

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

Review chapter 22 and place your answers to the following questions in the Z-Chapter 22 dropbox by 0800 on 2/10/2025.

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)
One problem that may cause infections related to foley's or central lines would be not using the aseptic technique needed before providing care. A second problem may be that these devices need to be taken out as soon as possible to prevent any infections. A third problem is hand hygiene and using gloves when providing care for these things.
2. Develop solutions for each problem or cause listed. (Provide at least 3)
One solution would be to ensure you are properly informed about how to clean each one and ensure you are cleaning these thoroughly. Another solution would be to have these removed as soon as possible. If the patient no longer needs a foley, reach out to the doctor to see about getting to remove it. A third solution would be to ensure to wash your hands properly or use hand sanitizer and always wear gloves when caring for these.
3. Identify why these problems might exist.
These problems may exist because there is so much on a nurse's plate that they may be rushing when providing care for these devices so that they forget to wash their hands

properly or apply gloves. It is also possible some people are unaware exactly how to ensure these devices are properly cleaned and handled.

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.

There could be classes provided to describe and show how to properly take care of these devices. Adding something in the documentation to ensure that these are being taken care of properly each shift. It may be a good idea to have papers that people are able to grab with information on properly caring for these.

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

Checking the infection control reports to see if the number of patients with CAUTI has decreased. Check in with the staff to see if they need any help with caring for these patients. Check documentation to see if things are being properly documented, especially the care for these devices. Ensure dressing changes are done properly and done properly for central lines. Ensure foley care is being done and charted every 12 hours.

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.