

 At or better than target. Continue to monitor.

 Within 5% of target. Monitor and take action as appropriate.

 Below target by more than 5%. Take action and monitor progress.

 No target identified or available.

## WHAT IS BEING MEASURED?

The measure is the percentage of hip or knee joint replacement surgical patients who received antibiotics within the appropriate time period before their surgery. This indicator does not measure the number of actual surgical site infections after surgery.

## WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

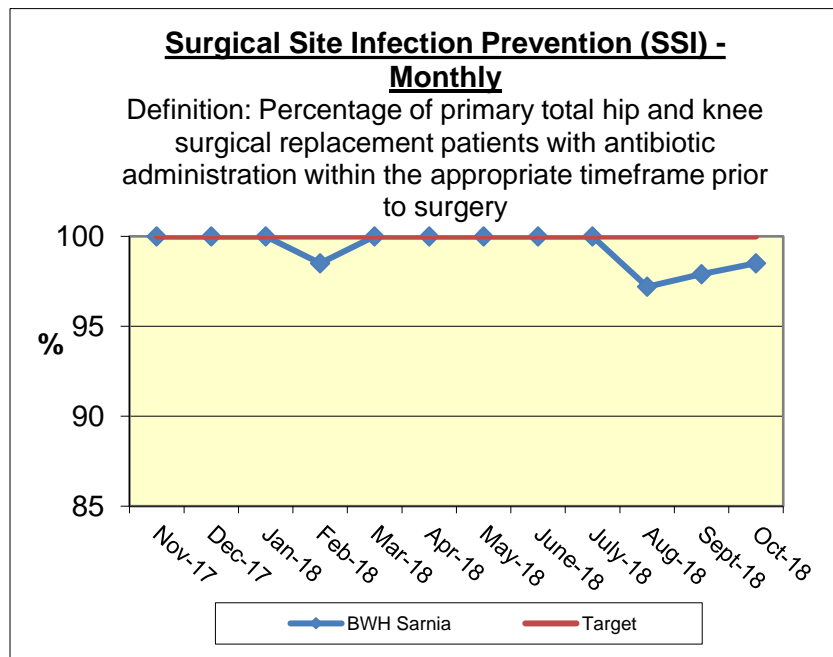
Surgical site infections occur when harmful germs enter a patient's body through the surgical site (any cut the surgeon makes in the skin to perform the operation). Most infections are caused by organisms found on and in a patient's own body. Surgical site infections can complicate the recovery for surgical patients. Antibiotic prophylaxis within the appropriate time period before surgery is one strategy to reduce surgical site infections for patients undergoing hip or knee joint replacement surgery.

## WHAT IS THE TARGET?

Bluewater Health aims to achieve 100%.

## HOW ARE WE DOING?

Between July and October of 2018 (we call this Quarter 3) 98.5% of patients undergoing hip/knee joint replacement surgery received their antibiotic prophylaxis within the targeted timeframe prior to surgery. Note: hip or knee joint replacement surgery is not performed at Charlotte Eleanor Englehart Hospital of Bluewater Health.



Preferred trend/direction



## WHAT ACTIONS ARE WE TAKING?

Each missed opportunity is reviewed to identify areas for improvement. We are also using the Surgical Safety Checklist, which is a communication tool designed to provide everyone on the surgical team with an opportunity to stop and discuss important information regarding the patient and procedure. Antibiotic prophylaxis is part of the Surgical Safety Checklist.

## WHERE CAN I LEARN MORE ABOUT THIS MEASURE?

- MOHLTC [see website](#)
- OHA [see website](#)
- [Contact us](#)

**FREQUENCY REPORTED:** Quarterly

**NEXT UPDATE:** January 2019