

### What is a Central Line Infection (CLI)?

When a patient requires long-term access to medication, fluids or nutrition through an IV, a 'central line' (central venous catheter) is placed into a patient's vein. Central lines also allow health care providers to monitor fluid status and make determinations about the heart and blood.

A central line blood stream infection (BSI) can occur when bacteria and/or fungi grow in the central line and spread to the patient's bloodstream, causing a patient to become sick. The bacteria can come from a variety of places (e.g., skin, wounds, environment, etc.), though it most often comes from the patient's skin.

### How is the CLI calculated?

$$\frac{\text{total \# of ICU related BSIs after 48 hours of central line placement}}{\text{total \# of central line days for ICU patients 18 years and older}} \times 1000$$

### Trillium Health Centre's CLI Data

	Q3 2009/10
Central Line Infection	0.42

### What is Trillium Health Centre doing to prevent CLI

Practicing proper hand hygiene is a key factor in preventing hospital acquired infections. Trillium Health Centre has participated in the Ontario Hospital Association's "Just Clean Your Hands" initiative to further educate staff concerning proper hand hygiene techniques. Trillium is also participating in the public reporting of its hand hygiene audit.

Trillium's clinical team uses a checklist to ensure specific steps are followed to prevent contamination of the central line during insertion. The line is examined daily and the patient assessed multiple times daily to ensure the line is removed as soon as the patient's health status allows.

### What is Trillium Health Centre doing to improve patient safety?

At Trillium Health Centre, we are always looking at how we are performing and use different *performance indicators* to get a sense of where we excel and where improvements could be made. This information is essential to Trillium's commitment to providing quality and safe care for its patients.

Our Board of Directors and Management Team believe it is important that the community we care for has access to this performance information. Trillium strongly supports the provincial government's new public reporting regime because we believe it will inspire improved performance, enhance patient safety, and strengthen the public's confidence in Ontario's hospitals.

For more information on Trillium Health Centre's quality initiatives, please visit:  
[http://www.trilliumhealthcentre.org/quality\\_safe\\_care/QualityInitiatives.html](http://www.trilliumhealthcentre.org/quality_safe_care/QualityInitiatives.html)

### What can patients and their families do to help reduce their chances of infection?

Patients and visitors can help reduce the spread of infection by performing hand hygiene when hands become soiled, and before and after entering a patient's room. Hand sanitizer is conveniently located throughout the hospital. For more information about the importance of good hand hygiene practices, please read about the Clean Hands Protect Lives campaign at [www.oha.com/cleanhandsprotectlives](http://www.oha.com/cleanhandsprotectlives).

For more information on patient safety initiatives visit [www.ontario.ca/patientsafety](http://www.ontario.ca/patientsafety), [www.ontario.ca/patientsafety](http://www.ontario.ca/patientsafety), [www.oha.com/patientsafetytips](http://www.oha.com/patientsafetytips), and [www.saferhealthcarenow.ca](http://www.saferhealthcarenow.ca).