

**Unit 4: Quality Patient Care**  
**Z-Chapter 22**  
**ONLINE CONTENT (1 H)**

**Unit Objectives:**

- Discuss the use of key indicators to measure performance. (2,3,7)\*
- Describe the nurse's role in quality and performance improvement. (3,4,7)\*
- Identify tools and processes for continuous quality improvement. (2,3)\*

\*Course Objectives

Quality Improvement Project  
Due February 12, 2024 @ 0800 in the Z-CH # 22 dropbox

Pick one topic from the following list:

1. Improving communication about individual patients during shift change. (shift report)
2. Preventing catheter related infections, urinary or central line.
3. Preventing falls and injuries for patients within healthcare facilities.
4. Preventing pressure ulcers for patients within healthcare facilities.
5. Reducing medication errors.
6. Reducing nurse turnover rates.

Answer the following questions as it relates to the topic pick from the list above.

1. Identify problem areas (or causes) associated with the topic and prioritize each identified problem area. (List at least 3)  
Chronic Foleys  
Improper foley catheter care  
Unsecured foley catheter
2. Develop solutions for each problem or cause listed. (Provide at least 3)  
Teach more patient's how to straight catheterize, perform monthly classes on how to provide appropriate foley care, ensure skin prep is used to help secure foley securement device to leg.
3. Identify why these problems might exist.  
Time management and patient load. If you have a heavy patient load or poor time management skills, it may be missed when assessing the foley and/or the nurse may forget. Unfortunately, chronic foleys exist due to urinary retention.
4. Provide a plan to improve and how to implement the plan. The plan should provide steps for improvement. The implementation should provide a timeline.

I would create a quality improvement team to keep track of assessments and interventions. I would have the physician add a foley catheter assessment and care intervention in the worklist that does not allow you to exit out of Meditech until it has been charted on within 10 hours since it was last done. This gives allotted time for the nurse to address the issue and perform the needed care. I would also have the QI team do unannounced checks once a week to ensure the nurse is documenting truthfully about having a foley secured. I would ensure every patient that is physically and mentally capable of straight cath-ing and/or caregivers demonstrate proper technique before discharge to reduce the chronic foley issue

5. How will you monitor that your plan is effective?

You could monitor if your plan is effective by having the QI team track improvements in charting while also performing the unannounced checks to ensure the nurses are documenting truthfully. I would also have the QI team track the occurrences of CAUTIs monthly to measure if the rates have gone up or down.

Please be prepared to share and discuss your answers in class.

*In order to receive full credit (1 H class time) for this assignment, it must be completed in its entirety by the due date/time assigned. Any assignments not completed in its entirety by the assigned due date and time will result in missed class time.*