

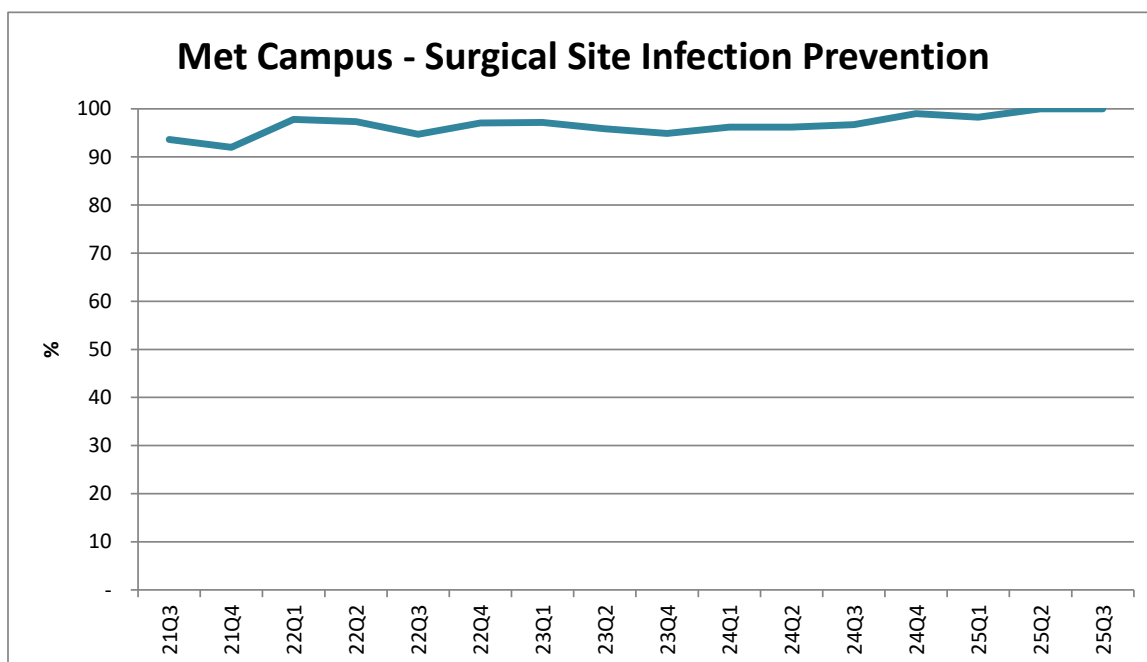


## Surgical Site Infection (SSI) Prevention

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). Infections happen because germs are everywhere – on the skin, in the air and on things individuals touch. Most infections are caused by germs found on and in a patient’s body. One of the ways to prevent surgical site infections is by giving patients antibiotics before they go undergo surgery (0 to 60 minutes for usual antibiotics or 0 to 120 minutes for vancomycin).

The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care has issued a directive under the Public Hospitals Act requiring hospitals to report quarterly the percentage of time the healthcare team gave patients antibiotics within the appropriate time period before the surgery. This will apply only to patients who are 18 years or older who are about to undergo primary hip or knee joint replacement surgery, including total, partial- or hemi-arthroplasty.

*FY2324 Q3 has no information due to the Code Gray from October 23 - December 12, 2023*



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