Culture of Safety: It Starts with YOU!

Patient safety is an essential component of quality nursing care.

- Nurses are often called the “gatekeepers” of patient safety. They arguably spend more time with the patient than anyone else in healthcare and have the most crucial impact on a patient’s experience and outcomes. What they do every day, keeps patients safe.

- Safety is an essential component of quality, and it must be embedded into every inch of the overall organizational culture. Saunders Medical Center provides a “Just Culture” environment to encourage nurses and all staff to speak up and bring issues or concerns to their leaders. We can’t fix a problem if we don’t know about it!

- Patient’s feel most safe when their caregivers work as a team, listen, and involve them in their own care. Bedside reporting is one small step that allows patients to feel included and make decisions about their care.

- Nurses and Nurse Leaders must demonstrate the behaviors that they want others to exhibit. It is important at Saunders Medical Center to be transparent and communicate with each other. Leaders and front-line staff drive the culture!

- Remember to complete the annual survey of Patient Safety Culture! The University of Nebraska Medical Center is helping us conduct the survey and will analyze the results. All surveys protect your confidentiality and ensure our results are comparable to other small rural hospitals. Safety is the responsibility of all staff at SMC so please take time to complete this 20 minute survey.

Nebraska becomes the first state to require all drugs be reported to prescription monitoring program

Nebraska is the first state to require reporting of all dispensed prescription drugs to the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program. Nebraska Health Information Initiative CEO Deb Bass said the move could save lives—not only for those taking opioids, but potentially for anyone prescribed drugs. “We’re after those adverse medical effects,” Bass said. “Often readmissions are connected to improper medication usage, or they didn’t get their medications filled. They didn’t take the medication they were supposed to. There are also individuals that have drug-drug interaction and they end up being re-hospitalized.” The PDMP nationwide initiative took effect Jan. 1, 2018, and other states have also been advancing their health IT efforts to support drug monitoring.
Tell Me 3

Infection Control Corner

Remember:
- Stay home if you are sick!
- Do NOT come to work if you have a fever!
- Wash your hands frequently!
- Cover your cough/sneeze using your elbow!

Proper way to wear a mask

Proper way to wear a mask

Nebraska Influenza Data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metric</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>% of influenza test +</td>
<td>24.46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of RSV rapid test +</td>
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<tr>
<td>Influenza-associated hospitalizations</td>
<td>455 inpatients</td>
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<td>% of ED visits due to influenza</td>
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<tr>
<td>% of school absence due to illness</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of influenza outbreaks reported</td>
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<tr>
<td>Influenza-associated mortality—</td>
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<tr>
<td>all ages</td>
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<td>Influenza-associated pediatric mortality</td>
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Synopsis for Week Ending January 27th, 2018

Influenza—associated hospitalizations 455 inpatients

What you Should Know About Influenza (Flu) Antiviral Drugs

Can the flu be treated?
Yes. There are prescription medications called “antiviral drugs” that can treat flu illness.

What are antiviral drugs?
Antiviral drugs are prescription medicines that fight against the flu in your body. They are different from antibiotics.

What should I do if I think I have the flu?
If you get the flu, antiviral drugs are a treatment option. Check with your doctor promptly. Flu symptoms include fever, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, body aches, chills, and fatigue.

Should I still get a flu vaccine?
Yes.

What are the benefits of antiviral drugs?
When used for treatment, these drugs can lessen symptoms and shorten the time you are sick by 1-2 days. They can also prevent serious flu complications.

What are the possible side effects of antiviral drugs?
Nausea, vomiting, dizziness, runny/stuffy nose, cough, diarrhea, headache.

What should antiviral drugs be taken for treatment?
Studies show that flu antiviral drugs work best for treatment when they are started within 2 days of getting sick. However, starting them later can still be helpful.

How long should antiviral drugs be taken?
Tamiflu and Relenza are usually prescribed for 5 days.

Can children and pregnant women take antiviral drugs?
Yes.