

# BD MedMined™

## Case Study

St. Elizabeth Medical Center

### About St. Elizabeth Medical Center

St. Elizabeth Medical Center, based in Utica, NY, is committed to excellence in healthcare and education. It offers a wide range of inpatient medical / surgical services for adults and children, as well as adult inpatient psychiatric services.

“They have streamlined our daily workflow and allowed us to do better surveillance in less time. I cannot imagine life in our department without MedMined services.”

Linda Kokoszki RN, BSN, CIC

Director of Infection Prevention and  
Bioterrorism Coordinator



## \$5 Million in Avoided Costs

Infection Preventionists (IPs) Linda Kokoszki, Sandy Mercer and Teresa Inka began an initiative to reduce the total Nosocomial Infection Marker (NIM) rate at St. Elizabeth Medical Center with the help of BD MedMined services.

After analyzing the housewide blood NIM rate, the Infection Prevention team discovered that the NIMs over the past year were due primarily to blood culture contamination. They decided to develop a plan to reduce the incidence of the common blood contaminant and infectious pathogen, coagulase negative staphylococcus.

Their efforts began with increased education via a housewide "Scrub the Hub" campaign and a change in product use, increasing the use of the antiseptic chlorhexidine gluconate (CHG). In addition, a Vascular Access team was formed and has continuously worked with the Infection Prevention department to implement new strategies. These combined actions contributed to a 51% reduction in the blood NIM rate.

In addition to addressing the blood NIM rate, the team also put interventions into place for urine and respiratory infections, which included implementing the associated bundles, setting reduction goals and continuing educational campaigns.

Through these initiatives, the hospital was able to realize a 29% reduction in the urine NIM rate and a 42% reduction in the respiratory NIM rate.

Providing consistent, timely feedback and building accountability across the organization is vital to the success of any goal setting campaign. The St. Elizabeth Infection Prevention team accomplished these objectives by sharing NIM data regularly and by using the annual DRG-adjusted financial analysis from MedMined services as an opportunity to build executive support

for their program. These activities are reflected on the nursing units through increased accountability to leadership.

As a result of significantly reducing NIM rates, St. Elizabeth Medical Center avoided \$5 million in costs. They continue to promote process improvements in their crusade to enhance patient care - with expectations of future NIM rate reductions and cost savings.

Rate trend summary			
Baseline period (7/06 - 6/07) to Active period (7/07 - 3/10)			
Urine NIM reduction	29.26%	NIMS prevented	423
Respiratory NIM reduction	42.10%	Direct cost avoided	\$5M
Blood NIM reduction	51.88%	Days of LOS Saved	3,255

## NIM Rate reduction

