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CDC SAFETY SURVEY SHOWS ZERO INFECTION RATE FOR HIP REPLACEMENT SURGERY AT BETH ISRAEL KINGS HIGHWAY DIVISION

There could be no better recommendation for a hospital and its staff than a report of zero infection rate! And that's what doctors and staff at Beth Israel Medical Center - Kings Highway Division achieved for their patients who hip replacement surgery in the hospital in last year.

The CDC National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) Hip Prosthesis Surgery Surveillance was conducted from January to December 2006 and followed 56 procedures performed by orthopedic surgeons at the Kings Highway Division. The NHSN predicted rate is 1.6 percent. The Kings Highway Division has had a zero surgical site infection rate over the past three years!

“Our success in preventing hip surgery infection can be attributed to the practice of administering pre- and post-operative prophylactic antibiotics, sterile technique, surgical efficiency and close post-operative monitoring,” said Todd Soifer, MD, KHD Chief of Orthopedics.

In a separate surveillance of prostate and bladder tumor surgery cases in the Kings Highway Division Department of Urology, the review revealed a large increase in the number of procedures done between July and December 2006, surpassing the same period of the previous year by 50 percent. This was the sixth annual survey since 2000. Out of a total of 313 cases followed, there were only three cases of urinary tract infection. And even more impressive, the survey also found a lower rate of infection, 1.7 percent, than the norm of 2.5 percent infection rate commonly cited in medical literature for the same procedures.

“Hand hygiene is the best way to prevent a healthcare-acquired infection,” said Brian Koll, MD, a specialist in Infectious Diseases and physician in charge of Infection Control at Beth Israel. “Hand hygiene is accomplished by washing hands with soap and water or with alcohol-based hand gels. Compliance with hand hygiene has been consistently between 99 and 100 percent!”

“It's a testament to our entire team that we have that we have been able to maintain our high level of quality standards as we've increased the volume of urological surgery at the Kings Highway Division,” said Stephen Teitelbaum, MD, KHD Chief of Urology.

According to Rhona Hetsrony, Vice President for Administration, Kings Highway Division, quality improvement measures, intensive staff in-service education, hand hygiene compliance, and vigilant infection control surveillance at Beth Israel have contributed to the overall decline of infection rates throughout the hospital.

“We are doing everything we can to provide the best and safest healing environment for our patients,” said Ms. Hetsrony.