

**AN EVIDENCED-BASED STUDY: MEASURING THE EFFECT OF IMPLEMENTING  
AN INFECTION CONTROL PROGRAM ON HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS'  
COMPLIANCE TO INFECTION CONTROL MEASURES**

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**ABSTRACT**

In Palestinian, 10% of deaths among children under the age of five are related to infections. Practice of infection prevention and control reduces the number of hospital-acquired infections. The purposes of this study were to explore health care team perceptions of causes of hospital-acquired infections and to develop, implement and measure the impact of infection prevention program in the ICU of a specialty pediatric hospital in Gaza Strip.

A quasi experimental with pretest-posttest design was used. All nurses and physicians were included in this study. Five dimensions were measured and investigated pre and post-intervention. An infection control educational program was designed and implemented.

After implementing the staff-developed program, the five dimensions were improved: using sharp box increased from 46.6% to 90%, doing gloves and scrubbing improved from 53.3% to 55%, frequency of hand washing increased from 47.2% to 79.3%, awareness of Palestinian protocol of infection prevention increased from 27.5 to 80% and positive swabs cultures decreased from 56% to 34.6%.

The study recommends rebuilding an the infection control committee, motivating and encouraging work team to apply control infection measures through training and continuous education, providing the necessary medical supplies. These are besides continuous monitoring and follow up from the administration.

**KEYWORDS:** Infection Control, Infection Control Standards, Hospital-Acquired Disease, Gaza, Palestine