

Assessment 02: Problem Statement (PICOT)

Name

Capella University

NURS-FPX 6030

Prof.

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Problem Statement (PICOT)

Hand hygiene (HH) is considered as vital for avoiding and controlling healthcare-associated infections (HAIs) and the transmission of drug resistant bacteria. However, inconsistent and inadequate HH practices among staff continue to pose risks, increasing infection rates and healthcare costs. HH involves the proper exercise of cleansing by staff to prevent contamination. Over the past decade, efforts to improve HH have increased due to a growing number of elderly patients and the push to reduce hospital stays. In 2018, the United States (U.S) spent \$102.3 billion on health services, 30% more than five years earlier (McDonald et al., 2020). At Benedictine Healthcare, improving HH compliance reduces preventable HAIs and enhances care quality. This project promotes proper sanitation practices among staff through education and monitoring. The project employs the PICOT outline to generate current approaches to expand compliance and reduce HAIs complications.

PICO(T) Question

"In healthcare staff employed in acute care settings (P), does the execution of organized HH education (I), compared to standard HH practices without focused training (C), improve HH compliance rates (O) over four weeks (T)?"

- **Population (P):** Healthcare staff in an acute care setting
- **Intervention (I):** Execution of organized HH education
- **Comparison (C):** Standard HH practices without focused training
- **Outcome (O):** Improved HH compliance rates
- **Time (T):** Over four weeks

Problem Statement

Needs Assessment

This plan focuses on improving HH compliance among Benedictine Healthcare staff by implementing structured HH education. Improving HH practices is critical. Inadequate compliance contributes to spreading HAIs, compromises patient safety, and increases healthcare costs. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), one in three facilities does not have HH at the point of care, and compliance is just 9% during serious healthcare in developing nations. In developed countries, HH obedience exceeds 70%. It underscores the global need for improvement (WHO, 2021).