

SHARON L. KURTZ

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Accomplished professional with 10+ years experience in hospitals and corporate environments. Tenacious, self-directed, and detail-oriented are some of the skills offered. Main objective is to decrease healthcare associated infections (HAIs) through use of increased hand hygiene thereby providing benefits of reduced mortality, shortened length of patient stays, decreased use of antibiotics, decrease in multi-drug resistance, and increase in reimbursement to hospitals.

CORE QUALIFICATIONS

Strong nursing background: Staff nurse/charge at The Methodist Hospital, Houston, Texas: CV post surgery patients including heart and lung transplant patients

Corporate background: Infection Prevention Specialist at Covidien. Involved in interventional studies. Assisted eight ICPs in writing and submitting abstracts for national APIC conference; all eight were accepted for poster presentation with two invited to give oral presentations and one won the Blue Ribbon Award. Of 14 white papers Covidien developed, eight were from these poster presentations.

Strong background in infection prevention: Manager of Infection Prevention at two hospitals and director at a third.

Strong research background: Research studies done in college, at Covidien, and at Arlington Medical Center. Dissertation was quantitative study looking at association of demographic variables on hand hygiene. Collected data from five ICUs at four hospitals.

EDUCATION

PhD: Walden University, Online Program – PhD, Public Health with Concentration in Epidemiology: February 21, 2017

Masters: Capella University, Online Program – MPH – October 2011

Nursing School: Baylor University, Waco, Texas - BSN

Undergraduate: Kansas State University at Pittsburg, Pittsburg, Kansas – BA

Licensure: State of Texas - Active | State of Arizona – Inactive

Certified in Infection Control: April 2013/ June 2008/ Nov 2003/ May 1998

Additional Training:

- APIC EPI: 202 - Aug 05-06, 2009
- SHEA/ CDC Training Course, May 3-6, 2003

- Emergency Response to Domestic Biological Incidents - Department of Justice Course Operations Level, June 5-7, 2001
- SHEA / CDC Training Course, May 11-15, 2001
- Train the Trainer, Emergency Response Nuclear, Biological and Chemical Technician - Hospital Provider Course, August 2, 2000
- APIC Training Course - Fundamentals of Surveillance, Prevention and Control of Health Care Acquired Infections, March 3-7, 1997

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

PHD WALDEN UNIVERSITY ONLINE PROGRAM 12-05-11 to 02-21-17
Member of Golden Key International Honour Society since 2016

MEDICAL CENTER ARLINGTON, ARLINGTON, TEXAS

DIRECTOR OF INFECTION PREVENTION

08-09-10 TO 04-01-13

Accomplishments:

- 1) IC Plan, Blood Borne Pathogen Plan, TB Plan, and Isolation Plan
- 2) Mentoring nursing students, undergraduate and masters program
- 3) Lead person for directing research project for Hospital Corporation of America, STOP SSI, 06-25-2012. Implementation of chlorhexidine wipes and nasal Mupirocin to reduce surgical site infections in total hip replacements, total knee replacements, and CABG patients.
- 4) Lead person in hospital to begin new research study with HCA on 03-01-2013 to 09-2015, implementing chlorhexidine wipes and nasal Mupirocin on all non-ICU patients
- 5) Lead person for implementing HCA initiative in ICU to bathe all patient with chlorhexidine wipes and use of Mupirocin nasally for all admissions into ICU for five days
- 6) Lead person for implementation of TheraDoc infection control software program in 2013
- 7) Lead Infection Prevention Committee and HAI committee
- 8) Administrator for hospital National Healthcare Safety Network program
- 9) For TJC survey in February 2012, the Infection Prevention Department received no deficiencies.

GALILEO SEARCH, LLC

03-22-10 to 04-16-10

INFECTION PREVENTION SPECIALIST

- Helped Director of Infection Prevention, Harrison Medical Center, Bremerton, Washington, with special projects:
- Updating policies and procedures with references to support revisions
- Wrote nursing protocol for Foley catheters and educational outline for National Patient Safety Goals in regards to multi-drug resistant organisms and central line related blood stream infections
- Wrote report for CEO about cost analysis and the importance of decreasing HAIs in order to save money.

COVIDIEN, CLINICAL CARE & NURSING CARE DIVISIONS 06-28-04 TO 03-12-10
Mansfield, Massachusetts

INFECTION PREVENTION/ CONTROL SPECIALIST (FULL TIME)

Responsible for working with hospital infection preventionists to coordinate and conduct a performance improvement project surveillance program on Urinary Tract Infections and Surgical Site Infections.

Accomplishments:

- Assisted 8 Infection Control Practitioners in writing accepted abstracts to national APIC conference. Two were invited to give oral presentations and one received Blue Ribbon Award. Of the 14 white papers received from the ICPs, I was directly involved with 8 of these papers. The other 6 were distributed among the other 5 Infection Control Specialists working for Covidien.

METHODIST CHARLTON MEDICAL CENTER, Dallas, Texas 9-22-97 to 06-22-04

INFECTION CONTROL MANAGER (FULL TIME)

Same duties as position for Infection Control Coordinator 12-15-01 to 06-22-04

INFECTION CONTROL COORDINATOR (FULL TIME) 10-01-99 to 12-14-01

Accomplishments:

- Developed and monitored Smallpox vaccination program. Higher percentage of employees vaccinated at MCMC than Parkland Hospital, 32 employees.
- Coordinated 31 inpatients from community Hepatitis A outbreak. No hospital employee got Hepatitis A from this exposure.
- Implementation of Hepatitis A Vaccine Program for food handlers in dietary department
- Writing Bioterrorism Readiness Plan
- Bioterrorism Teaching and surveillance – was member of City of Dallas Disaster Planning Committee in 1998 – 2000. Also member of the FBI's North Dallas Weapons of Mass Destruction Working Group
- Brought alcohol gel dispensers into hospital for first time.
- Started surveillance program on vent related pneumonia.
- Participated in Surgical Infection Prevention (SIP) Project
- Lead coordinator for July 2000 disaster drill on Saran Gas exposure.
- JCAHO Survey:
 - December 2002, Infection Control received score of 1 with no Type 1
 - November 1999, Infection Control received score of 1 with no Type 1
- Member of DFW Hospital Council Subcommittee to Help Write Template Policy, Caring for Smallpox patients
- Texas Society of Infection Control Practitioners - Board Member
- Spearheading Flu Surveillance

INFECTION CONTROL COORDINATOR (PART TIME) (Mon, Tue, Wed) 09-22-97 to 09-30-99

Solely responsible for designing, implementing and monitoring all Infection Control Programs.

Methodist Dallas Medical Center, Dallas Texas (Thursday and Friday) 9-22-97 to 9-30-99

NURSE EPIDEMIOLOGIST

Assisted with the surveillance of the Post Discharge Surgical Site Surveillance. Occasionally, assisted the Infection Control Manager with Environmental rounds and the review of microbiology lab sheets. Provided coverage for Manager when she was absent.

WESTWOOD MEDICAL CENTER, Midland, Texas

01-02-96 to 9-19-97

INFECTION CONTROL COORDINATOR (FULL TIME)

Accomplishments:

- Built entire infection control/prevention program
- Tracking and monitoring measles exposure
- Initiation of Braun Needless System
- Acquisition of antibiogram
- Introduction of vinyl gloves
- Administration of Hepatitis A vaccine to all dietary personnel
- Establishment of coding system for MRSA and VRE patients
- Initiation of N95 respirators,

STAY AT HOME WIFE, Midland, Texas

8-1995 to 1-01-96

WIFE TO HUSBAND AND MOTHER TO MOTHER TO NEW KITTENS

THE METHODIST HOSPITAL, Houston, Texas

4-89 to 8-95

STAFF Nurse - Charge Nurse (Full Time)

Unit Worked: Post Cardiovascular Surgery Unit, with 31 telemetry channels, Heart and Lung Transplant Patients, TAAA, AAA Patients, CABG Patients

Publications:

- Kurtz, S. L. (2016a). Are we sending the wrong message when we ask health care workers to wash their hands? *Am J Infect Control*, 44(10), 1184-1186. Retrieved from <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ajic.2016.01.030> (Accessed on 24 August 2018).
- Kurtz, S. L. (2016b). How to streamline hospital communications for better decision-making. *Hospitals & Health Networks*, June 30, 2016. Retrieved from http://www.hhnmag.com/articles/7408-how-to-streamline-hospital-communications-for-better-decision-making?utm_campaign=063016&utm_medium=email&utm_source=hhndaily&utm_source=hhndaily&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=063016&eid=254491381&bid=1447843 (Accessed on 24 August 2018).
- Kurtz, S. L. (2017a). Demographic Factors Associated with Consistent Hand Hygiene Adherence Among ICU Nurses (Doctoral dissertation). 2017. Retrieved from ProQuest at <http://pqdtopen.proquest.com/doc/1864688318.html?FMT=ABS> ISBN: 9781369536546 (Accessed on 24 August 2018).
- Kurtz, S. L. (2017b). Identification of low, high, and super gelers and barriers to hand hygiene among intensive care unit nurses. *Am J Infect Control*, 45(8), 839-843. Retrieved from <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ajic.2017.04.004> (Accessed on 24 August 2018).

- Kurtz, S. L. (2017c). Measuring and accounting for the Hawthorne effect during a direct overt observational study of intensive care unit nurses. *Am J Infect Control*, 45(9), 995-1000. Retrieved from <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ajic.2017.03.022> (Accessed on 24 August 2018).
- Kurtz, S. L. (2018). Introduction of new theory surveillance: Healthcare environment theory. *Res Theor Nurs Pract*, 32(2), 144-167(24). Retrieved from <https://doi.org/10.1891/1541-6577.32.2.144> (Accessed on 24 August 2018).

Sharon L. Kurtz, PhD, MPH, RN

Date