

HAI WATCHDOG* Award Winners 2012

Kimberly-Clark Health Care is accepting nominations for the 2013 HAI WATCHDOG* Awards Program for Australian and New Zealand hospitals.

With concerns regarding hospital acquired infections growing worldwide, these awards were created as an initiative of the Kimberly-Clark HAI WATCHDOG* Program, to recognize the efforts of dedicated healthcare professionals globally working together to prevent Healthcare-Associated Infections (HAIs), while simultaneously creating a new best practice standard within the industry.

In its first year within Australia and New Zealand, Auckland District Health Board, Royal Perth Hospital, and Lismore Base Hospital were the winners of the HAI WATCHDOG* Awards program gaining national acclaim for their initiatives in the field. They were provided with a Kimberly-Clark Health Care grant to further their staff educational efforts.

Auckland District Health Board incorporated the program titled "*CSSD fight against a creeping contamination incident*" which was led by Mohammad Alshadiefat, Central Sterile Supply Department at Auckland District Health Board and was recognized in the Panel-Judged CSSD Infection Prevention Initiative Category.

The program focused on reducing HAIs and internal customer rejections by reviewing the cleaning of surgical instruments to determine whether additional decontamination procedures and steps need to be instigated in sterile-service departments to reduce the risk of infection.

"It was concluded that there was an immediate need for removing the pre-soak bath as these are not controlled, and have proven to add no value. Furthermore, there was a saving of almost \$100,000 annually of detergent and soaking bath water and a reduction of 4 minutes on average per set reprocessing in the Decontamination area. The best news? After six weeks of trials and planning, there was almost 80% reduction in the current internal staff rejection which has reflected on the external customer complaint numbers" said Mohammad. To find out more about the Auckland District Health Board's initiative please visit: www.haiwatchdog.com.

Royal Perth Hospital developed and implemented a program titled "*Achievement of zero Central line associated blood stream Infections (CLABSIs) over 12 month in a Tertiary Hospital*" which was led by Rosie Lee, Coordinator, Infection Prevention and Management Royal Perth Hospital. It was recognised in the Panel-Judged ICU Infection Prevention Initiative Category in an effort to achieve zero CLABSIs in ICU.

This involved the implementation of a CVC bundle of care, a continued ICU blood stream infection surveillance program – hospital wide hand hygiene and feedback program and the ongoing commitment of ICU staff to reinforcing principle infection prevention measures. "It's wonderful to see our work to prevent HAIs recognised by Kimberly-Clark Health Care.

We plan to put our educational grant to use as part of our ongoing commitment to quality care and infection prevention,” said Rosie. To find out more about the Royal Perth Hospital’s initiative please visit: www.haiwatchdog.com.

Lismore Base Hospital launched the program titled *“All Screwed Up – Reprocessing Single Use Sterile Screws”* which was led by Ruth Strickland-Ross, CSSD Manager at Lismore Base Hospital and was recognized in the Clinician’s Choice Category. The program aimed to reduce potential HAIs during surgery that may have originated from re-stocking screw banks in the CSSD.

Ruth initiated a change in workplace practice and culture through educating staff and Orthopaedic Surgeons on current NSW policies and guidelines. “By opening the sterile implant at point of use, this immediately reduces the potential of a HAI, removing the probable contamination of blood or debris on implantable items not used. As the Manager of the department I am proud to have led a team that has become a pioneering unit that provides safe patient outcomes” said Ruth. To find out more about the Lismore Base Hospital’s initiative please visit: www.haiwatchdog.com.

This year who will take home the prize?

Deadlines for entries:

Australia / New Zealand: September 30, 2013

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