

Bundle of items can reduce SSI rate in colon surgery

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(HealthDay)—Implementation of a bundle of five items can reduce the

surgical site infection (SSI) rate in colon surgery, according to a study published online Feb. 1 in the *Journal of Evaluation in Clinical Practice*.

Fabrizio Bert, M.D., from the University of Turin in Italy, and colleagues conducted an observational study to examine the incidence rate of SSIs in relation to implementation of a bundle for every patient under SSI surveillance from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2012. The bundle included infection risk index calculation, preoperative shower, trichotomy, [antibiotic prophylaxis](#), and body temperature control. During 2012, data were obtained from 3,314 surgical operations from 37 hospitals: 1,992 hip prosthetic surgery (HPRO) cases and 1,322 [colon surgery](#) (COLO) cases. The bundle was implemented in 1,114 and 671 HPRO and COLO operations, respectively.

The researchers found that in colon surgery, the bundle was a protective factor for infection risk (odds ratio, 0.55). The main risk factors for infection were American Society of Anesthesiologists score ≥ 3 and contamination class ≥ 3 (odds ratios, 1.57 and 2.02, respectively). Application of the bundle was not associated with a statistically significant decrease in the risk of [infection](#) in hip surgery.

"Systematic implementation of effective preventive interventions can improve the quality of health care and promote appropriate behaviors," the authors write.

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