

Vascular access complications contribute to numerous issues for patients and hospitals.

Catheter-related bloodstream infections (CR-BSIs)

are one of the most frequent, costly, and potentially life-threatening complications of central venous catheterisation.^{1,2}

Up to **90% of hospital in-patients require peripheral intravenous (IV) therapy**,¹ putting many patients at potential risk of CR-BSI.

Catheter related infections account for up to **20% of healthcare associated infections (HAIs)**, a potentially life-threatening complication from a routine procedure.²

HAIs are the most common cause of preventable harm in hospital, affecting approximately one in twenty European patients,^{3,4} (**3.2 million patients**)⁵, which results in triple the length of patient stays in hospital and almost doubles the rates of patient readmission.⁶

In addition to CR-BSI, **poor vascular access care can also contribute to numerous other complications**, including phlebitis, occlusion, dislodgement, thrombosis, infiltration and extravasation, among others.¹

While some of these may sound minor, they **can cause patient pain and discomfort** and could **potentially extend their length of stay in the hospital**.¹ And when vascular access-related complications are severe they can be potentially lethal.⁷

This can also affect your hospital's performance and reputation.

You are playing a key role in helping your hospital foster a culture of safety and infection prevention that includes best practices in vascular access care.

Encouraging your hospital to follow evidence-based best practice allows you to:

- ✓ Improve the quality of patient care and patient safety, and ultimately the reputation of your hospital
- ✓ Raise awareness on infectious complications
- ✓ Ensure procedural consistency
- ✓ Monitor CR-BSIs and IV complications overall
- ✓ Standardise monitoring policies and procedures
- ✓ Empower nurses to feel confident in speaking up





50%

of **CR-BSIs** may be preventable by implementing **evidence-based** best practice.⁵

You are playing a key role in driving improvements and helping foster a culture of safety and infection prevention.

By providing the right solution and training on the right devices for the right indications, you can:

1

Improve the quality of care and patient safety

2

Help reduce overall infection rates

3

Foster positive peer recognition and improve hospital performance and reputation



Champion of Change

Because you are a **Champion of Change**, you can drive improvements and help **alleviate the burden of catheter related infectious complications** in your hospital.

Contact a BD representative to learn more about how BD can help your hospital support best practice and efficiencies in vascular access.

[Contact a BD representative](#)

References

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