

# UTI HAC – disentangling TLAs (and \$) for the FLC

DR HELEN VAN GESSEL

“FRONT LINE CLINICIAN”

WA COUNTRY HEALTH SERVICE

ALBANY, WA

# Disclosures

- ▶ Nil commercial disclosures
- ▶ Acknowledge Mary-Rose Godsell, WACHS South West
- ▶ Previously
  - ▶ Healthcare Infection Surveillance WA
  - ▶ Office of Safety and Quality WA
  - ▶ Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Healthcare
  - ▶ Medical administration
- ▶ Like an opportunity to rant

# Outline

1. HAC program
2. Analysis of HAC UTI indicator for our health service
3. Discussion




# Hospital-Acquired Complications

Resources at [Safetyandquality.gov.au](https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au)



HAC program intended to  
improve patient safety, reduce  
cost

- 
1. Provision of reliable data to  
clinicians and managers
  2. Penalising hospitals for failing to  
prevent events

*Bonus of “no work” to collect data  
– uses coded administrative data*

# What conditions are on the HACs list?

The HACs list includes the following complications:

1. **Pressure injury**
2. **Falls resulting in fracture or other intracranial injury**
3. **Healthcare-associated infection**

This hospital-acquired complication includes the diagnoses of\*:

- Urinary tract infection page 41
- Surgical site infection page 44
- Pneumonia page 46
- Bloodstream infection page 48
- Central line and peripheral line associated bloodstream infection page 49
- Multi-resistant organism page 51
- Infection associated with prosthetics/implantable devices page 53
- Gastrointestinal infection. page 54

## 12. **Persistent incontinence**

## 13. **Malnutrition**

## 14. **Cardiac complications**

## 15. **Third and fourth degree perineal laceration during delivery**

## 16. **Neonatal birth trauma.**

# HAC UTI

3. Healthcare-associated infection	3.1 Urinary tract infection	N390	N39.0	Urinary tract infe
		N300	N30.0	Acute cystitis
		O862	O86.2	Urinary tract infe

## Numerator

### Complications 1-14

The numerator for each of the diagnosis is defined as separations:

- with at least one of the ICD-10-AM codes defining that diagnosis in Table A recorded as an additional diagnosis (i.e. NOT primary diagnosis)
- AND a condition onset flag (COF) code of 1 (Condition with onset during the episode of admitted patient care)
- AND any other criteria specified in 'Other associated codes' column of that diagnosis
- AND meeting the denominator criteria of:

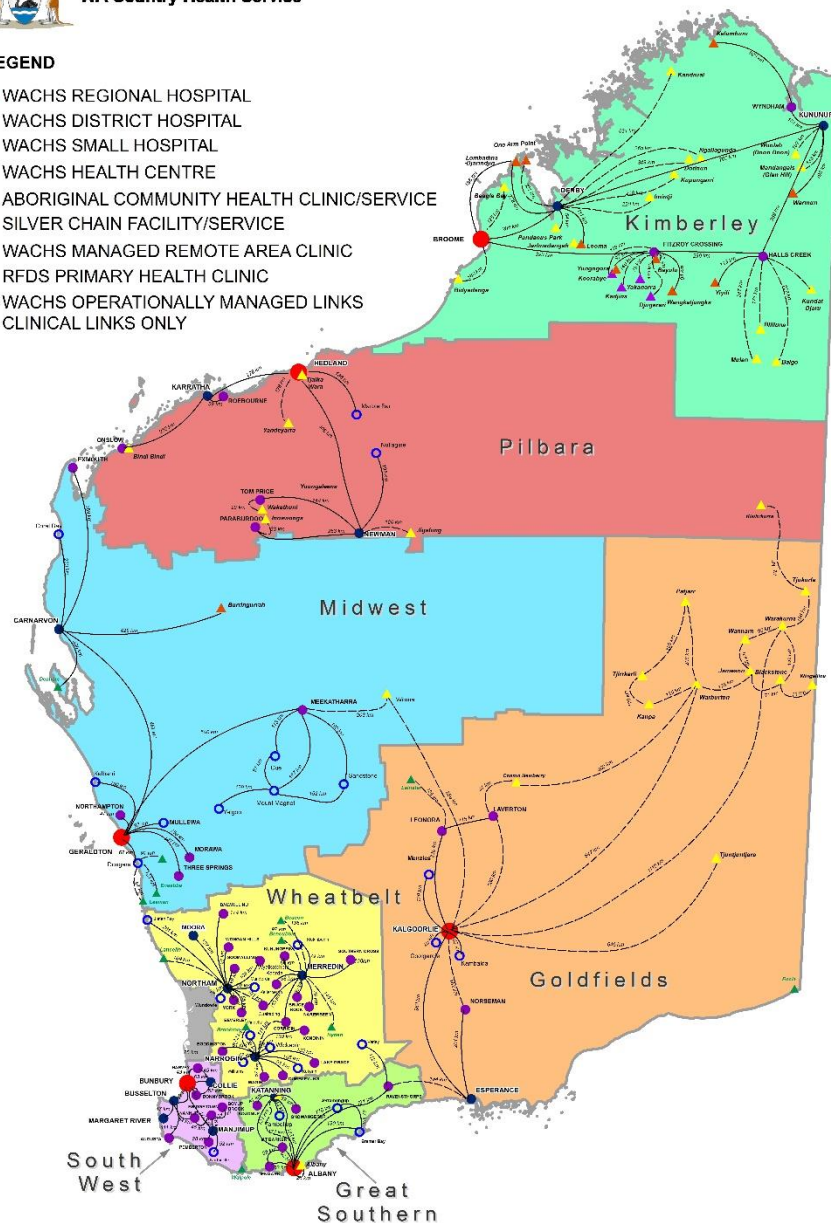
All separations, excluding separations with ANY of the following:

- Same-day chemotherapy - DRG V8: R63Z and admission date = separation date
- Same-day haemodialysis - DRG V8: L61Z and admission date = separation date
- Care type is 'Newborn - unqualified days only' - Care type = 7.3
- Care type is 'Hospital boarder' - Care type = 10
- Care type is 'Organ procurement-posthumous' - Care type = 9.



#### LEGEND

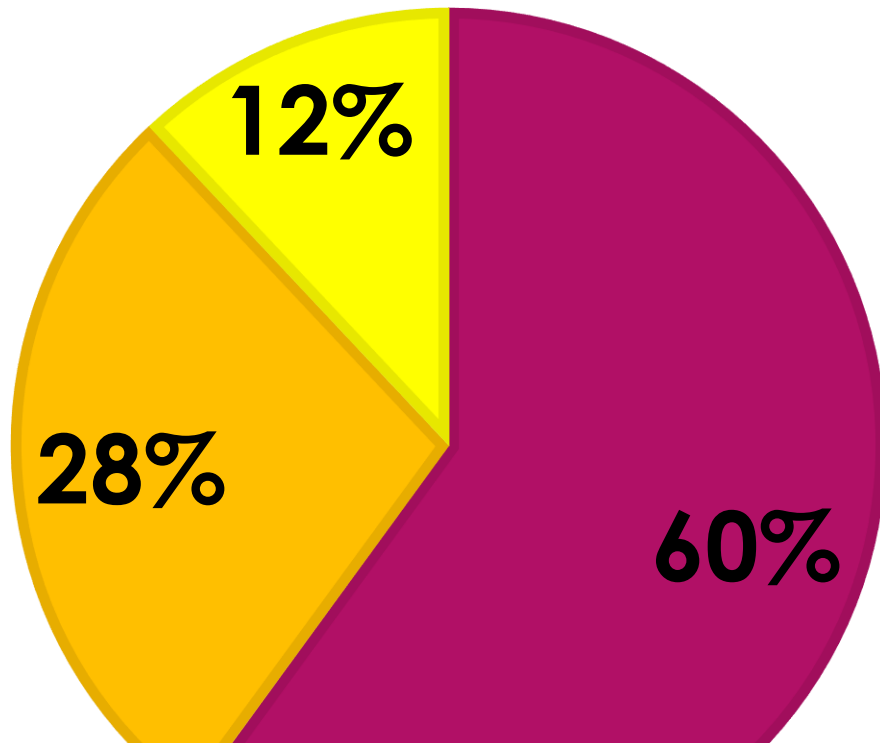
- WACHS REGIONAL HOSPITAL
- WACHS DISTRICT HOSPITAL
- WACHS SMALL HOSPITAL
- WACHS HEALTH CENTRE
- ▲ ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY HEALTH CLINIC/SERVICE
- ▲ SILVER CHAIN FACILITY/SERVICE
- ▲ WACHS MANAGED REMOTE AREA CLINIC
- ▲ RFDS PRIMARY HEALTH CLINIC
- WACHS OPERATIONALLY MANAGED LINKS
- - - CLINICAL LINKS ONLY



# WA Country Health Service (WACHS)



**WACHS HACs = 1393 (2016/17)**



■ All other HAC    ■ HAC UTI  
■ All other HAI

- ▶ HAC UTI 28% of total
- ▶ \$ implications
- ▶ Variation ++ between regions
- ▶ Need to reduce!
- ▶ Really ???

# Retrospective HAC UTI analysis

- ▶ Chart review applying NHSN definitions to all coded HAC UTI in 2 regions over 6 months 2018
- ▶ **62 HAC UTI**
  - ▶ 7 (18%, 95% CI 10-29%) validated using NHSN criteria
  - ▶ **55/62 (82%) false positive**
- ▶ Separate prospective NHSN methodology CAUTI surveillance
  - ▶ 4 CAUTI detected in same time period
  - ▶ **1/4 CAUTI coded** as a HAC UTI

# Why focus on hospital-acquired infections?

**Urinary tract infection (UTI)** refers to an infection affecting the bladder, urethra, ureters or kidneys.



**Around 20,500 hospital-acquired UTIs** occur each year in Australian hospitals<sup>#</sup>

**112.1**

Highest rate of this HAC at  
Principal Referral Hospitals

?

**47.1**

Aggregate rate of this HAC at  
Principal Referral Hospitals

Per 10,000 hospitalisations

If all hospitals reduced their rate  
of this HAC to less than 47.1 per 10,000  
hospitalisations, it would prevent at least  
**2,757 UTIs**



**All facilities should be working to reduce their rates of UTIs.**

# We knew this already

- ▶ Mitchell et al 2016
  - ▶ 45% of coded HAUTIs had positive microbiology
- ▶ Van Mourik et al BMJ Open 2015
  - ▶ 15 HAUTI studies PPV below 25% for all
- ▶ Redondo-Gonzalez 2018
  - ▶ CAUTI only pooled +LHR 12.94, insignificant agreement with surveillance definition ( $\kappa < 0.21$ )

# HAC program designed to drive change and reduce HAs

1. Provision of reliable data to clinicians and managers
2. Penalising hospitals for failing to prevent events

Bonus of no work to collect data

# Do penalties work?

## Research

### Changes in hospital safety following penalties in the US Hospital Acquired Condition Reduction Program: retrospective cohort study

*BMJ* 2019 ; 366 doi: <https://doi.org/10.1136/bmj.l4109> (Published 03 July 2019)

**Conclusions** Penalization was not associated with significant changes in rates of hospital acquired conditions, 30 day readmission, or 30 day mortality, and does not appear to drive meaningful clinical improvements. By disproportionately penalizing hospitals caring for more disadvantaged patients, the HACRP could exacerbate inequities in care.

Sankaran et al. Changes in hospital safety following penalties in the US Hospital Acquired Condition Reduction Program: retrospective cohort study *BMJ* 2019; 366 :l4109

# HAC program designed to drive change and reduce HAs

1. Provision of reliable data to clinicians and managers
2. Penalising hospitals for failing to prevent events

Bonus of no work to collect data

Response - invest in resources to  
improve documentation and coding

*Better documentation  
Improved coding of an infection  
doesn't prevent the next one  
not better care*


- ▶ Head use
- ▶ “Click

ysis,

clinicians to use to improve  
documentation

o” for





HAC program  
designed to reduce  
HAIs by

The problem is

1. Provision of reliable data to clinicians and managers
2. Penalising hospitals for failing to prevent events

Bonus of no work to collect data

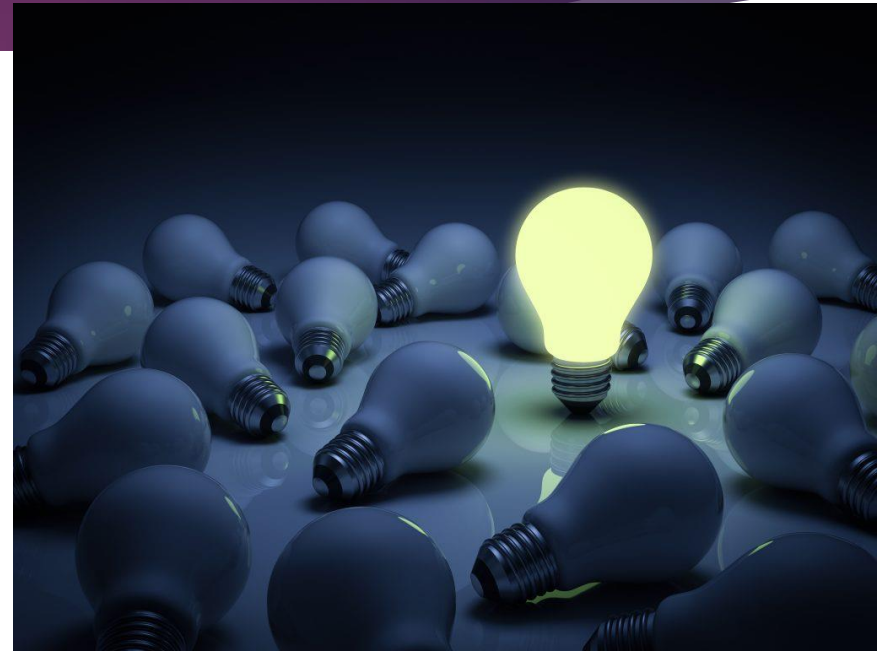
1. This data isn't reliable – at least for HAC UTI
2. Penalty programs have not been shown to improve outcomes, cause inequity

There is +++ work to make data reliable

# Consistent with broader policy settings

- ▶ Idea that “shedding light” will lead to change

- ▶ Other examples
  - ▶ NAPLAN



# Don Berwick

Google YouTube

Keynote 3 Glasgow IHI

BMJ Forum



## “MEASUREMENT IS A POOR MAN’S CONVERSATION”

- Costs soar, counter-measures and gaming
- From patient’s point of view = WASTE
- Never confuse a measurement with what is important
- **Put measurement on a diet**

# In the meantime we should focus on strategies that do work

- ▶ Be curious, identify OUR problems
- ▶ Focus on quality improvement, using the HAC prevention resources
- ▶ Only collect enough data to guide our quality improvement work
- ▶ Don't stop surveillance if efficient and useful in guiding improvement

Focus on working with & having conversations with people



# Thanks

