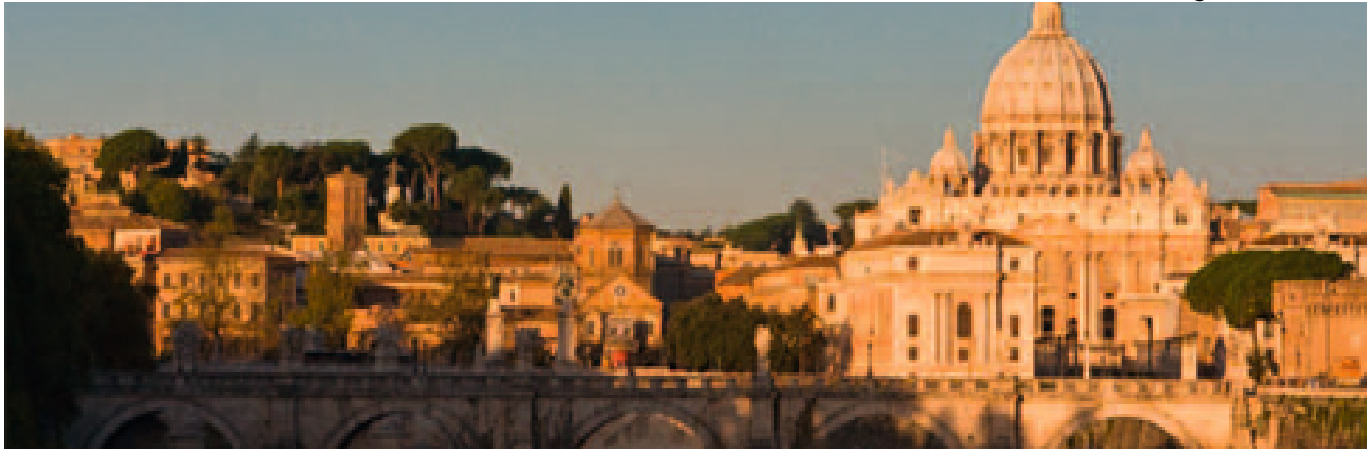


*30 November - 2 December 2011, Rome, Italy*



# Prevention of surgical site infection: the WHO Safe Surgery Checklist and more...

G. De Angelis  
Infectious Diseases Department  
Catholic University, Rome



*CENTERS for MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES*

Surgical Site Infection, Mediastinitis, Following  
Coronary Artery Bypass Graft (CABG)

Surgical Site Infection Following Certain  
Orthopedic Procedures:

- Spine
- Neck
- Shoulder
- Elbow

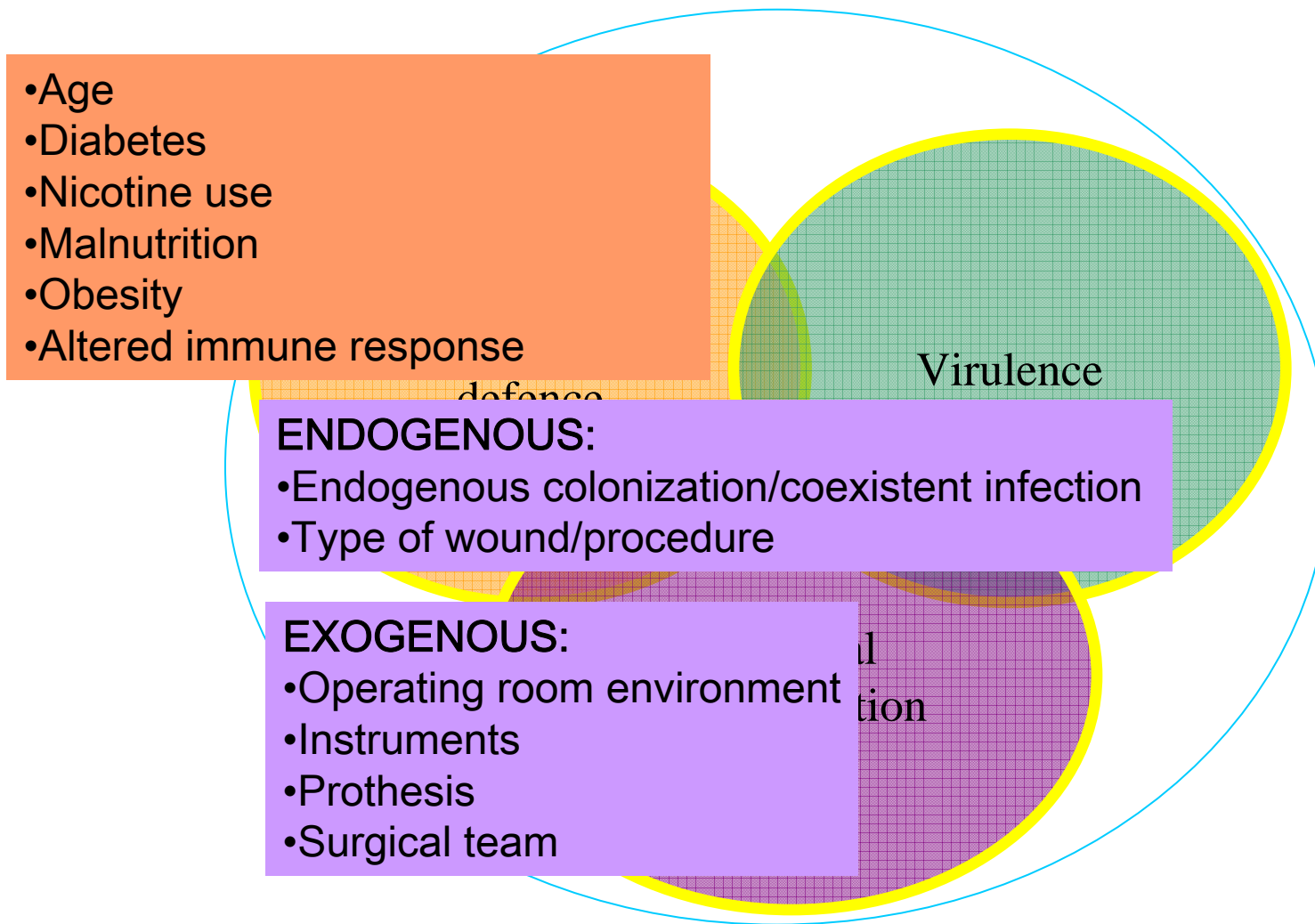
**10-70% of nosocomial infections are preventable**

Surgical Site Infection Following Bariatric Surgery  
for Obesity:

- Laparoscopic Gastric Bypass
- Gastroenterostomy
- Laparoscopic Gastric Restrictive Surgery

*Harbarth et al, JHI, 2003*

# Surgical site infection risk



# Opportunities to prevent SSI

## *the patient*

### BEFORE SURGERY



- ✓ Prolonged preoperative stay
- ✓ Coexistent infections at a remote body site
- ✓ Endogenous colonization (antiseptic bath, decolonization protocols)
- ✓ Hair removal

### DURING SURGERY



- ✓ Antibiotic prophylaxis
- ✓ Endogenous colonization (skin disinfection)
- ✓ Normothermia
- ✓ Supplemental oxygen
- ✓ Glucose level control

### AFTER SURGERY



- ✓ Appropriate wound management

# Opportunities to prevent SSI *the procedure*



Shortened operating time



Proper asepsis measures and  
antisepsis of skin and instruments



Meticulous surgical techniques and minimization of  
tissue trauma

On the patient  
Before surgery

*Reducing endogenous  
colonization*

**TABLE 4.** OVERALL AND *STAPHYLOCOCCUS AUREUS*–SPECIFIC RATES OF NOSOCOMIAL INFECTION AMONG PATIENTS WHO RECEIVED MUPIROCIN AND THOSE WHO RECEIVED PLACEBO.

TYPE OF INFECTION	MUPIROCIN RECIPIENTS			PLACEBO RECIPIENTS		
	TOTAL (n=1933)	<i>S. AUREUS</i> CARRIERS (n=444)	NONCARRIERS (n=1489)	TOTAL (n=1931)	<i>S. AUREUS</i> CARRIERS (n=447)	NONCARRIERS (n=1484)
	number/total number (percent)					
Nosocomial infection*	218/1933 (11.3)	57/444 (12.8)	161/1489 (10.8)	220/1931 (11.4)	72/447 (16.1)	148/1484 (10.0)
Nosocomial <i>S. aureus</i> infection*	45/1884 (2.4)	17/430 (4.0)	28/1454 (1.9)	55/1886 (2.9)	34/439 (7.7)†	21/1447 (1.5)
Surgical-site infection	152/1933 (7.9)	44/444 (9.9)	108/1489 (7.3)	164/1931 (8.5)	52/447 (11.6)	112/1484 (7.5)
<i>S. aureus</i> surgical-site infections‡	43/1892 (2.3)	16/432 (3.7)	27/1460 (1.8)	46/1894 (2.4)	26/439 (5.9)	20/1455 (1.4)

*Perl et al., NEJM, 2002*

**Table 3.** Surgical site infection (SSI) rates for 614 patients assessed for SSIs after orthopedic surgery performed with artificial implant material.

Infection	No. (%) of patients		RR (95% CI)
	Mupirocin group (n = 315)	Placebo group (n = 299)	
SSI	12 (3.8)	14 (4.7)	
Deep	0 (0)	1 (0.3)	
Superficial	12 (3.8)	13 (4.3)	0.81 (0.38–1.73)
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> SSI	5 (1.6)	8 (2.7)	0.59 (0.20–1.79)
Endogenous <i>S. aureus</i> SSI	1 (0.3)	5 (1.7)	0.19 (0.02–1.62)

*Kalmeijter et al., CID, 2002*

Characteristics	Control Periods (n = 10 910)	Intervention Periods (n = 10 844)	Incidence Rate Ratio (95% Confidence Interval)
Patients with any type of nosocomial MRSA infection, No. (%)	76 (0.7)	93 (0.9)	
Total incidence per 1000 patient-days	0.91	1.11	1.2 (0.9-1.7)
Ward of infected patients by subspecialty, No.			
Orthopedics	18	27	
Cardiovascular and thoracic surgery	9	6	
Neurosurgery	2	2	
Abdominal surgery	32	38	
Urology	13	12	
Other	2	8	
Total No. of MRSA infections <sup>a</sup>	88	103	
Sites of MRSA infection, No. <sup>a</sup>			
Surgical	60	70	
Urinary tract	10	14	
Respiratory tract	6	2	
Bacteremia	2	4	
Other	10	13	
Rate of surgical site infections due to MRSA/surgical interventions × 100	0.99	1.14	1.2 (0.8-1.7)
Patients with nosocomial MRSA acquisition <sup>b</sup>	132	142	
Incidence of nosocomial MRSA acquisition per 1000 patient-days	1.59	1.69	1.1 (0.8-1.4)



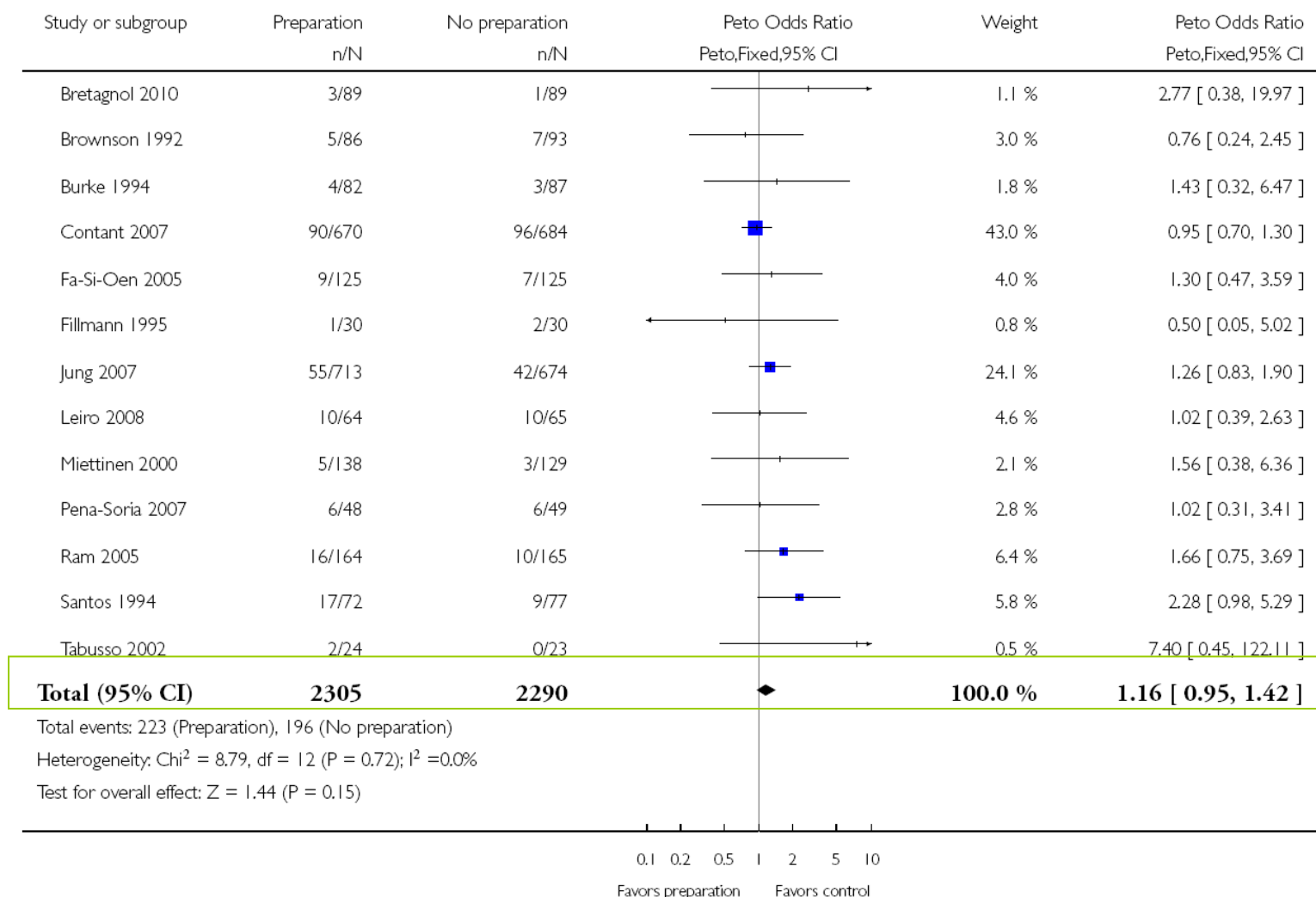
**Table 2.** Relative Risk of Hospital-Acquired *Staphylococcus aureus* Infection and Characteristics of Infections (Intention-to-Treat Analysis).

Variable	Mupirocin– Chlorhexidine (N=504) <i>no. (%)</i>	Placebo (N=413) <i>no. (%)</i>	Relative Risk (95% CI)*
<i>S. aureus</i> infection	17 (3.4)	32 (7.7)	0.42 (0.23–0.75)
Source of infection†			
Endogenous	12 (2.4)	25 (6.1)	0.39 (0.20–0.77)
Exogenous	4 (0.8)	6 (1.5)	0.55 (0.16–1.92)
Unknown	1 (0.2)	1 (0.2)	
Localization of infection			
Deep surgical site‡	4 (0.9)	16 (4.4)	0.21 (0.07–0.62)
Superficial surgical site‡	7 (1.6)	13 (3.5)	0.45 (0.18–1.11)

	Mupirocin and Chlorhexidine		Placebo		RR (95% CI)
<b>Cardiothoracic surgery (n=391)</b>	3/220	(1.4%)	15/171	(8.8%)	0.14 (0.04-0.51)
<b>Orthopedics (n=172)</b>	1/85	(1.2%)	4/87	(4.6%)	0.25 (0.03-2.26)
<b>Vascular surgery (n=95)*</b>	7/53	(13.2%)	6/42	(14.3%)	0.91 (0.28-2.96)
<b>Gastrointestinal surgery (n=43)†</b>	2/22	(9.1%)	3/21	(14.3%)	0.60 (0.09-4.01)
<b>General surgery (n=107)‡</b>	3/61	(4.9%)	3/46	(6.5%)	0.74 (0.14-3.85)

# Mechanical bowel preparation for elective colorectal surgery (Review)





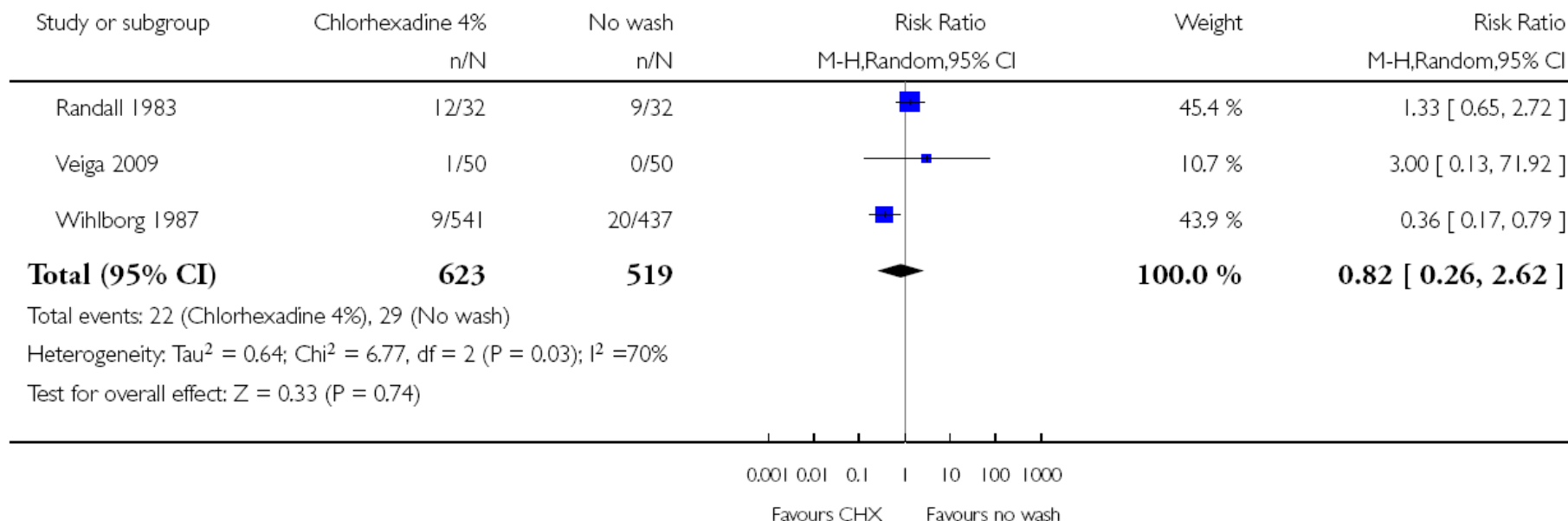
# Preoperative bathing or showering with skin antiseptics to prevent surgical site infection (Review)

## Analysis 3.1. Comparison 3 Chlorhexadine 4% versus no wash, Outcome 1 Surgical site infection.

Review: Preoperative bathing or showering with skin antiseptics to prevent surgical site infection

Comparison: 3 Chlorhexadine 4% versus no wash

Outcome: 1 Surgical site infection



On the patient  
Before surgery

*Hair removal*

# Preoperative hair removal to reduce surgical site infection (Review)

## Comparison 1. Clipping compared with no hair removal

Outcome or subgroup title	No. of studies	No. of participants	Statistical method	Effect size
1 Surgical site infection	1	130	Risk Ratio (M-H, Fixed, 95% CI)	1.0 [0.06, 15.65]

## Comparison 2. Shaving compared with no hair removal

Outcome or subgroup title	No. of studies	No. of participants	Statistical method	Effect size
1 Surgical site infection - body hair	3	445	Risk Ratio (M-H, Fixed, 95% CI)	1.65 [0.85, 3.19]
2 Surgical site infection - scalp hair	1	130	Risk Ratio (M-H, Fixed, 95% CI)	3.0 [0.32, 28.09]
3 Surgical site infection - body hair and scalp hair	4	575	Risk Ratio (M-H, Fixed, 95% CI)	1.75 [0.93, 3.28]

## Comparison 3. Cream compared with no hair removal

Outcome or subgroup title	No. of studies	No. of participants	Statistical method	Effect size
1 Surgical site infection	1	267	Risk Ratio (M-H, Fixed, 95% CI)	1.02 [0.45, 2.31]

#### Comparison 4. Shaving compared with clipping

Outcome or subgroup title	No. of studies	No. of participants	Statistical method	Effect size
1 Surgical site infection - scalp hair	1	130	Risk Ratio (M-H, Fixed, 95% CI)	3.0 [0.32, 28.09]
2 Surgical site infection - body hair	2	1213	Risk Ratio (M-H, Fixed, 95% CI)	1.97 [1.08, 3.58]
3 Surgical site infection - body hair and scalp hair	3	1343	Risk Ratio (M-H, Fixed, 95% CI)	2.03 [1.14, 3.61]

#### Comparison 5. Shaving compared with cream

Outcome or subgroup title	No. of studies	No. of participants	Statistical method	Effect size
1 Surgical site infection	7	1213	Risk Ratio (M-H, Random, 95% CI)	1.53 [0.73, 3.21]

On the patient  
During surgery

# *Antibiotic prophylaxis*

# Any time?

**WHO Guidelines for Safe Surgery 2009**

Safe Surgery Saves Lives

Prophylactic antibiotics should be used routinely in all clean–contaminated surgical cases and considered for use in any clean surgical case.



# Is Antibiotic Prophylaxis in Surgery a Generally Effective Intervention?

## *Testing a Generic Hypothesis Over a Set of Meta-Analyses*

*Russell J. Bowater, BSc, PhD,\* Seonaid A. Stirling,† and Richard J. Lilford, PhD, FRCOG, FRCP, FFPH\**

1. Antibiotic prophylaxis is an effective intervention for preventing wound infection over a broad range of different surgical procedures as measured by relative reductions in the risk of wound infection.
2. There is a substantial difference in the degree of protection from wound infection given by antibiotic prophylaxis between clean and contaminated surgical procedures or more precisely, that the relative risk of wound infection varies substantially over different levels of surgery cleanliness.

# Is Antibiotic Prophylaxis in Surgery a Generally Effective Intervention?

## Testing a Generic Hypothesis Over a Set of Meta-Analyses

Russell J. Bowater, BSc, PhD,\* Seonaid A. Stirling,† and Richard J. Lilford, PhD, FRCOG, FRCP, FFPH\*

TABLE 3. Meta-Analyses and Types of Surgery for Which a Relative Risk Could be Calculated

Review Number	Type of Surgery	2
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9	Spinal surgery, Barker <sup>12</sup>	
10		
11		
12		
13		
14		
15		
16		
17		
18	Laparoscopic cholecystectomy (elective), Calaver et al	
19	Colorectal surgery, Song and Glenny <sup>21</sup>	
20	Simple appendicitis, Andersen et al <sup>22</sup>	
21	Complicated appendicitis, Andersen et al <sup>22</sup>	

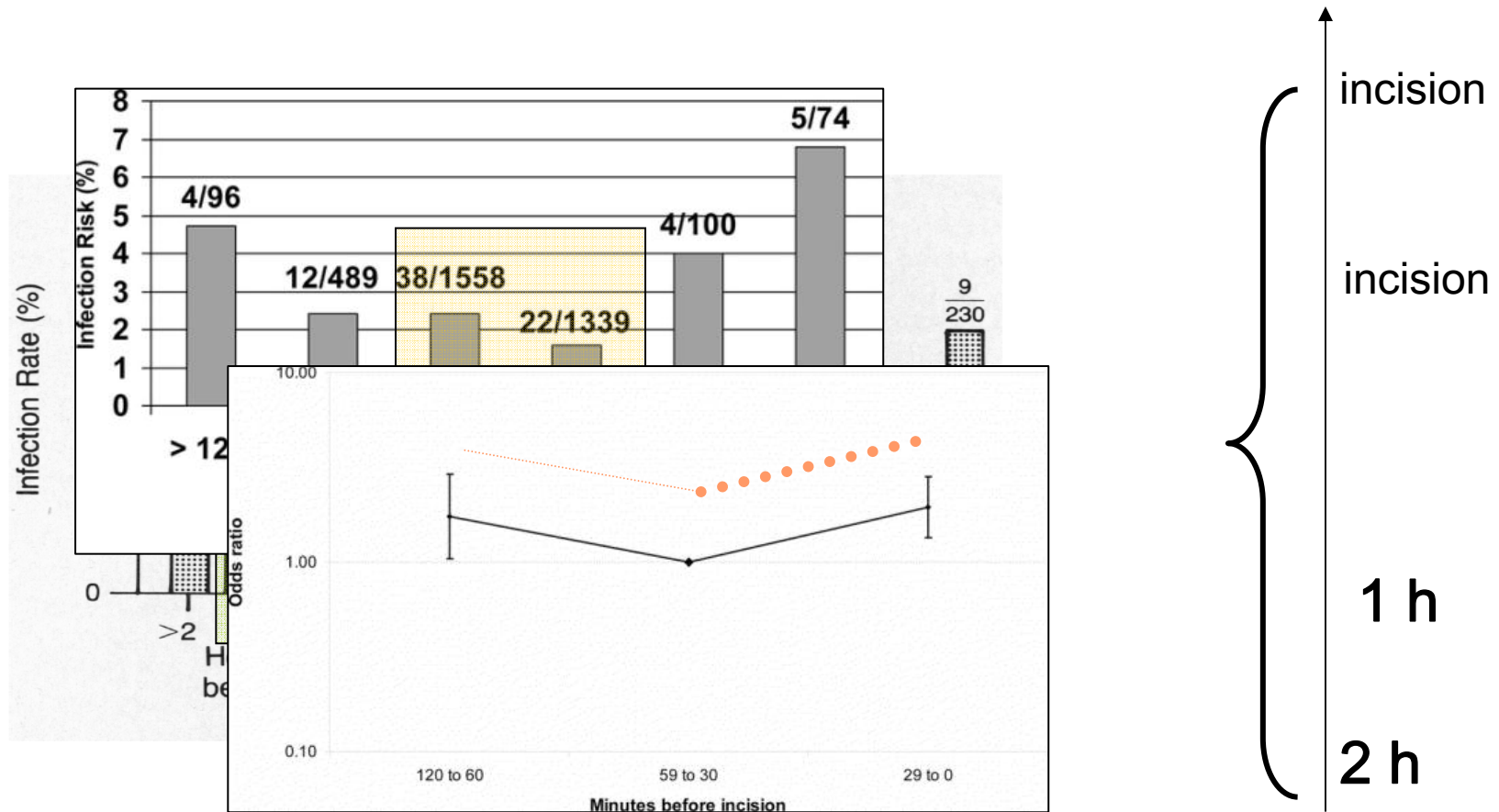
  

	Clean	Clean-contaminated	Contaminated / Dirty
	Wound		

1. Antibiotic prophylaxis is an effective intervention for preventing wound infection over a broad range of different surgical procedures as measured by relative reductions in the risk of wound infection.

2. There is a substantial difference in the degree of protection from wound infection given by antibiotic prophylaxis between clean and contaminated surgical procedures or more precisely, that the relative risk of wound infection varies substantially over different levels of surgery cleanliness.

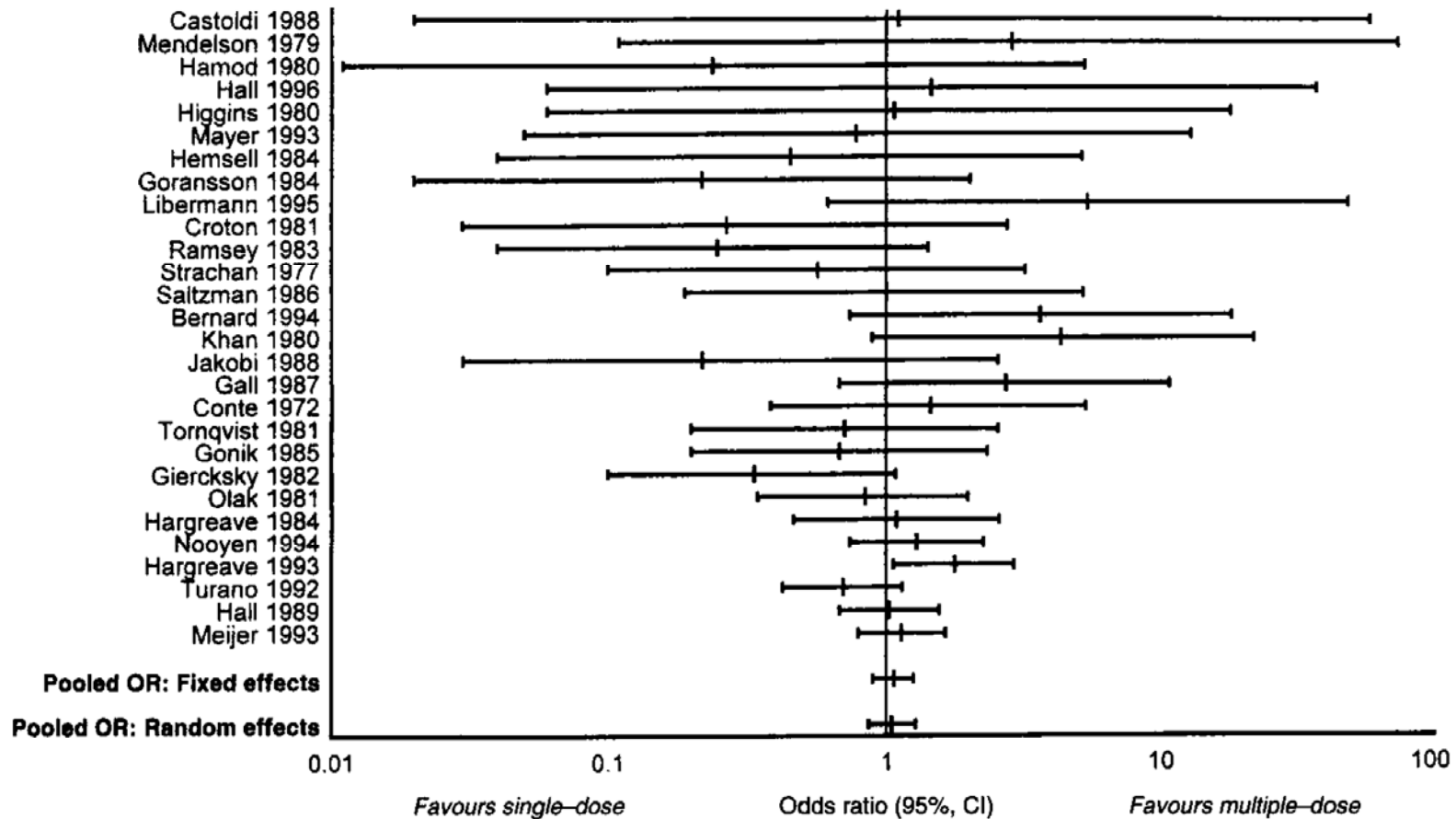
# When?



*Weber et al., Ann Surg, 2008*

*Classen et al., NEJM, 1992*

# Single or multiple doses?



# Single or multiple doses?

To keep best serum and tissue level till the end of surgery:

- Repeat administration at 1-2 half life of drug
- Use a drug with long half life

WHO Guidelines for Safe Surgery 2009

Safe Surgery Saves Lives

Redosing with prophylactic antibiotics should be considered if the surgical procedure lasts more than 4 hours or if there is evidence of excessive intraoperative bleeding. (When vancomycin is used as the prophylactic agent, there is no need for redosing in operations lasting less than 10 hours.)

<b><i>Antibiotic</i></b>	<b><i>Half-life (hours)</i></b>	<b><i>Antibiotic</i></b>	<b><i>Half-life (hours)</i></b>
Cefazolin	1.8	Aminoglycosides	2
Vancomycin	3-9	Metronidazole	8
Cefoxitin	0.6-1	Clindamycin	2.4-3
Cefotetan	3.4-6	Ciprofloxacin	3-5

# How long?

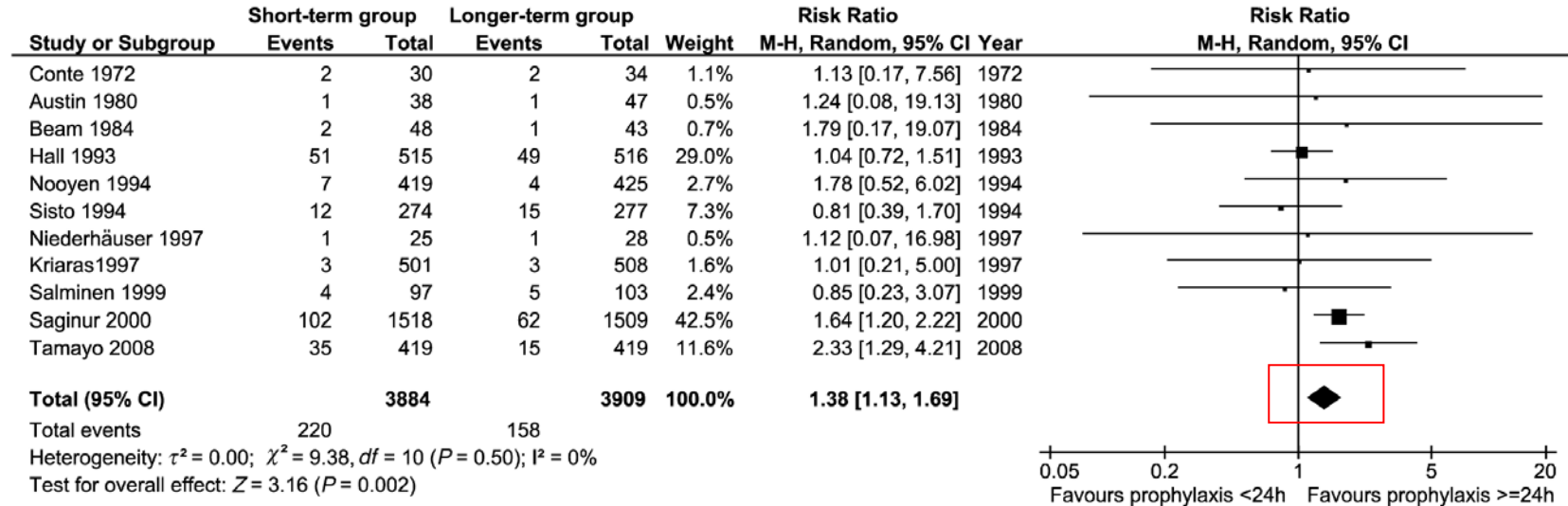
**WHO Guidelines for Safe Surgery 2009**

Safe Surgery Saves Lives

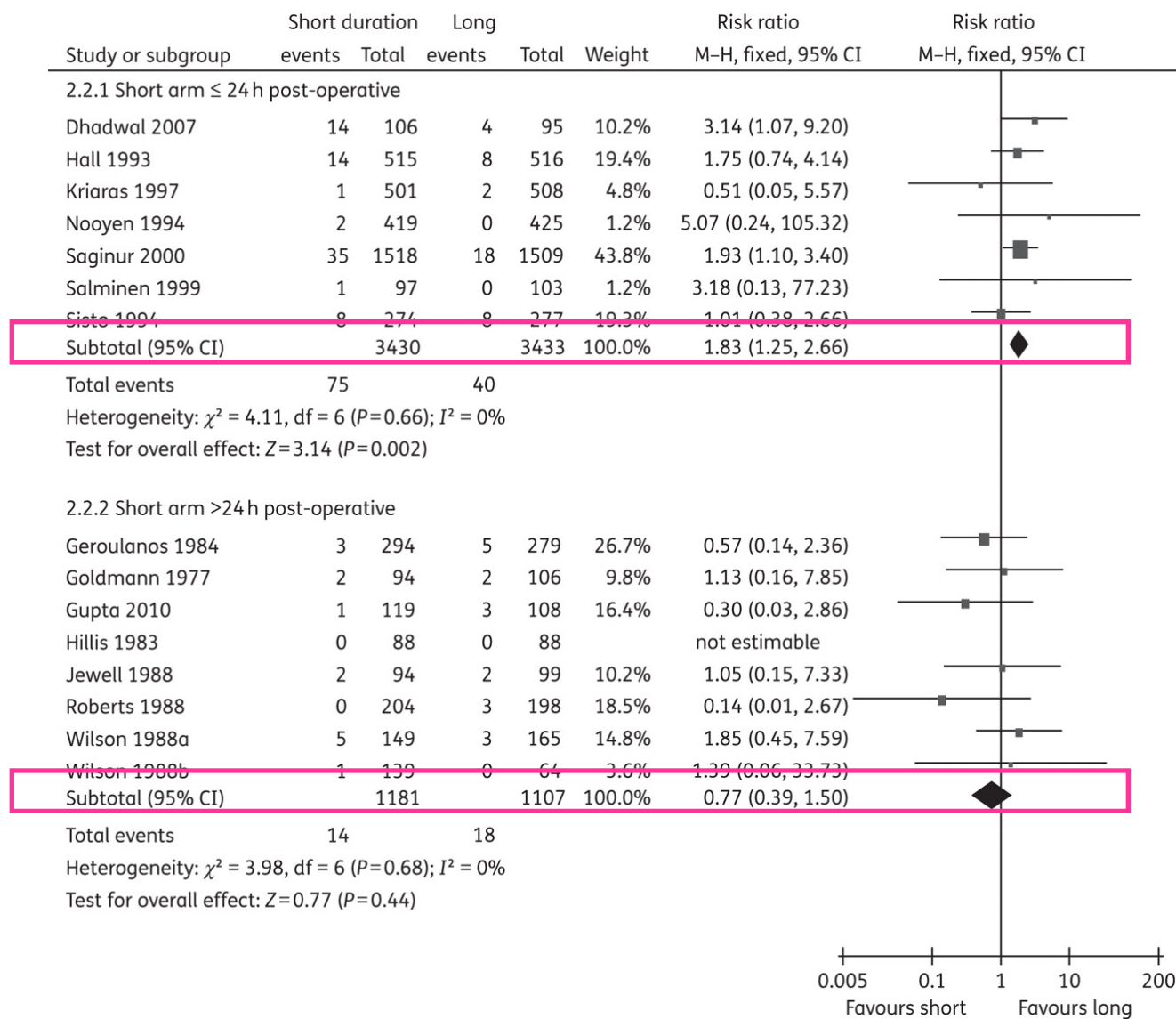
Antibiotics used for prophylaxis should be discontinued within 24 hours of the procedure.

# How long?

## Antibiotic prophylaxis in cardiac surgery and sternal SSI



## Deep sternal wound infection in trials comparing short prophylaxis duration versus longer duration, stratified by duration of prophylaxis in the short arm.





On the patient  
During surgery

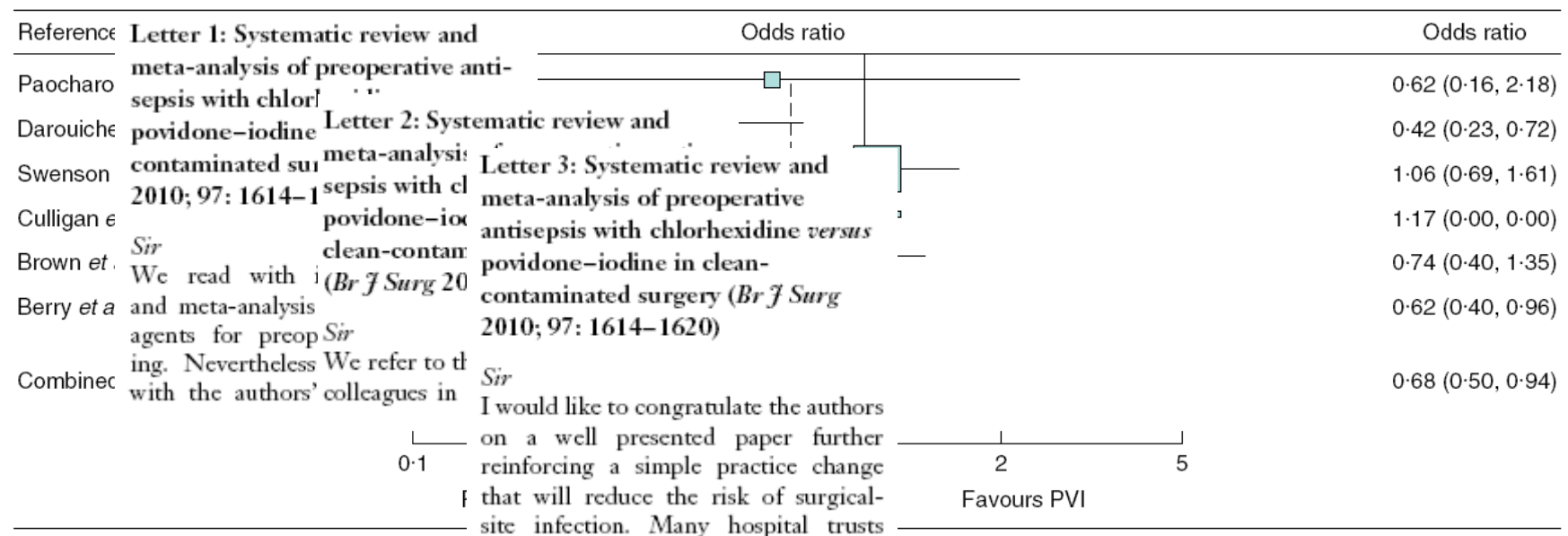
# Skin disinfection

WHO Guidelines for Safe Surgery 2009

Safe Surgery Saves Lives

The skin of all surgical patients should be prepared with an appropriate antiseptic agent before surgery. The antimicrobial agent should be selected on the basis of its ability to decrease the microbial count of the skin rapidly and its persistent efficacy throughout the operation.

# Systematic review and meta-analysis of preoperative antisepsis with chlorhexidine *versus* povidone–iodine in clean-contaminated surgery



**Authors' reply:** *"Our data clearly demonstrate that this agent is inferior to an alternative. Whether this alternative contains one antiseptic or two is somewhat academic."*

On the patient  
During surgery

# *Normothermia*

WHO Guidelines for Safe Surgery 2009

Safe Surgery Saves Lives

Measures to maintain core normothermia should be taken throughout the perioperative period.

TABLE 1. Evidence Supporting Hypothermia as a Risk Factor for Surgical Site Infection (SSI)

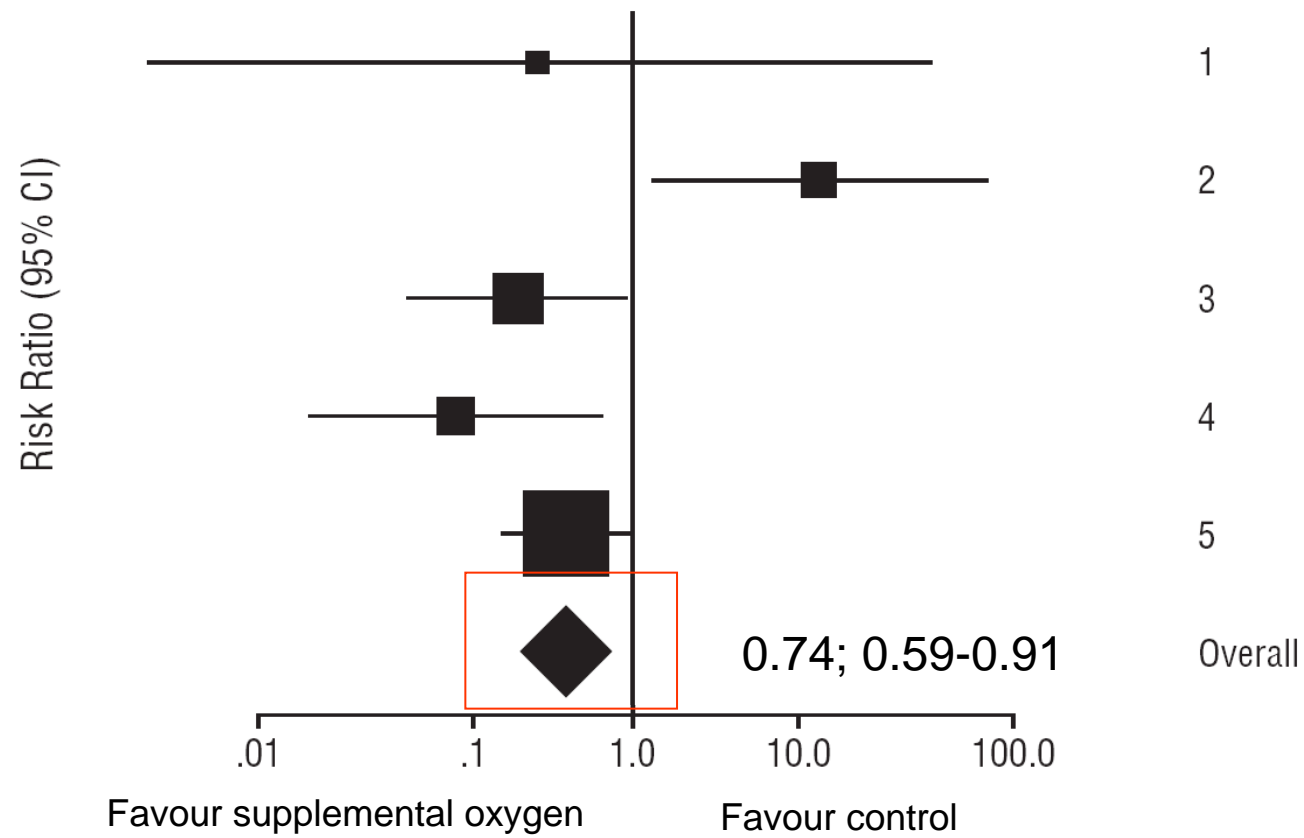
Year	Patient population	Study type	Definition of hypothermia	Definition of SSI	Outcome
1996	200 elective colorectal resection patients (18–80 yo)	Double-blind randomized controlled trial	Core temperature maintained at 34.5°C	Production of pus, positive culture result, and ASEPIS <sup>a</sup> score of >20	Hypothermic patients had higher rate of SSI (19% vs 6%; $P = .009$ ), longer hospital stay (2.6 days; $P = .01$ ), and required more blood transfusions ( $P = .054$ ) than normothermic patients
1999	1,575 surgery patients (average ages ranged from 14.7 to 74 yo)	Meta-analysis	Varied	Varied	There was a 64% and 55% increased rate of SSIs and mortality, respectively, in hypothermic patients ( $P < .05$ for each); estimated cost savings of \$545.40–\$1,696.80 per patient when normothermia was preserved
2001	79 pediatric cardiothoracic surgery patients (average age: case patients, 0.38 yo; control patients, 1.73 yo)	Retrospective case-control study	Lowest core temperature reported; mean $\pm$ SD, 22.1°C $\pm$ 7.3°C	Modified CDC NNIS case definition of infection	Hypothermia was associated with increased risk of SSIs; average core temperature ( $\pm$ SD) was 22.1°C $\pm$ 7.3°C for case patients with SSIs and 28.0°C $\pm$ 6.0°C for control patients ( $P < .001$ )
2001	261 cholecystectomy patients (15–60 yo)	Prospective cohort study	Tympanic temperature of <36°C on readmission to recovery	Masked surgeon's diagnosis and positive culture result	11.5% of hypothermic patients and 2% of normothermic patients developed SSIs ( $P = .004$ ); mild perioperative hypothermia was identified as an independent risk factor for SSI (RR, 6.3; $P = .01$ )
2001	416 clean breast, varicose vein, or hernia surgery patients (13–48 yo)	Randomized controlled trial	Patients receiving no temperature control measures	Masked physician review, purulent discharge/painful erythema lasting $\geq 5$ days treated with antibiotics within 6 weeks of surgery	SSIs were identified in 14% of nonwarmed patients and 5% of all warmed patients ( $P = .001$ ); systemic and locally warmed patients had 57.7% and 73.7% reductions in the RR of SSI, respectively

TABLE 2. Summary of Studies Investigating Mechanisms to Prevent Surgery-Induced Hypothermia

Year	Intraoperative warming mechanism	Patient population	Outcome
1991	Cloth “split sheet” surgical drape, <sup>a</sup> Convertors paper split sheet, <sup>b</sup> Thermadrape, <sup>c</sup> Bair Hugger, <sup>d</sup> prewarmed cotton hospital blanket, plastic hamper bag	5 healthy volunteers	Similar reduction in heat loss from $100 \pm 3$ to $69 \pm 6$ W across methods; Thermadrape, unheated Bair Hugger, and paper surgical drape (nonsignificantly) most effective
1993	Prewarmed (50°C) cotton hospital blankets	6 healthy volunteers	33% and 51% reductions in heat loss with 1 vs 3 blankets, respectively; short-lived (10 minutes) 9–16 W extra reduction in heat loss with prewarmed blankets
1993	Bair Hugger or full-length Aquamatic <sup>e</sup> circulating-water mattress (40°C); fluids warmed to 37°C for all patients	36 maxillofacial surgery (including 20 infants), 53 hip arthroplasty, <sup>f</sup> and 10 pediatric osteotomy patients	Core temperatures in maxillofacial surgery patients rose 3.4°C (adults) and 1.3°C (infants) higher in the forced-air group vs the circulating water group (in which core temperatures steadily dropped), a trend seen in all surgical subpopulations
1994	Metallized plastic sheet, <sup>g</sup> Bair Hugger	45 patients undergoing hip arthroplasty	Bair Hugger group maintained core temperature; metallized plastic sheet group had reduced core temperature by 1.0°C (compared with 1.5°C in control patients)
2003	Single cotton sheets flanking a WarmTouch 5200 forced-air warming blanket <sup>h</sup> set at 42°C–46°C beginning 60 minutes before anesthesia	30 female patients undergoing elective abdominal surgery	Prewarmed patients maintained core temperatures and MSTs significantly ( $P < .05$ ) higher than control patients; patients warmed solely intraoperatively maintained significantly higher MSTs ( $P < .05$ ) and nonsignificantly higher core temperatures than control patients
2004	Operating lamp warming a CO <sub>2</sub> -rich, humid microenvironment around surgical site	In vitro; blood agar to simulate wound tissue	Humidified, warmed CO <sub>2</sub> kept the surface temperature nearly 2°C warmer than control and reduced evaporation at the site
2008	Intravenous fluids warmed to 41°C using the Hotline system <sup>i</sup>	40 off-pump coronary artery bypass surgery patients	Significant ( $P < .05$ ) difference in mean rectal temperatures 4 hours after anesthesia in Hotline system group vs control group <sup>j</sup>

On the patient  
During surgery

*Supplemental oxygen*



# Effect of High Perioperative Oxygen Fraction on Surgical Site Infection and Pulmonary Complications After Abdominal Surgery

## The PROXI Randomized Clinical Trial

**Table 3.** Clinical Outcomes for Patients Scheduled for Laparotomy (N = 1386)

Outcome	No. (%)		Univariate OR (95% CI)	P Value	Adjusted OR (95% CI) <sup>a</sup>	P Value
	80% Oxygen (n = 685)	30% Oxygen (n = 701)				
Surgical site infection	131 (19.1)	141 (20.1)	0.94 (0.72 to 1.22)	.64	0.91 (0.69 to 1.20)	.51
Infection location						
Superficial	75 (57.3)	76 (53.9)				
Deep	20 (15.3)	26 (18.4)				
Organ/space	36 (27.5)	39 (27.7)				



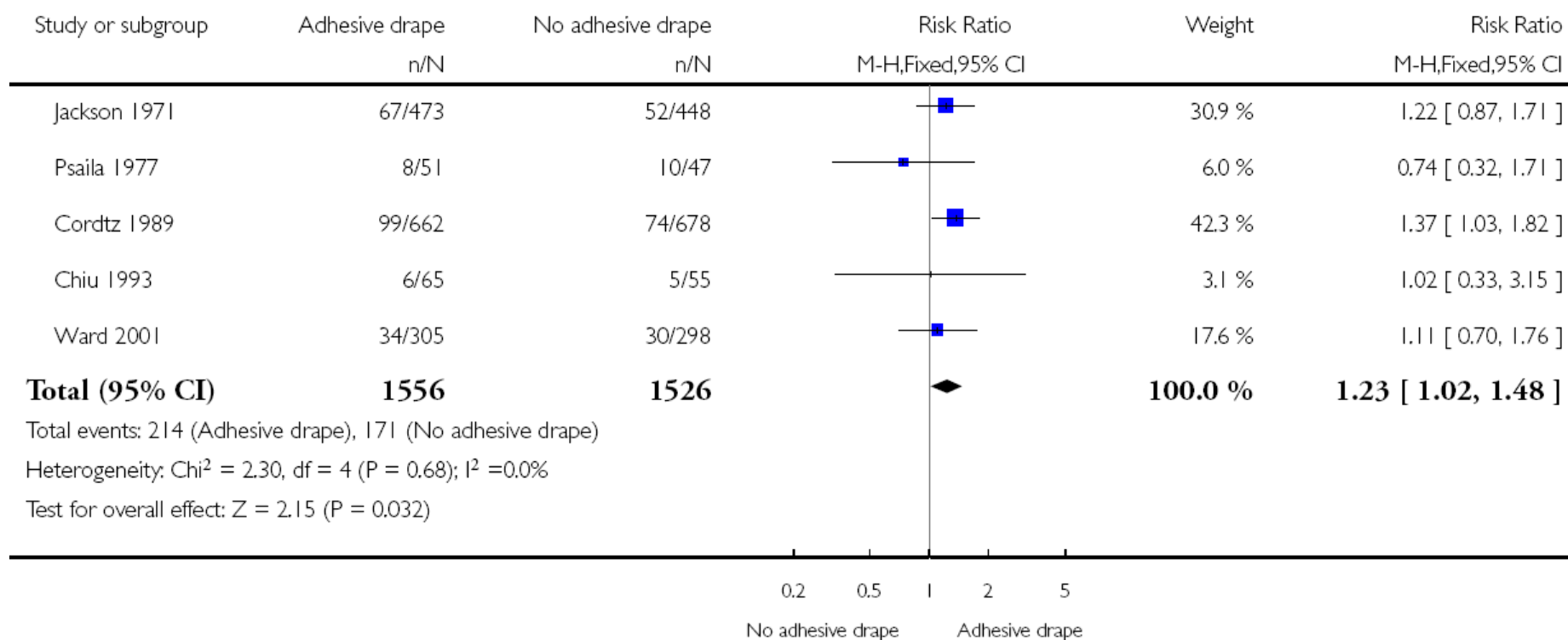
# Surgical Site Infection in Colorectal Surgery: A Review of the Nonpharmacologic Tools of Prevention

*“When the results of the PROXI study are combined with those from the previous 5 studies, the analysis shows **no statistical benefit** for hyperoxia in preventing surgical site infection in the colorectal population.”*

On the patient  
During and after surgery

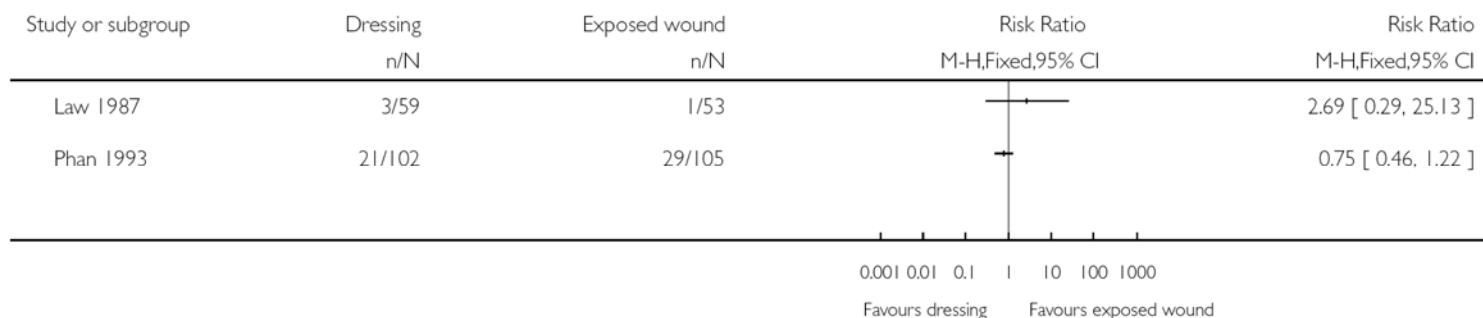
# *Appropriate wound management*

# Use of plastic adhesive drapes during surgery for preventing surgical site infection (Review)



# Dressings for the prevention of surgical site infection (Review)

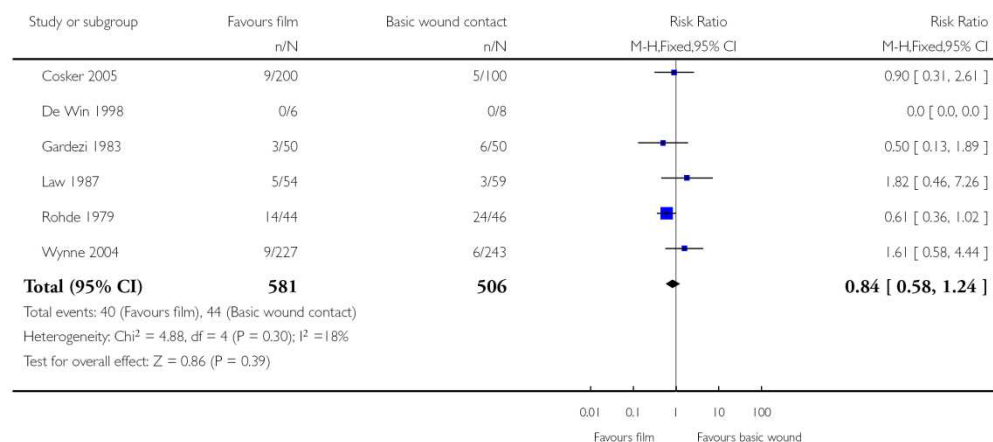
## Basic wound contact dressings compared with exposed wounds



## Advanced dressings compared with exposed wounds



## Basic wound contact compared with film dressings



*Dumville et al., Cochrane Database Syst Rev, last update July 2011*

On the patient  
During and after surgery

*Blood glucose level*



# Peri-operative glycaemic control regimens for preventing surgical site infections in adults (Review)

	Strict arm		Conventional arm		Respect to surgery	Efficacy on SSI
	Glucose (mg/dl)	Insulin	Glucose (mg/dl)	Insulin		
1	80-120	ev	180-220	ev	POST-OPERATIVE	Significant difference
2	80-100	ev	<200	ev	INTRA-OPERATIVE	No difference
3	125-200	ev	<200	sc	INTRA AND POST-OPERATIVE	Significant difference (SSI+pneumonia)
4	80-120	ev	80-220	ev	INTRA AND POST-OPERATIVE	No difference
5	150-200	ev	150-200	sc	POST-OPERATIVE	No difference

On the procedure

*Proper asepsis measures and  
antisepsis of skin and  
instruments*

## WHO Guidelines for Safe Surgery 2009

Safe Surgery Saves Lives

### **Highly recommended:**

- Surgical hand antisepsis should be assured with an antimicrobial soap. The hands and forearms should be scrubbed for 2–5 minutes. If the hands are physically clean, an alcohol-based hand antiseptic agent can be used for antisepsis.
- The operating team should cover their hair and wear sterile gowns and sterile gloves during the operation.

### **Recommended:**

- The operating team should wear masks during the operation.



# Surgical hand antisepsis to reduce surgical site infection (Review)

**Table 2.** Surgical Site Infection (SSI) Rates and Differences Between Hand-Scrubbing and Hand-Rubbing\*

Altemeier Class of Contamination	No. SSI/No. Operations (%)		SSI Rate Difference (Hand-Scrubbing– Hand-Rubbing), % (95% Confidence Interval)	$\chi^2$ Test of Equivalence (P Value)
	Hand-Scrubbing Protocol	Hand-Rubbing Protocol		
Clean	29/1485 (1.95)	32/1520 (2.11)	–0.15 (–1.16 to 0.85)	16.0 (<.001)
Clean-contaminated	24/650 (3.69)	23/732 (3.14)	0.55 (–1.36 to 2.46)	1.9 (.09)
All	53/2135 (2.48)	55/2252 (2.44)	0.04 (–0.88 to 0.96)	19.5 (<.001)

\*The 95% confidence interval of the SSI rate difference was calculated according to Wallenstein<sup>16</sup> and the  $\chi^2$  test was the lowest  $\chi^2$  value of the Dunnett and Gent<sup>17</sup> continuity-corrected double 1-sided test for equivalence at –2% and +2%.

*Parienti et al., JAMA, 2002*



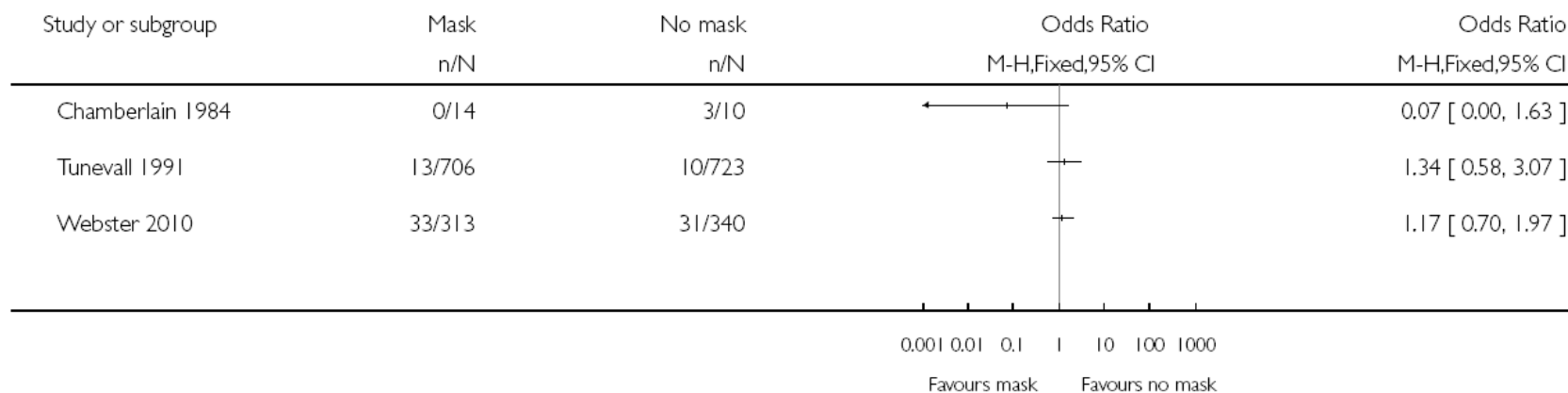
# Disposable surgical face masks for preventing surgical wound infection in clean surgery (Review)

## Analysis 1.1. Comparison 1 Masks versus no masks, Outcome 1 Wound infection.

Review: Disposable surgical face masks for preventing surgical wound infection in clean surgery

Comparison: 1 Masks versus no masks

Outcome: 1 Wound infection



## WHO Guidelines for Safe Surgery 2009

Safe Surgery Saves Lives

### **Highly recommended:**

Every facility should have a routine sterilization process that includes means for verifying the sterility of all surgical instruments, devices and materials. Indicators should be used to determine sterility and checked before equipment is introduced onto the sterile field. Before induction of anaesthesia, the nurse or other person responsible for preparing the surgical trays should confirm the sterility of the instruments by evaluating the sterility indicators and should communicate any problems to the surgeon and anaesthetist.



## Surgical Safety Checklist



World Health  
Organization

Patient Safety  
A World Alliance for Safer Health Care

### Before induction of anaesthesia

(with at least nurse and anaesthetist)

**Has the patient confirmed his/her identity, site, procedure, and consent?**

☐ Yes

**Is the site marked?**

☐ Yes

☐ Not applicable

**Is the anaesthesia machine and medication check complete?**

☐ Yes

**Is the pulse oximeter on the patient and functioning?**

☐ Yes

**Does the patient have a:**

**Known allergy?**

☐ No

☐ Yes

**Difficult airway or aspiration risk?**

☐ No

☐ Yes, and equipment/assistance available

**Risk of >500ml blood loss (7ml/kg in children)?**

☐ No

☐ Yes, and two IVs/central access and fluids planned

### Before skin incision

(with nurse, anaesthetist and surgeon)

☐ **Confirm all team members have introduced themselves by name and role.**

☐ **Confirm the patient's name, procedure, and where the incision will be made.**

**Has antibiotic prophylaxis been given within the last 60 minutes?**

☐ Yes

☐ Not applicable

#### Anticipated Critical Events

**To Surgeon:**

☐ What are the critical or non-routine steps?

☐ How long will the case take?

☐ What is the anticipated blood loss?

**To Anaesthetist:**

☐ Are there any patient-specific concerns?

**To Nursing Team:**

☐ Has sterility (including indicator results) been confirmed?

☐ Are there equipment issues or any concerns?

**Is essential imaging displayed?**

☐ Yes

☐ Not applicable

### Before patient leaves operating room

(with nurse, anaesthetist and surgeon)

#### Nurse Verbally Confirms:

☐ The name of the procedure

☐ Completion of instrument, sponge and needle counts

☐ Specimen labelling (read specimen labels aloud, including patient name)

☐ Whether there are any equipment problems to be addressed

#### To Surgeon, Anaesthetist and Nurse:

☐ What are the key concerns for recovery and management of this patient?

**Table 5.** Outcomes before and after Checklist Implementation, According to Site.\*

Site No.	No. of Patients Enrolled		Surgical-Site Infection		Unplanned Return to the Operating Room		Pneumonia		Death		Any Complication	
	Before	After	Before	After	Before	After	Before	After	Before	After	Before	After
							<i>percent</i>					
1	524	598	4.0	2.0	4.6	1.8	0.8	1.2	1.0	0.0	11.6	7.0
2	357	351	2.0	1.7	0.6	1.1	3.6	3.7	1.1	0.3	7.8	6.3
3	497	486	5.8	4.3	4.6	2.7	1.6	1.7	0.8	1.4	13.5	9.7
4	520	545	3.1	2.6	2.5	2.2	0.6	0.9	1.0	0.6	7.5	5.5
5	370	330	20.5	3.6	1.4	1.8	0.3	0.0	1.4	0.0	21.4	5.5
6	496	476	4.0	4.0	3.0	3.2	2.0	1.9	3.6	1.7	10.1	9.7
7	525	585	9.5	5.8	1.3	0.2	1.0	1.7	2.1	1.7	12.4	8.0
8	444	584	4.1	2.4	0.5	1.2	0.0	0.0	1.4	0.3	6.1	3.6
Total	3733	3955	6.2	3.4	2.4	1.8	1.1	1.3	1.5	0.8	11.0	7.0
P value			<0.001		0.047		0.46		0.003		<0.001	

Primary endpoint: rate of complications after non cardiac surgery

# A bundle of care to reduce colorectal surgical infections: an Australian experience

Bundle of care for patients undergoing colorectal surgery

Bundle component	Comments
Temperature maintained $\geq 36^{\circ}\text{C}$ peri-operatively and for 1 h postoperatively	Recommendations included documentation of temperature, use of warmed blankets pre- and postoperatively, use of Bair Huggers and warmed fluids intra-operatively
Fraction of inspired oxygen delivered maintained $\geq 0.8$ intra-operatively; adequate oxygenation for 4 h postoperatively	Adequate postoperative oxygenation was
Systolic blood pressure maintained $\geq 90$ mmHg intra- and postoperatively	
Blood sugar level maintained $\leq 10$ mmol pre- and intra-operatively	Documentation of pre- and intra-operative blood sugar level was requested from February 2009
Appropriate antibiotic prophylaxis given	Appropriate choice, timing and second dose for prolonged procedures ( $>3$ h)

**The infection rate fell from 15% [95% CI 10.4-20.2] before the project to 7% (95% CI 3.4-12.6) 12 months after the project.**



# Evaluating an Evidence-Based Bundle for Preventing Surgical Site Infection

## *A Randomized Trial*

- Standard arm

- mechanical bowel preparation

Allocation to the extended arm conferred a 2.49-fold (95% confidence interval, 1.36-4.56;  $P=.003$ ) increased risk of developing a SSI.

- concentration of inspired oxygen after endotracheal intubation (target fraction of inspired oxygen, 30%),
- Intravenous fluid delivered at the discretion of the anesthesiologist,
- no wound edge protectors.

- Extended arm

- no mechanical bowel preparation

- air unit

- increased concentration of inspired oxygen (80%) until 2 hours after surgery.
- restriction of intraoperative, intravenous fluid administration
- Placement of a plastic wound edge protection device in the incision

# What are the most effective IC measures to reduce the rate of surgical site infection?

## No more excuses!

- decolonization of *S.aureus* carriers (not specifically MRSA), especially before cardiac surgery;
- when it is necessary to remove hair, clipping instead of shaving;
- antibiotic prophylaxis
  - routinely in all clean–contaminated, and most of clean surgery,
  - within 1 h of incision,
  - as single preoperative infusion or at least discontinued within 24 h (longer up to 48h for cardiac surgery);
- chlorexidine (+alcohol) for skin antisepsis in clean-contaminated surgery;
- perioperative tissue normothermia;
- proper surgical hand antisepsis (rubbing equivalent to scrubbing), wearing sterile attire.



## Less convincing evidence...

- preoperative showering with an antiseptic,
- mechanical bowel preparation prior to colorectal surgery,
- supplemental oxygen,
- peri-operative glycemic control,
- surgical drapes and wound dressing,
- surgical masks.

Careful use of bundle