and presented by clinicians from St. Joseph's Mercy Hospital in Hot Springs, Ark.; Bethesda North Hospital in Cincinnati; and the VA Medical Center in Seattle showed that the hospitals virtually eliminated such infections, which annually kill some 62,500 hospital patients nationwide.

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The new findings are noteworthy because few U.S. hospitals have been able to achieve greater than an 80 percent reduction in CRBSI rates. Clinical research, presented Sept. 25 at the annual meeting of the Association for Vascular Access, document the effectiveness of the CareFusion MaxPlus Clear positive displacement needleless access connector in combination with clinical practices. The results further support use of MaxPlus® technology to assist in central line-associated bloodstream infections (CLABSI) reduction efforts; eight additional research reports, either published or presented, show virtually the same results.

CareFusion's MaxPlusClear technology provides a visual cue to perform best practices more thoroughly including priming, disinfection and flushing and therefore helps promote the performance of best practices. In addition, the smooth top provides an optimal surface for easy disinfection.

Annually, CRBSIs affect 250,000 U.S. hospital patients; about 25 percent of such cases result in death. In addition to the human toll, the financial costs to the health care system are staggering. These preventable infections typ

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