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SCOAP Community Speaks Up Glycemic Control

Colleagues at St. Francis Medical Center have asked "What are effective strategies to improve our approach to glycemic control postoperatively?"

This is a very timely question. SCOAP has been tracking four aspects of glycemic control in colorectal surgeries among diabetic patients: 1) Perioperative Glucose Measurement; 2) Insulin Given during the Perioperative Period; 3) Controlled Glucose within the 48 hours Postoperatively; and most recently, 4) Avoidance of Low Blood Sugar among Diabetics. Our most recent data reports for the 2nd quarter of 2010 show that the top performing hospitals in Washington State achieve 100%

SCOAP Making a Difference: Reducing Infection

Post-operative glycemic control is key to reducing infection. Elevated glucose levels in hospitalized patients are associated with increased morbidity and mortality. SCOAP has been tracking multiple aspects of glycemic control among diabetic patients since its inception. SCOAP hospitals show improvement in checking perioperative blood glucose among diabetics the longer they are in SCOAP ([Figure 1](#)). However, there is still much variability among SCOAP hospitals, as seen in [Figure 2](#). Check out this month's [SCOAP Community Speaks Up article](#) to find out what SCOAP hospitals are doing to improve and maintain their patients' post-operative blood glucose levels.

To determine which hospital is yours in the figure above, please [contact Rosa Johnson](#).

What's New In SCOAP? SCOAP Comparative Effectiveness Research Network (SCOAP CERTN)

SCOAP is proud to announce an \$11.7 million grant award from the Agency for Healthcare Quality and Research to create a comparative effectiveness research platform at SCOAP partner hospitals. The SCOAP Comparative Effectiveness Research Translation Network (SCOAP CERTN) will increase automated data flow into SCOAP and provide long-term clinical, functional and quality of life and healthcare cost data for both QI and research.

for measuring blood glucose and are at 85.4% for use of insulin in the perioperative period. Concerns about the unintended consequence of hypoglycemia are allayed by the data that show low blood sugars are avoided in 94.8% of cases. But data from even the best performing SCOAP hospitals puts front and center that it is a struggle to achieve consistent glycemic control postoperatively. This component of glycemic control remains a challenging aspect of surgical care and an area that the SCOAP community is ready to hit head on. [Read more...](#)

Contact Us

<http://www.scoap.org>
<http://www.scoapchecklist.org>

Dave Flum, MD, MPH
SCOAP Medical Director
daveflum@u.washington.edu
(206) 616-5440

Rosa Johnson, ARNP, MN, CPHQ
SCOAP Program Director
rjohnson@qualityhealth.org
(206) 682-2811 x20

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The science of understanding how well healthcare interventions works and how different healthcare strategies impact patients is called comparative effectiveness research (CER). CER may be the key to getting more value for healthcare dollars and is the key to healthcare reform. The federal government designated \$1.1 billion in CER funding in the 2009 budget. Just as SCOAP is an effective platform for surgical quality improvement, our collaborative provides unique opportunities to conduct comparative effectiveness research. SCOAP data are collected from clinical records, not administrative or healthcare billing records, and are collected prospectively with careful attention to risk-adjustment. SCOAP hospitals also range across diverse practice environments, including 33 rural centers and 22 urban centers, and cover all patient population types. This new grant from the Agency for Healthcare Quality and Research will fund infrastructure development for a SCOAP partner activity in research, or the SCOAP Comparative Effectiveness Research Translation Network (SCOAP CERTN).

[Read more...](#)

For more information, or if your hospital is interested in joining the pilot phase of this project, please [contact Allison Rhodes](#).

About Us

SCOAP is the future of surgical quality improvement. It is a physician-led, voluntary collaborative creating an aviation-like surveillance and response system for surgical quality. SCOAP's goal is to improve quality by reducing variation in process of care and outcomes at every hospital in the region.



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