**CDC Finds that 1 in 25 Patients Acquire an Infection While in the Hospital**

**Problem Outline**

**What**
- Problem(s): Risk of hospital acquired infections (HAIs); infections increase costs of medical care/length of hospital stay

**When**
- Date: Ongoing
- Different, unusual, unique rates appear to be decreasing; significant difference in rates between different hospitals

**Where**
- Facility, site: US hospitals
- Unit, area, equipment: Patient services hospital-wide
- Task being performed: Patient care at hospitals

**Impact to the Goals**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Goal Impacted</th>
<th>Potential Impact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Patient Safety</td>
<td>Risk of hospital acquired infections (HAIs)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patient Services</td>
<td>Potential for increased pain/discomfort</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schedule/Operations</td>
<td>Potential for increased hospital stay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economics</td>
<td>Potential increase in cost of health care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labor Time</td>
<td>Potential for patient to require additional care</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Intermediate Level Cause Map**

1. **Patient Safety Goal Impacted**
   - Potential increase in cost of health care
   - Potential for increased pain/discomfort
   - Potential for patient to require additional care

2. **Patient Services Goal Impacted**
   - Potential for increased hospital stay

3. **Labor Time Goal Impacted**
   - Potential for patient to require additional care

**Pathogen in hospitals**
- Many patients in hospitals are ill

**Inadequate cleanliness?**
- Hands or equipment contaminated
- Some pathogens are getting more difficult to kill

**Antibiotic resistance**
- Bacteria rates increasing

**Evidence:**
- According to the new CDC report, the most common HAIs are pneumonia (22%), surgical site infections (22%), gastrointestinal infections (17%), urinary tract infection (13%), and bloodstream infections (10%).

**Evidence:**
- The CDC found that there were ~722,000 hospital infections in 2011. This means that around 1 in 25 patients acquire at least one infection while in the hospital.

**Evidence:**
- CDC study showed about 75,000 people with HAIs died in 2011, but it’s difficult to determine if their deaths were a direct result of the infections.

**Why?**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Effect</th>
<th>Cause</th>
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**NOTE:** Read the Cause Map from left to right with the phrase "Was Caused By" in place of each arrow.