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### Standard of care to improve patient safety in surgical procedures

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Health Care-Associated Infections (HCAI) are the most frequent adverse event in health-care delivery worldwide. Up to 16% of HCAI are Surgical Site Infections (SSI). Managing the risk of surgical site infection is complex. Many patients are affected by SSI each year, leading to significant mortality, morbidity and financial losses for health systems. There are multiple sources of contamination and other variables that can increase the risk of SSI. Some of these variables can be controlled and some of these variables are outside the control of the health care team. Nowadays, implementing standard of care and best practices in surgical procedures become part of patient safety strategies globally. It includes guidelines, protocols, bundle of care and clinical evidence that can help to reduce risk of SSI. There is no doubt that by standardizing the process of care we enhance patient safety, outcomes and satisfactions as well as team work collaborations and communications.

#### **Biography**

Caroline Bilen holds BS in Nursing, certified in Infection Control (NYIC) as well as Educator for NYIC Certification and Patient Safety. She is JCI certified Educator for JCI education program "Safety in Surgical Services". She has more than 25 years' experience in Nursing Management, Infection Control and Health Care Quality, Accreditation Management and Elderly Care. She held the position of Director of Nursing Services at "Home Care Lebanon", where she was leading the health care team and responsible for patient safety. She also held the position of Operating Room Nursing Manager in Lebanon. She has been working closely with hospitals management team, infection control and patient safety committees all over the CEEMEA region to improve patient safety, expectations and outcomes.

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