

## Heemstra, Sarah

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**From:** Heemstra, Sarah  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 19, 2019 11:02 AM  
**To:** Heemstra, Sarah  
**Subject:** Infection Prevention Champions Program: Department Goals

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# Infection Prevention Champions Program



**SGNA**  
Society of Gastroenterology Nurses and Associates, Inc.

Dear Champion,

Our next focus is infection prevention department goals. Most facilities have their own ongoing performance improvement projects and/or quality measures whereby performance is measured. The goals submitted to SGNA could be independent of current department initiatives or be associated with an existing performance improvement project. Regardless, they must be related to infection prevention with the purpose of continually improving infection prevention processes within the department.

One department goal should address the 120 minutes of infection prevention education you will coordinate or provide to your peers. The other goal should address an infection prevention need you have identified within the department. This could be a missing reprocessing step, need for a policy or guideline, revised process or improvement in compliance.

**Example 1:** After referring to the endoscope reprocessing manual in the unit, Ms. Smith realized that they were missing a step in the bedside cleaning process. Ms. Smith wrote a goal that the air/water channel cleaning adaptor will be utilized to perform the bedside cleaning process 100% of the time per manufacturer guidelines. She then revised her unit endoscope reprocessing policy to include this step and purchased and/or found air/water channel cleaning adaptors and made them accessible to staff. Additionally, she designed a picture poster to teach her coworkers the step, demonstrated the step and observed each staff member performing the step three times over the next eight weeks to measure compliance.

**Example 2:** Ms. Smith met with the infection prevention specialists in her facility and gave them a tour of the reprocessing room. She explained the process to them from start to finish. At the end of the tour, the infection prevention specialist noticed that the front panel of the endoscope reprocessor was not disinfected after loading the endoscope into the machine which could be a potential source of re-contamination during the unloading process. Ms. Smith wrote a department goal that the front panel of the reprocessor would be cleaned after each endoscope was loaded into the machine. She contacted the manufacturer of the reprocessor to find out if the disinfectant wipes currently used were approved for use on the machine; she then placed the disinfection wipes on a cart by each machine and educated the staff on the new change. Over the course of 6 weeks, Ms. Smith performed random audits using a tool

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she developed and re-educated staff until the change had been incorporated into the normal routine.

These are just two of many examples that could be considered. Utilize your resources when determining department goals by reviewing the information found in the [Infection Prevention Toolkit](#) and consulting your supervisor/manager, infection prevention specialist and peers. Goals should fulfill or answer an infection prevention need in the department, should be measurable and should be completed by the end of the program term.

Requirements should either be emailed to [Champions@sgna.org](mailto:Champions@sgna.org) or faxed to 312-673-6694 as due. The following are the assignments for the next two weeks:

1. Complete the Unit Needs Assessment
2. Write and submit at least two department goals to SGNA using the Unit Infection Prevention Goals form. One goal should address the 120 minutes of education provided to staff and one goal should address an infection prevention need in the department.
3. Make sure to keep your manager or supervisor informed of your assignments and progress. Seek advice and assistance from him/her as needed.

These bi-monthly emails will be [archived](#) for you to access as needed.

As always, SGNA is available for any questions or difficulties you may have.

Sincerely,  
The SGNA Infection Prevention Work Group

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