

MANAGING AND CONTROLLING METHICILLIN RESISTANT STAPHYLOCOCCUS AUREUS (MRSA) IN ORTHOPAEDIC HOSPITAL SUNGAI BULOH: STOPPING THE SPREAD

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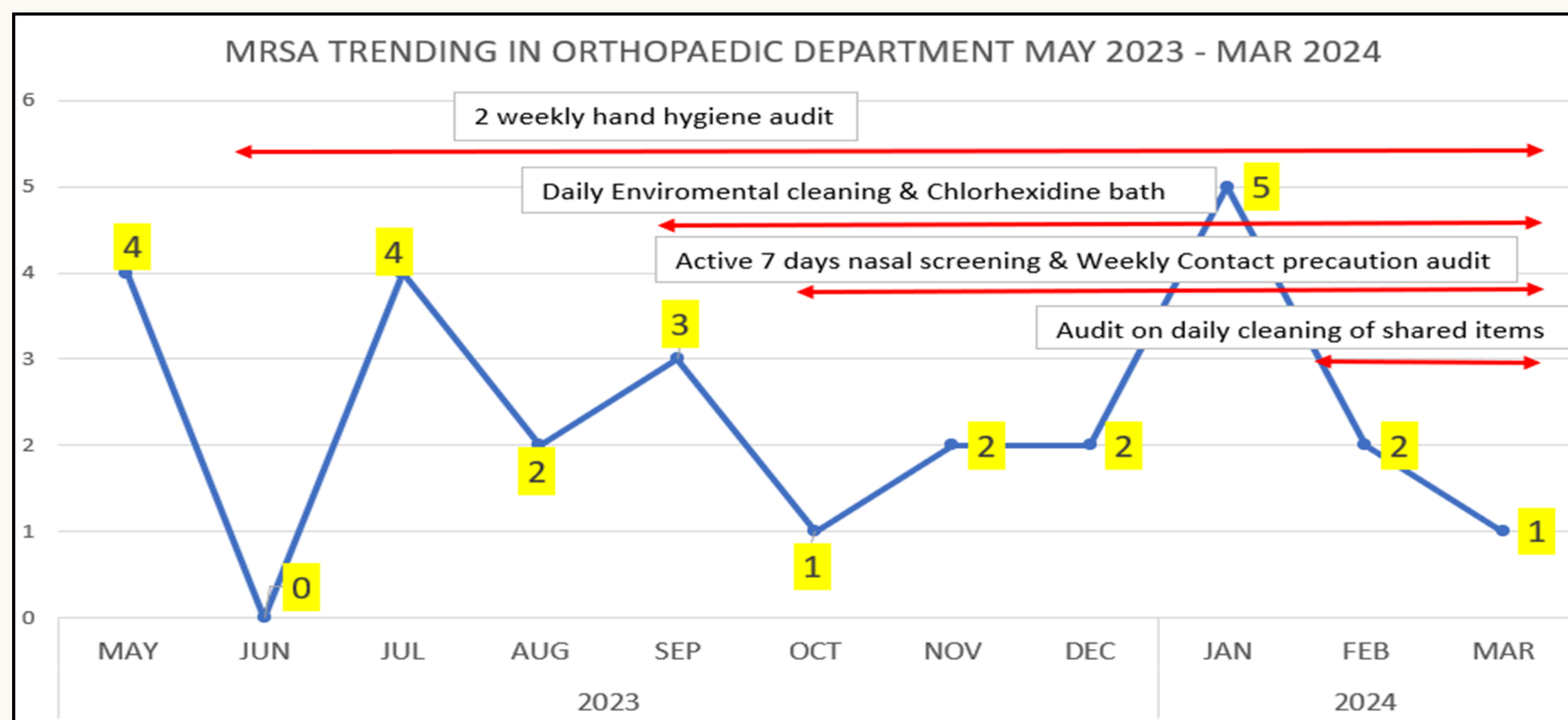
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INTRODUCTION

Methicillin resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) presents a persistent challenge in Orthopaedic departments where the risk of postoperative infections is high. In 2023, a consistent increase was identified. This study aims to investigate and control the rising through a series of targeted interventions.

METHODOLOGY

The infection control and orthopaedics team collaborated on a multidisciplinary approach tackling MRSA. A liaison person was appointed to facilitate project implementation. Several interventions had been done throughout 10 months duration (from June 2023 until March 2024) to tackle and control MRSA cases in Orthopaedic Department. Despite regular meetings, feedback about infection rates and compliance results were also given to relevant key stakeholders.



This graph shows the flow of several intervention which conducted and tremendous reduction of MRSA infection.



RESULTS

Daily cleaning audits showed 100% compliance. Contact precaution audit finding show 50% less compliance on dedicated medical item. Dressing trolleys and dextrose machines been shared among infected and non-infected patient in fact revealed inadequate disinfection practices in-between use. Compliance on preparing dedicated equipment for infected patients and disinfecting surfaces with alcohol-based wipes raised to 100%. Hand hygiene audit compliance initially was 50%. By assigning a dedicated person to distribute Alcohol base hand rub and placing it at each bed, compliance increased to 75%. 7-day MRSA nasal screenings from October 2023 to March 2024 showed 7.7% carrier rate.

CONCLUSION

The study demonstrates that comprehensive infection control strategies can effectively manage and reduce MRSA prevalence. Sustained hygiene practices, rigorous cleaning protocols and continuous active surveillance are critical in maintaining low MRSA rates.

