**Supplementary Table 1.** Statistical analyses comparing numerical variables and HO-HCFA CDI cases identified pre and post stepwise interventions from FY2015, FY2016 and FY2017 to FY2018.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Variable** | **P Valuea****(FY2015 vs FY2018)** | **P Valuea****(FY2016 vs FY2018)** | **P Valuea****(FY2017 vs FY2018)** |
| Age, Median Years  | 0.50 | 0.13 | 0.32 |
| Gender |  |  |  |
| Male | 0.59 | 0.74 | 0.92 |
| Female | 0.59 | 0.74 | 0.92 |
| Clinical Characteristics |  |  |  |
| Diabetes Mellitus | 0.63 | 0.42 | 0.55 |
| End Stage Renal Disease | 0.68 | 0.61 | 0.46 |
| Prior *C. difficile* Infection | 0.59 | 0.47 | 0.61 |
| Antibiotic Usage Within 3 Months | 0.56 | 0.24 | 0.75 |
| Laxatives (Initiation or Escalation)b | 0.27 | 0.43 | 0.62 |
| Tube Feeds (Initiation)b | 0.41 | 0.46 | 0.20 |
| Proton Pump Inhibitor Use | 0.001 | 0.002 | 0.006 |
| Immunosuppressionc | 0.27 | 0.32 | 0.39 |
| Testing |  |  |  |
| + *C. difficile* NAAT | 0.44 | 0.051 | 0.001 |
| Total *C. difficile* NAAT Performed  | -- | -- | -- |
| % of + *C. difficile* NAAT | -- | -- | -- |
| Disease Severity Criteriad |  |  |  |
| Hypotension or Shock (New SBP ≤100)  | 0.41 | 0.36 | 0.57 |
| Leukocytosis (WBC ≥15 K/μL) | 0.29 | 0.36 | 0.45 |
| Creatinine ≥1.5X Baseline | 0.10 | 0.50 | 0.07 |
| Ileus or Megacolon | 0.49 | 0.46 | 0.48 |
| Colectomy | -- | -- | -- |
| Death | -- | -- | -- |
| Severityd |  |  |  |
| Non-Severe | -- | -- | -- |
| Severe | -- | -- | -- |
| Fulminant | -- | -- | -- |
| Treatment |  |  |  |
| Metronidazole | 0.25 | 0.20 | 0.57 |
| Vancomycin | 0.08 | 0.02 | 0.20 |
| Metronidazole + Vancomycin | 0.41 | 0.25 | 0.27 |
| Fidaxomicin | -- | -- | -- |
| IVIG | -- | -- | -- |
| Fecal Microbiota Transplant | -- | -- | -- |
| No Treatment | -- | -- | -- |
| Hospitalization |  |  |  |
| Total Days  | -- | -- | -- |
| Median Length of Stay, Days  | 0.70 | 0.03 | 0.03 |
| ICU Admission, *n* (% of positive cases) | 0.38 | 0.40 | 0.07 |
| Expenditures |  |  |  |
| Median Hospitalization Cost  | 0.99 | 0.02 | 0.001 |
| Total Hospitalization Cost | -- | -- | -- |
| Median CDI Treatment Cost  | 0.005 | 0.007 | 0.03 |
| Total CDI Treatment Cost | -- | -- | -- |

aChi-squared, Fischer’s exact or Mann Whitney tests were used to analyze numeric variables and *C. difficile* cases identified pre and post stepwise interventions (FY2015 vs FY2018, FY2016 vs FY2018, FY2017 vs FY2018). *P* ≤ 0.05 was considered to be significant for all statistical tests. bNumber of patients identified to be on laxatives or tube feeds within 24 - 48 hours of *C. difficile* NAAT. cImmunosuppression defined as any patient on systemic corticosteroids, immunomodulator or biologic therapy, and/or treated with chemotherapy within 3 months of *C. difficile* infection diagnosis. dSeverity of *C. difficile* infection was determined using criteria outlined in the “Clinical Practice Guidelines for *Clostridium difficile* Infection in Adults and Children: 2017 Update by the Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA) and Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America (SHEA).” Abbreviations: FY = Fiscal Year, IQR = Interquartile Range, NAAT = Nucleic Acid Amplification Test, SBP = Systolic Blood Pressure, WBC = White Blood Cell, IVIG = Intravenous Immunoglobulin, SD = Standard Deviation, ICU = Intensive Care Unit, VASDHS = VA San Diego Healthcare System.

**Supplementary Table 2.** Disease severity and treatment of patients identified to have *C. difficile* infection from FY2015 to FY2018.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Variable** | **FY2015** | **FY2016** | **FY2017** | **FY2018** | ***P* Valuea** |
| Disease Severity Criteriab |  |  |  |  |  |
| Hypotension or Shock (New SBP ≤ 100)  | 7 (15.9) | 5 (13.9) | 7 (20.6) | 3 (23.1) | 0.57 |
| Leukocytosis (WBC ≥ 15 K/μL) | 21 (47.7) | 15 (41.7) | 14 (41.2) | 4 (33.3) | 0.45 |
| Creatinine ≥ 1.5X Baseline | 14 (31.8) | 13 (36.1) | 12 (35.3) | 1 (8.3) | 0.07 |
| Ileus or Megacolon | 6 (13.6) | 1 (2.8) | 1 (29.4) | 1 (7.7) | 0.48 |
| Colectomy | 0 (0) | 0 (0) | 0 (0) | 0 (0) | -- |
| Death | 0 (0) | 0 (0) | 0 (0) | 0 (0) | -- |
| Severityb |  |  |  |  |  |
| Non-Severe | 17 (38.6) | 15 (41.7) | 14 (41.2) | 7 (58.3) | 0.25 |
| Severe | 19 (43.2) | 15 (41.7) | 12 (35.3) | 3 (25.0) | -- |
| Fulminant | 8 (18.2) | 6 (16.7) | 8 (23.5) | 2 (16.7) | -- |
| Treatment |  |  |  |  |  |
| Metronidazole | 17 (38.6) | 15 (41.7) | 9 (26.5) | 3 (23.1) | 0.57 |
| Vancomycin | 12 (27.3) | 6 (16.7) | 12 (35.3) | 7 (53.8) | 0.20 |
| Metronidazole + Vancomycin | 14 (31.8) | 14 (38.9) | 13 (38.2) | 3 (23.1) | 0.27 |
| Fidaxomicin | 1 (2.3) | 0 (0) | 0 (0) | 0 (0) | -- |
| IVIG | 1 (2.3) | 0 (0) | 0 (0) | 0 (0) | -- |
| Fecal Microbiota Transplant | 0 (0) | 1 (2.8) | 0 (0) | 0 (0) | -- |
| No Treatment | 0 (0) | 1 (2.8) | 0 (0) | 0 (0) | -- |

Data are represented as number (%) of positive *C. difficile* cases unless otherwise specified. aChi-squared or Fischer’s exact tests were used to analyze numeric variables and *C. difficile* cases identified pre and post diagnostic stewardship intervention (FY2017 vs FY2018). *P* ≤ 0.05 was considered to be significant for all statistical tests. bSeverity of *C. difficile* infection was determined using criteria outlined in the “Clinical Practice Guidelines for *Clostridium difficile* Infection in Adults and Children: 2017 Update by the Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA) and Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America (SHEA).” Abbreviations: FY = Fiscal Year, SBP = Systolic Blood Pressure, WBC = White Blood Cell, IVIG = Intravenous Immunoglobulin.