


## Our Road to Success for VAE Prevention

St. Joseph's Wayne Hospital  
Wayne, NJ



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## Who We Are

**St. Joseph's Wayne Hospital** is a division of St. Joseph's Regional Medical Center, is an acute care community hospital located in Wayne, New Jersey

- 120 beds
- Open CCU/ICU



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## Presenter

Beverly Nieves, BS CLS, CIC  
Manager, Infection Prevention and Control

Joanne Duffy, RN,APN,MSN, CCRN  
Critical Care APN



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### Our Patients

- 85 % of admissions come from SNIFF, LTAC, assisted living facilities
- Mean age of patients admitted to ICU is 79 yrs old
- Numerous comorbidities



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### Multidisciplinary Team

**Nursing**


- Primary Nurse
- Critical Care APN
- Nurse Managers

**Physicians**

- Pulmonologist

**Respiratory Therapy**

**Infection Control**



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### VAP vs. VAE

<b>Diagnosing VAP Using 2002 Criteria</b>	<b>Diagnosing VAE Using 2013 Criteria</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Subjective clinical signs/symptoms</li><li>• Radiographic evidence</li><li>• Laboratory data</li><li>• Not sensitive or specific for surveillance</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Objective AND streamlined</li><li>• Respiratory values, evidence of infection and/or inflammation and lab evidence of respiratory infection</li><li>• criteria that identify a broad range of conditions and complications occurring in mechanically-ventilated adult patients</li><li>• Is for use in surveillance; it is not a clinical definition</li></ul>



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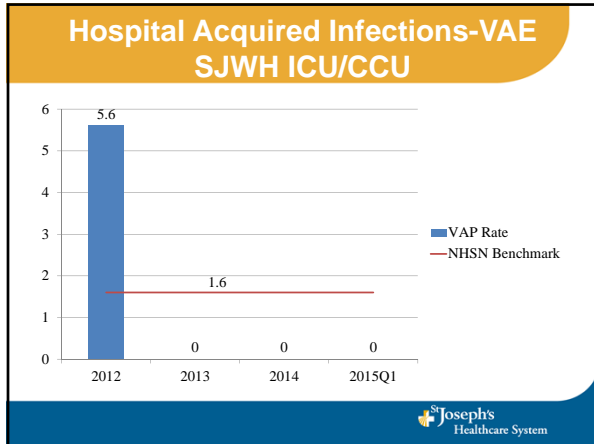
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### Respiratory Bundle of Care

#### Nursing Interventions

- Daily goals reviewed by RNs during handoff communication
  - Head of bed elevated 30 degrees or greater
  - Oral care every 4 hours and prn
  - Daily CHG bath
  - Daily sedation holiday
  - Hand Hygiene
  - Adherence to contact precautions when warranted

St Joseph's Healthcare System

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### Respiratory Therapy Interventions

- Ventilator setting controls limited to RT's and MD's
- **Use of HME (heat and moisture exchangers) filters that do not require removal when a nebulizer treatment is given.**
- Change ventilator circuits as needed.
- Use of closed suction catheters.
- Change trach inner cannulas and dressings every shift, and clean the trach plate with peroxide as needed.
- Use of spring-loaded TEE adapters for inserting nebulizers into the circuit-this also avoids breaking the circuit.

St Joseph's Healthcare System

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### Next Steps...

Integrate interventions from CUSP:VAE

- Early mobility
- Spontaneous awakening
- Subglottic ET Tubes

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