

HOSPITAL CHARACTERISTICS

**BRONSON  
 METHODIST  
 HEALTH**

- ▶ Kalamazoo, MI
- ▶ 370 beds
- ▶ [www.bronsonhealth.com](http://www.bronsonhealth.com)

**S . T . E . E . E . P .**



**SAFE**

AMU decreased its nosocomial catheter-associated urinary tract infections to one in 2008.



**EFFICIENT**

The hospital proved to be more efficient by applying best practices in hand hygiene.

**TEAM MEMBERS**

**Kathy Courtney, RN**

Emergency Department Nurse Manager

**Susan Flach, RN**

Staff Nurse

**Cheryl Knapp, RN**

Vice President of Quality and Safety,  
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**Natasha Watson, RN**

Nurse Manager, Team Leader

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Unit Coordinator

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Director of Infection Control and  
 Epidemiology

# COLLABORATION TO PREVENT INFECTIONS

## The Problem

In 2007, the Keystone Center for Patient Safety and Quality partnered with the Michigan Health and Hospital Association and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan to decrease hospital-associated infections in health care organizations throughout Michigan. The initiative focused on areas such as hand hygiene, catheter-related blood stream infections and catheter-associated urinary tract infections.

## The Solution

Best practices in hand hygiene, catheter-related blood stream infections and catheter-associated urinary tract infections were implemented with off-site conferences and coaching calls for education and awareness. Keystone provided tracking tools and "bundles" to assist with education, policy revision and implementation. The data was then submitted to the center for tracking.

## Results

- » The adult medical unit (AMU) selected hand hygiene as its improvement project in 2007. AMU averaged 91 percent compliance in 2007 and 87 percent in 2008.
- » In 2008, AMU began implementation of a catheter-associated urinary tract infection prevention bundle. The bundle includes training of staff on insertion, maintenance techniques and criteria for the use of catheters. During data collection, the team conducted rounds daily to check whether all catheterized patients met the criteria for an indwelling catheter and removed unnecessary catheters.
- » AMU monitored catheter utilization in 2008 as they implemented their process improvements and saw utilization decline from 22 percent of patient days in 2007 to 15 percent of patient days in 2008.
- » AMU patients had only one nosocomial catheter-associated urinary tract infection in 2008. Bronson's focus in 2009 is extending the urinary tract infection prevention bundle to other medical units.