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### The cost of surgical site infections: A look at the financial and medical impact on patients and hospitals

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# **The Cost of Surgical Site Infections**

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M.S. in Healthcare Management

2020

Granite State College

- In the United States, there are an estimated 15 million surgical procedures performed each year.
- Approximately 2-5% will develop a surgical site infection (SSI).
- According to the CDC an SSI is an infection related to the operative procedure and occurs at or near the surgical incision within 30 days of the procedure, or 90 if prosthetic material is used.

- The cardiac surgery dept. at Maine Medical Ctr. does not currently utilize an infection prevention bundle.
- A bundle is a small number of evidence-based measures for a defined patient population and care setting.
- I created a bundle using the recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention and the World Health Organizations

To demonstrate the affect one SSI can have on a patient and the hospital I performed a case study analysis.

This 67 yr. old patient suffered an SSI and 2 additional surgeries. He was re-admitted for 2 weeks.

The re-admission costs totaled more than \$159,000, all of which the hospital is responsible for paying.

One SSI is too many and can have devastating consequences on the patient and hospital.