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.<sup>1,2</sup> Up to **90% of hospital in-patients require peripheral intravenous (IV) therapy**,<sup>1</sup> 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.<sup>2</sup> HAIs are the most common cause of preventable harm in hospital, affecting approximately one in twenty European patients,<sup>3,4</sup> (**3.2 million patients**)<sup>5</sup>, which results in triple the length of patient stays in hospital and almost doubles the rates of patient readmission.<sup>6</sup>

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.<sup>1</sup>

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**.<sup>1</sup> And when vascular access-related complications are severe they can be potentially lethal.<sup>7</sup>

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

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Empower nurses to feel confident in speaking up



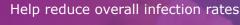
of **CR-BSIs may be preventable** by implementing **evidence-based** best practice.<sup>5</sup>

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

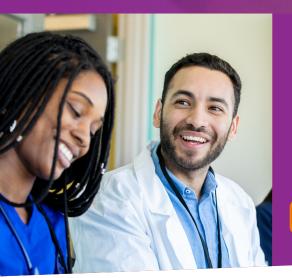
By providing the right solution and training on the right devices for the right indications, you can:



Improve the quality of care and patient safety



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** 

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