Reducing Central Line–Associated Bloodstream Infections in the Blood and Marrow Transplantation Population: A Review of the Literature

Abdelbaki Boubekri

Healthcare-associated infections are a significant cause of patient morbidity and mortality. Most healthcare-associated bloodstream infections are related to the presence of central venous catheters and are called central line–associated bloodstream infections (CLABSIs). A review of the literature showed a decrease in CLABSIs in intensive care units (ICUs) since the implementation of guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. This review demonstrated the effectiveness of daily chlorhexidine gluconate (CHG) bathing toward reducing CLABSIs as well as infections from methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* and vancomycin-resistant *Enterococcus* in this setting. A need exists for implementation of a similar intervention for patients undergoing blood and marrow transplantation, and CHG bathing would be a logical choice because of its proven efficacy in the ICU, its safety, and its cost affordability.

Abdelbaki Boubekri is an advanced registered nurse practitioner student in the School of Nursing at the University of South Florida in Tampa. The author takes full responsibility for the content of the article. The author did not receive honoraria for this work. The content of this article has been reviewed by independent peer reviewers to ensure that it is balanced, objective, and free from commercial bias. No financial relationships relevant to the content of this article have been disclosed by the author, planners, independent peer reviewers, or editorial staff. Mention of specific products and opinions related to those products do not indicate or imply endorsement by the Oncology Nursing Society or the Oncology Nursing Society. Boubekri can be reached at baki_b@msn.com, with copy to editor at CJONEditor@ons.org. (Submitted May 2012. Revision submitted September 2012. Accepted for publication October 1, 2012.)

Digital Object Identifier:10.1188/13.CJON.297-302