

Cost Analysis Study

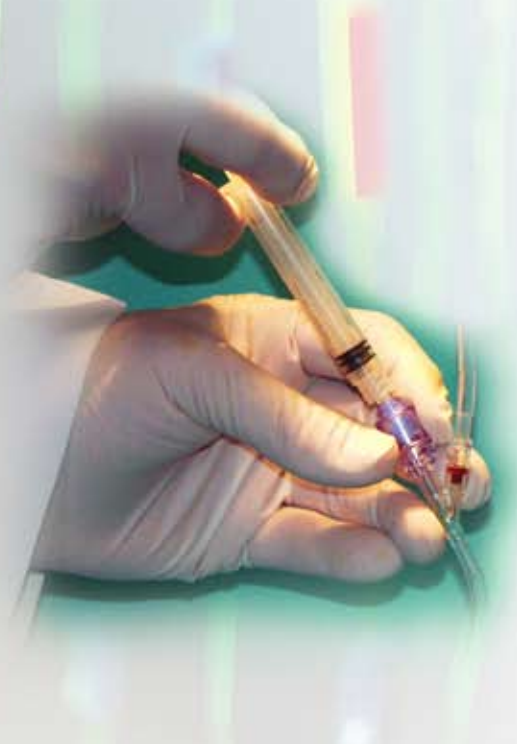


The Pennsylvania Health Care Cost Containment Council recently released an in-depth study that confirms an extremely high incidence of hospital acquired patient bloodstream infections (BSI) within the State's 165 general acute care hospitals (approximately 37,000 beds) in 2006.¹

According to the research results a reported 2,945 bloodstream infections occurred or 1.9 per 1000 cases within that year.

Based on this total number of bloodstream infections, the data from the study reveals a comparative/contrast of mortality rate and average length of stay.

Mortality Rate	Average Length of Stay	Average Increased Cost of Care
21.0 % with BSI	24.6 Days with BSI	\$91,733 per bloodstream infection
2.0 % without BSI	4.5 Days without BSI	



A separate study published in 2006 and conducted at Allegheny General Hospital², a 604 bed hospital in Pittsburgh, reported an average direct hospital cost of \$91,733 for the treatment of 54 hospital acquired central line associated bloodstream infections (CLABs) over a three year period. This study was conducted in the hospital's 28 contiguous bed MICU and CCU units.

The study further found that the average reimbursement for a case complicated by CLABs was \$64,894 which represented a loss to the hospital of an average of \$26,839. With the continuing challenges to reimbursement, these losses will only increase in the future.

The actual costs shown in this study were hospital clinical care expenses only. Excluded were physician charges and the cost of additional long-term or rehabilitative care for the majority of the patients in the study.

Based upon these studies, actual hospital costs for the State of Pennsylvania for the treatment of cases complicated by a bloodstream infection would have exceeded over \$270 million in 2006 and resulted in over 550 patient deaths.

Nationwide, based on a total of 5,148 hospitals and more than 800,000 beds³, over 63,000 hospital acquired bloodstream infections could occur annually, costing the U.S. Healthcare System over \$5 billion and resulting in over 11,000 patient deaths.

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¹ Hospital-Acquired Infections in Pennsylvania, 2006; Pennsylvania Health Care Cost Containment Council, April 2008

² Economics of Central Line-Associated Bloodstream Infections, Richard P. Shannon, MD, American College of Medical Quality, Vol. 21, No. 6, Nov./Dec. 2006

³ American Hospital Association Website: www.aha.org