

"If you always do what you've always done, you'll always get what you've always got."

What would you say if out of 536,100 people... 58,220 were killed?

What would you say if out of 165,000 people... 32,223 were injured or killed?

If faced with statistics like the above, how would you react? I know how the world reacts when presented with the above data. The information above are statistics of American soldiers in the Vietnam and Iraq wars.

Now think about this...How about out of over 4.3 million airline flights, there have been no fatalities? This is Air Canada's statistics going back to 1983. They might be late for take off or arrival or lose your luggage; however, they are focused on getting you to your destination safely!

Now, how about 220,000 out of 3,000,000 being injured? How about 8,000 among these 220,000 dying?

Out of the 3 million patients admitted annually this is the number of HAI's (hospital-acquired infections) across Canada.

MRSA, VRE and C Difficile are three bacteria commonly found in Canadian hospitals, including Windsor Regional Hospital. They, and we, can cause symptoms ranging from asymptomatic colonization to septic shock and death.

Each year, about 8,000 Canadians die from hospitalacquired infections, 220,000 others are infected.

If the injury and death statistics are not enough to promote action, how about the cost to the system? Treatment is more costly than prevention. Estimated costs from 2004 were \$82 million. Costs are estimated at \$129 million in 2010. That is \$12,216 per infected MRSA patient per year due to prolonged hospitalization, special control measures, expensive treatments and extensive surveillance.

How can this be reduced and/or prevented? Washing our hands!



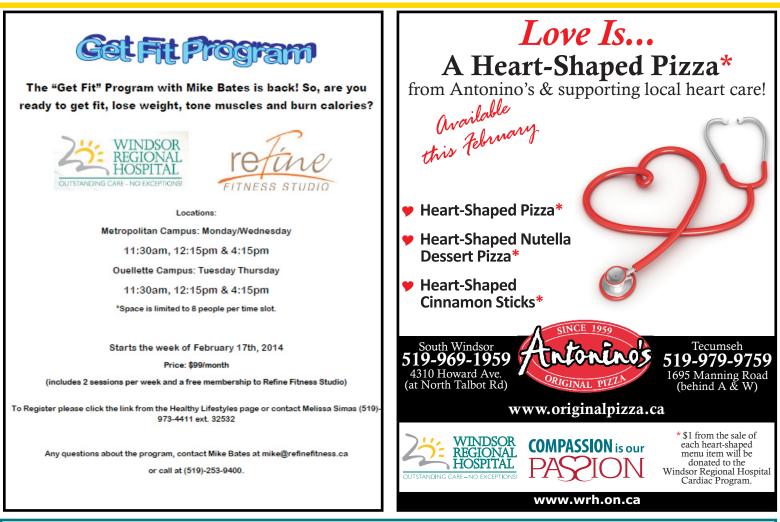
Further to washing your hands, you may also need to wear Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). A handy video to watch on how to properly put on and take off a PPE was produced by Grey Bruce Health Unit at http://youtu.be/m9HoLrvVNvk

Handwashing and HAIs are two main indicators Windsor Regional Hospital tracks daily, weekly, monthly and annually. The three additional indicators we refer to as our Harm Index are: High Alert Medication, Infections and Patient Falls.

Our corporate goal, and really the only goal, is to achieve ZERO in all of these indicators. Only then can we be achieving our Vision of Outstanding Care...No Exceptions! It is not Outstanding Care...with one or two exceptions. Each patient that is harmed is one patient to many!

By measuring and tracking this data, we have the ability and will improve. Again, you cannot manage what you can't measure! I want to thank Michael Ray, former Board Chair of Windsor Regional Hospital for giving me the idea on how to present the data of hospital-acquired infections and relate it to a real world example.

For a review of how WRH is doing with the above indicators and others, go to Public Reporting on the home page of the WRH website.



## **Put Your HAT or HELMET on for Healthcare!**

Get ready, it's time to put your hat on for healthcare. This Wednesday, WRH staff members, along with those at supporting businesses, are encouraged to wear a hat to work, in exchange for a "toonie."

Look for activities throughout the day including pizza sales and a visiting caricature artist. AM800 will broadcast live from the Ouellette Campus from 10 am-2 pm. CTV's Jim Crichton is scheduled to read with elementary school students at Met Campus

This year, proceeds go to WRH Trauma Services. To help raise awareness of the campaign, and the need for winter sport safety, Manager, Diane Bradford is encouraging staff to make their hat a helmet.

## Get your toonie, get your hat or helmet, and join the fun!









DID YOU KNOW? That Hats On For Healthcare has raised over \$110,000 for Windsor Regional Hospital!

Frontline Tribune is a Publication of the Public Affairs/Communications Department of Windsor Regional Hospital. Information/submissions can be made to frontlinetribune@wrh.on.ca or by calling ext 33350 (Ouellette Campus) or call ext 52003 (Metropolitan Campus). In preparation for Hats On For Healthcare happening February 12 in support of Trauma Services - our hat wearing staff pictures on front are: 1) Pierre Marentette - Occupational Health 2) Elaine Snaden - Hats On Committee Chair; 3) Linda Morrow - Learning & Workplace Development ; 4) Diane Bradford - Trauma Services