Surgical Site Infection (SSI) Prevention

Pre-operative Interventions

• Identify and treat remote infections
• Postpone elective procedures until remote infection resolves
• Control glucose (HA1c to <7%)
• Encourage pre-operative smoking cessation
• Chlorhexidine washes the night before and day of surgery
• Pre-op MRSA/MSSA screening and decolonization for selected procedures
Surgical Site Infection (SSI) Prevention

Intra-operative Interventions for the Patient

- Avoid hair removal
- Never shave; use clippers if necessary
- Proper skin antiseptic; allow to DRY
- Maintain normothermia (>36.0°C)
- Control serum glucose (<200)
- Antimicrobial prophylaxis
  - Right agent, right dose, right timing (within 1 hour before incision)
  - Redose every 3-4 hours and for 1500cc blood loss
Surgical Site Infection (SSI) Prevention

- Intra-operative Interventions for OR Personnel
  - Proper attire with masks tied
  - Hair covered
  - No jewelry
  - Proper surgical scrub of hands and nails
  - Proper aseptic and sterile technique
  - Limit OR traffic and door openings
Surgical Site Infection (SSI) Prevention

Post-operative Interventions

• Place a sterile dressing for 24-48 hours
• Thorough hand hygiene and sterile supplies for wound dressing change
• Control blood glucose (<200)
• Discontinue antimicrobial prophylaxis within 24 hours after surgery (within 48 hours for cardiac surgery)