

The CHESS Surveys

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CHES Aims

- Develop insights into environmental services in acute care hospitals
- The interactions of infection control programs with environmental services
- The associations of these factors with healthcare acquired infections (HAIs)
- 2 surveys:
 - Environmental Services survey
 - Infection Control survey

Surveys Development

- Initial content developed by DZ, KS and DF
 - Literature review
 - Review of relevant guidelines from around the globe
 - Provincial Infectious Diseases Advisory Committee (PIDAC)
 - Centre for Disease Control (CDC), United States
 - National Health Service, Scotland
 - Cleaning standards for Victorian health facilities, Australia
 - Hospital experience of DZ and KS
 - Issues of general interest
 - Carpets
 - Contracting out
- Input from the CHESS Club steering committee

Survey Translations

- French and English versions of both the Environmental Services and Infection Control surveys
- Initial translation into French courtesy of Mike Nosko's translators at Canadian Sanitation Supply Association
- Reviewed by bilingual CHESSE steering committee members Réjean Losier and Jean Francois Champagne

Online Administration of Surveys

- Purchased the SurveyMonkey Platinum package
- The free version is used widely by students and lay persons and has limited security and administration features
- The Platinum package allows the use of research.net URL address instead of surveymonkey.com
 - Nova Scotia

Security and Confidentiality

- The service provider keeps survey data secure through advanced firewalls and a physically secure data storage facility
- Respondent survey data is kept confidential when entered and transmitted by SSL encryption, the same technology used in online banking
 - HTTPS
- Individual data will not be made available to any third party for any reason

Administration Features

- Skip-logic
- Unlimited questions and unlimited respondents
- Validate/require survey responses
- Randomization and flipping of responses
- Respondents can stop and restart and modify responses until they hit "Done"
- Excel data downloads

The CHESSE Environmental Services Survey

- Will assess the resources and activities of Environmental Services in acute care hospitals across Canada
- We will be able to ascertain whether Environmental Services have the resources to clean and disinfect to standards
- We will be able to ascertain whether cleaning practices and policies follow the appropriate guidelines

The CHESS Environmental Services Survey

- 92 survey items
- 6 sections
 - Survey Respondent Characteristics
 - Hospital Characteristics
 - Human Resources
 - Equipment, Supply and Work Space Resources
 - Cleaning and Disinfection Policies and Procedures
 - Cleaning and Disinfection Practices

Human Resources, Example Item

- Please indicate which of the following topics are covered in the Environmental Services introductory training program for new staff. Please check all topics covered.
- Areas of responsibility
- Use of personal protective equipment (PPE)
- Customer service
- Hand hygiene
- Basic cleaning techniques
- Infection control
- Cleaning and storage of equipment
- Personal hygiene
- Health & Safety policies
- Dealing with spillages
- Waste disposal

Equipment, Supply and Work Space Resources, Example Item

- In your hospital is hepa filtration used in vacuum machines designated for clinical areas?
- Always / Often / Sometimes / Rarely / Never

Cleaning and Disinfection Policies and Procedures, Example Items

- Are there attendance management policies in place that make it clear that cleaning staff do not come into work when acutely ill with a possible infection (e.g. diarrhea)?
- Are there written policies for ongoing review of cleaning and disinfection procedures?

Cleaning and Disinfection Practices, Example Items

- Do Environmental Services cleaning staff use bucket immersion for applying disinfectant to cleaning cloths at your hospital?
- Are cleaning tasks reviewed on a regular basis in order to determine the ability of cleaning staff to meet cleaning demands?

Survey Pilot Test

- 6 sites
- The survey worked well mechanically
- Data downloads worked seamlessly
- No major suggestions for modifications or additions
- Made some wording and response choice modifications based on respondent comments
 - Toilet bowl brushes

Test Pilots

- Mary Win Clair, The General Hospital Health Sciences Centre, St. John's, NL
- Mary Hall, Lake of the Woods District, Kenora, ON
- Roger Savoie, Hopital regional Dr-Georges-L.Dumont, Moncton
- Norma Williams, Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Charlottetown
- Lou Fernandes, Sunnybrook Health Sciences, Toronto
- Debbie Richarz, Grand River Hospital, Kitchener

The CHES*S* Infection Control Survey

- Assess the interactions of infection control programs with environmental services
- Will provide strategies to develop more effective working relationships between the services
- Assess healthcare acquired infection (HAIs) rates

The CHES*S* Infection Control Survey

- 23 survey items
- 3 sections
 - Hospital Characteristics
 - Healthcare-Associated Infections (HAIs)
 - Interactions with Environmental Services

Interactions with Environmental Services

- Does the Infection Prevention and Control Service have an Infection Control Practitioner (ICP) who is designated to liaison with Environmental Services?
- What is the extent of cooperation between the Infection Prevention and Control Service and Environmental Services in your hospital?

Survey Pilot Test

- 7 sites
- The survey again worked well and data downloads worked seamlessly
- No major suggestions for modifications or additions
- Made some wording and response choice modifications based on respondent comments
 - Greater specificity re: bed types
 - Minimized the # of required survey responses

Test Pilots

- Elizabeth Watson, South Shore Health, Bridgewater, NS
- Gail Barwise, Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Charlottetown
- Lynn Ronnebeck, Lake of the Woods District, Kenora, ON
- Mary Vearncombe, Sunnybrook Health Sciences, Toronto
- Anne Bialachowski, St. Joseph's Healthcare, Hamilton
- Denise Ouellet, Hopital regional Dr-Georges-L.Dumont, Moncton
- Ruth Schertzberg, Grand River Hospital, Kitchener