

**DUTCH NATIONAL PATIENT SAFETY PROGRAM:  
PREVENTION OF POST-OPERATIVE WOUND INFECTION**

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**Aim:** It is stated that Post-operative wound infections can largely be prevented if the correct measures in the operation room are taken. The 'Veiligheids Management System' (Safety Management System) introduced it's this program in October 2008: Prevention of post-operative wound infection. It's aim is to reduce post-operative wound infection in the Dutch hospitals. The goal is to reduce post-operative wound infection to the 25<sup>th</sup> percentile of all Dutch Hospital's (from 2007 data).

**Methods:** There is a bundle of measures which needs to be taken in the hospital. In total 4 measures have to be taken; success is predicted if in more than 90% of the patients all 4 items are done in the right manner. This is

- 1) giving the right antibiotics on the right moment,
- 2) shaving if necessary on the right time with the right equipment,
- 3) prevention of hypothermia in the or and
- 4) reducing the number of door-movements.

Registration of post-operative wound infection after 4 weeks (all operations) or after 1 year (where non-human implants are used) needs to be documented for 5 different operations, in which 3 specialities are included (for example, surgery, orthopaedic surgery and gynecology).

**Results:** We would like to discuss how the measures were chosen, based on which literature and how the should be correctly introduced in the hospital. An example in the author's hospital in how this program was introduced will be discussed.

**Conclusion:** This is a nation-wide program which is introduced in order to reduce post-operative wound infection in the hospital's. We believe the patient could highly benefit from these kind of program's.