



The aim of this study was to determine the prevalence of health care-associated infections (HAI) in our university hospitals (UH) and to delineate the risk factors associated with HAI” Ayed et al (2019).

Abstract:

Background: The aim of this study was to determine the prevalence of health care-associated infections (HAI) in our university hospitals (UH) and to delineate the risk factors associated with HAI.

Methods: We conducted a cross-sectional study in the 2 UH of Sfax, Tunisia on July 2017, including all patients hospitalized for at least 48 hours. It was a 1-day pass per department and a 1-week prevalence survey per UH.

Results: Of 752 patients eligible for the study, the total number of HAI was 82, representing an overall prevalence of HAI of 10.9%. Respiratory tract infections were the most prevalent HAI (36.6%). In multivariate analysis, intrinsic risk factors independently associated with HAI were immune-suppression (adjusted odds ratio (AOR) = 2.8;  $P < .001$ ), diabetes (AOR = 2.2;  $P = .008$ ), and malnutrition (AOR = 2.2;  $P = .019$ ). Extrinsic risk factors were endotracheal intubation (AOR = 17;  $P = .01$ ), transfer to another department (AOR = 9;  $P = .019$ ), parental feeding (AOR = 7.2;  $P = .014$ ), tobacco use (AOR = 6.3;  $P = .004$ ), as well as surgical wound class contaminated or dirty (AOR = 6.3;  $P = .002$ ), and peripheral venous catheter (AOR = 4.7;

P = .006). Conclusions: Our study highlighted the magnitude of the HAI problem threatening the quality of care in Southern Tunisia. A wise identification of HAI risk factors may help health care workers to ascertain the avoidability of these infections.

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### Reference:

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