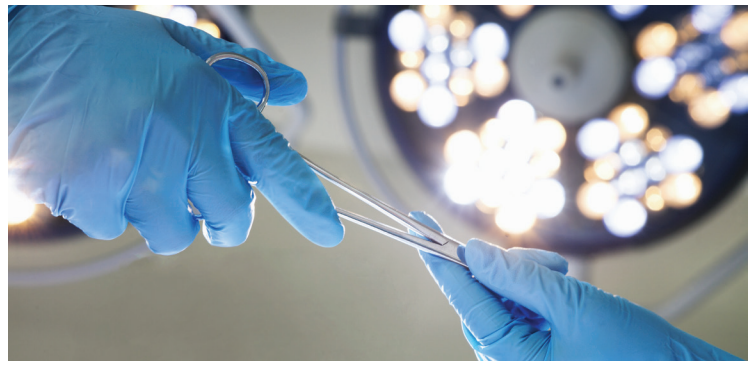


Surgeons: Take Your Surgical Site Infection Rates Into Your Own Hands



Did you know your Surgical Site Infection rates are adjusted based on wound class?

Wound Classification Guide

CLASS IV: DIRTY/INFECTED

- Pus in operative field
- Perforated viscera or untreated, uncontrolled spillage from an internal organ
- Old traumatic wounds with retained devitalized tissue (gangrene) with severe inflammation
- Perforated GI or GU tract, peritonitis
- I&D of wound, aspiration of infected joint, acute bacterial inflammation
- Removal of infected graft or prosthesis
- Gangrenous

CLASS III: CONTAMINATED

- Hollow organ is entered with gross spillage OR acute inflammation encountered
- Open, fresh, traumatic wounds
- Major breaks in aseptic technique
- Appendectomy (acute appy), cholecystectomy (acute) cholecystitis, colectomy (acute diverticulitis), Crohn's disease, laparotomy with significant spillage
- Rectal Surgery
- Bring-back cases
- Open fractures
- Gunshot or stab wound

CLASS II: CLEAN/CONTAMINATED

- Hollow organ (respiratory, alimentary, and genitourinary tracts) is entered (uninfected/not inflamed)
- Minor breaks in aseptic technique
- Cholecystectomy (chronic cholecystitis), colectomy (chronic diverticular disease), colostomy closure
- GYN (including C-sections) and urology procedures
- Oropharynx procedures, T&A, L&B, sinuscopy, tracheostomy
- VATS

CLASS I: CLEAN

- No hollow organ (respiratory, alimentary and genitourinary tracts) is entered
- Intact pre-op skin
- No break in aseptic technique
- Gastric banding, herniorrhaphy, mastectomy
- Arthroscopy, joint replacement
- Abdominoplasty, liposuction
- Most vascular and cardiac surgery
- Hydrocele repair, penile prosthesis
- Vascular limb amputation (clean incision site)

For questions regarding wound classification, please contact Nurse Educator Sharon Kleinheinz, RN, MSN/MSHCA, CNOR, at 714-771-8000 ext. 17505 or Sharon.Kleinheinz@stjoe.org.



St. Joseph Health 

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A member of the St. Joseph Hoag Health alliance