

## Literature review

# Impact of an antimicrobial-impregnated gauze dressing on surgical site infections including methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* infections

Mueller SW, Krebsbach LE. *Am J Infect Control*. 2008 Nov;36(9):651-655.

**Summary:** A retrospective surgical site infection surveillance study was conducted by Bryan Medical Center to evaluate the impact of implementing a PHMB-impregnated dressing (Telfa™ AMD). A total of 19,574 patients undergoing National Nosocomial Infection Surveillance System (NNIS) surgical procedures were monitored over a two-year period. The institution switched from plain sterile gauze to PHMB-impregnated gauze for all NNIS procedures in June 2005. Between July 2004 and May 2005, 9,372 NNIS procedures were performed using standard sterile gauze; 101 SSIs were identified, including 20 (19.80%) culture-positive for MRSA. During the evaluation period, 10,202 NNIS procedures were performed using AMD gauze; 84 SSIs were identified, including 11 (13.10%) culture-positive for MRSA. This reduction translated to an overall SSI rate reduction of 24% (P=0.035) and a 48% (P=0.047) reduction in MRSA incidence.

**Clinical outcomes:** AMD significantly reduced SSI



As a result of the reduced overall SSI and MRSA rates, this facility realized a significant cost savings, along with enhanced patient safety and increased quality of life.

For more information about antimicrobial dressings with PHMB, contact your Cardinal Health sales representative, call **877.CARDINAL** or visit **cardinalhealth.com**

\* Statistically significant.

### About this study



#### Design

Retrospective SSI surveillance



#### Intervention

PHMB dressing (Telfa™ AMD)



#### Study details

- Bryan Medical Center
- No practice or protocol changes



#### Number of participants

**19,574 patients**



#### Patient profile

Surgical patients

- Patients undergoing National Nosocomial Infection Surveillance System (NNIS) surgical procedures