

Ventilator Associated Pneumonia (VAPs)

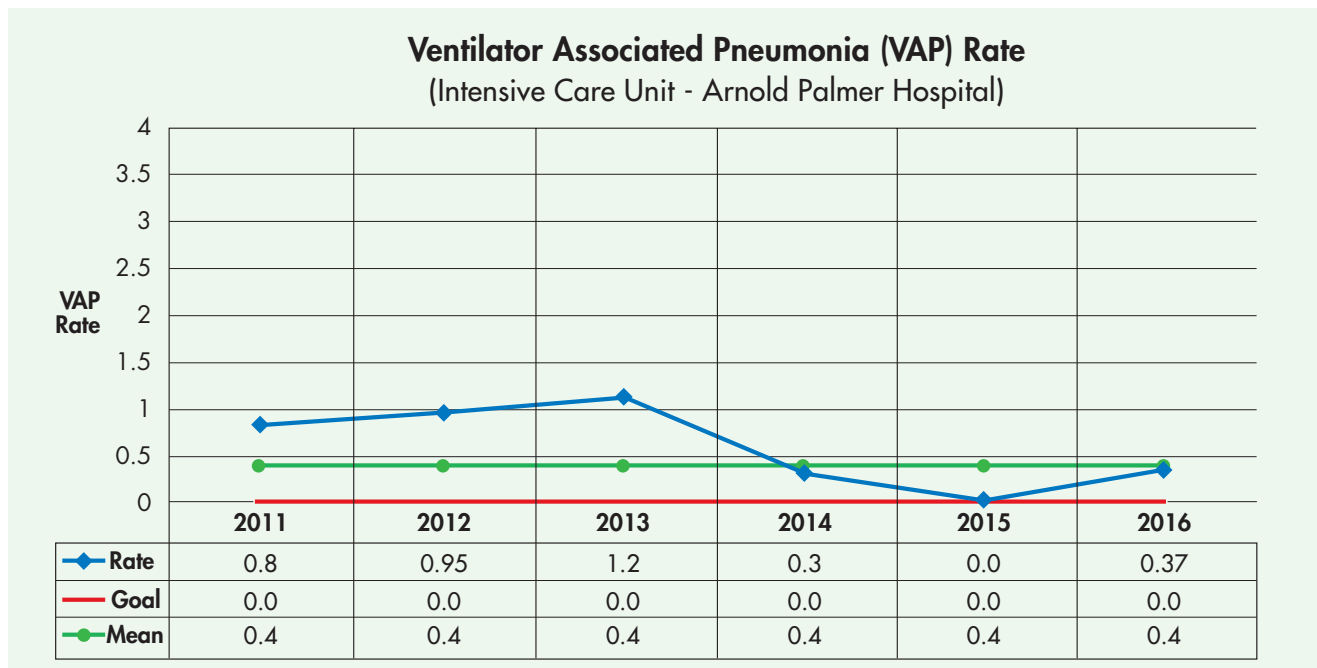
Why is this so important?

Ventilator-associated pneumonia (VAP) is an infection that can be acquired during your child’s hospital stay while your child is in the intensive care unit on a mechanical ventilator device. Patients who develop this type of infection are at risk of becoming very sick. Given the potential serious complications that may result, we as a team at Arnold Palmer Hospital continue to strive to completely eliminate these types of infections.

How do we measure?

The VAP rate is calculated using the total number of patients infected for every 1,000 ventilator days. Each day your child is on a ventilator counts as one ventilator day.

How are we doing?



How are we improving?

We track our progress through the Center for Disease Control’s (CDC) National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN), a national healthcare-associated infection tracking system.

- Implemented standardized practices which are recognized to lower the risk of VAP, including proper patient positioning and oral hygiene while your child is on a ventilator.
- Promote strict hand hygiene practices for all of our staff, as well as patient family and visitors.
- Limiting ventilator use only when medically indicated.
- Enforcing proper guidelines for care of ventilator equipment.
- Monitor rates of infection with immediate action planning and process change.