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Nosocomial infections

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Nosocomial infections (NI) represent a serious problem in all parts of the world. Data from Center for Disease Control-CDC-USA estimates 722000 cases and 75000 deaths in 2011 as direct consequences of NI. In the European Union there are about 4.1 million cases per year with 37000 deaths. NI is also frequently related to antimicrobial resistance (AMR). Without a global plan to reduce AMR, 10 million of deaths are expect in 2050 due to infections by MDR. The main NI are pneumonias (associated or not to mechanical ventilation), surgical site infections, urinary tract infections, gastrointestinal infections and bloodstream infections. Implementation of infection control programs (IPC) in hospitals is strongly recommended by World Health Organization (WHO) and it's compulsory by law in several countries. Between 20-30% of NI cases are preventable through institution and maintenance of IPC. For example, it is possible to reduce BSI rates in until 70% with adoption of a package of measures (bundles) to prevent them. Some key components are necessary to implement a successful IPC as: Organization of infection control at the hospital level, bed occupancy staffing, workload and employment of pool or agency nurses, availability of and ease of access to materials and equipment and optimum ergonomics, appropriate use of guidelines, education and training, auditing, surveillance and feedback, multimodal and multidisciplinary prevention programs that include behavioral change, engagement of champions and positive organizational culture. In conclusion there is an urgency of global efforts to implement and maintain IPC in all countries, together with governmental and civil society support.

Biography

Andre Ricardo Araujo da Silva has completed his PhD from FIOCRUZ-National Institute of Infectology, Brazil. He is the Coordinator of scientific program of Medicine course at Federal Fluminense University (UFF), Brazil and leads the laboratory of teaching of prevention and control of healthcare-associated infections. He has published more than 15 papers in reputed journals and is a Member of International Federation of Infection Control.

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