Two years ago, The Barbara Bush Children’s Hospital Inpatient Unit (BBCH IPU) set out to reduce its rate of central-line associated bloodstream infections (CLABSI). At the time, the CLABSI rate exceeded the hospital average and the goal of one infection per 1,000 central line days.

To address the situation, multidisciplinary care teams at MMC and BBCH IPU renewed their commitment to decrease the CLABSI rate and improve safe patient care. Using quality improvement methodologies, staff enthusiasm, and intense focus, the BBCH IPU proudly celebrated its one year anniversary since the most recent CLABSI.

Jennifer Newell, M.D., Pediatric Hospitalist, credits specific initiatives for the decreased infection rate, including:

- Limiting interruptions and breaks into Central Venous Lines (CVLs), specifically for lab tests
- Ensuring that intravenous fluids run continuously through CVLs, without frequently stopping during hospitalization
- Advocating for new

Continued on back

BBCH Celebrates One Year Without CLABSI

BBCH staff gathered in the BBCH teen center last week to celebrate their achievement.

Time’s Almost Up...

NorDx Health Screening Deadline is July 31!

MaineHealth Works on Wellness

mainehealth.org/wowrewards
Sowmya Chandrasekar-an, M.D., has joined Maine Medical Partners Hospital Medicine. Dr. Chandrasekar-an received her medical degree in India from Coimbatore Medical College, India. She completed her residency at Rochester General Hospital in Rochester, NY, where she also served as Chief Resident. Dr. Chandrasekar-an enjoys teaching medical student and residents and participating in quality improvement projects. When not working, she enjoys cooking and Indian music.

**WOW! Rewards Raffle—Last Chance to Win!**

Join the ranks of last week’s ten lucky winners:

- Brianna Ward, MMP
- Jacki Lyn Rogers, MMC
- Ashley Holland, MMC
- John Randolph, Pen Bay
- Hayley Bell, SMHC
- Patricia Flynn-Henderson, MMC
- Janice Lessard, SMHC
- Alain Mortier, Waldo
- Dianne Lemoine, HHVN
- Linda Hartkopf, Waldo

Get screening this week, and you’ll be automatically entered for a chance to double your WOW! Rewards. That’s up to an additional $250! Visit MaineHealth.org/wowrewards for details and screening locations.

**BBCH Celebrates from front**

- Products, such as chlorhexidine dressings and Curos caps
- Updating staff policies and procedures
- Reviewing all CLAB-SIs and using the lessons learned to improve patient care
- Intensifying nursing education and annual competencies for dressing changes and accessing implantable devices

Other unit-based strategies developed on the BBCH IPU intend to reduce CLABSIs in outpatients by empowering patients and families to insist that optimal care for CVLs occurs during every health care visit and that standardized practices are guaranteed.

“The bulk of this work is shouldered by the BBCH IPU nursing staff, the Vascular Access Quality Committee, and the PICC (Peripherally Inserted Central Catheter) team members,” says Newell. “I am humbled by their commitment to quality. On behalf of the Women and Children Service Line leadership, we cannot thank them enough.”

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