

# The case history of the innovative sanitation system PCHS®: the contribution to the research of Ferrara University Hospital

**Paola M. Antonioli**

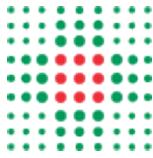
Chief Medical Officer of Hospital Hygiene & Healthcare Associated Infection Risk Management  
Department - Ferrara University Hospital  
[p.antoniol@ospfe.it](mailto:p.antoniol@ospfe.it), [igiene.ospedaliera@ospfe.it](mailto:igiene.ospedaliera@ospfe.it)

*TRAINING SEMINAR*



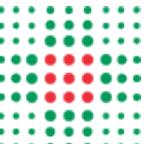
**Towards higher patient safety in EU hospitals**  
Innovation in hygiene & sanitification to reduce healthcare associated infections and antimicrobial resistance.

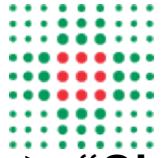
4th February 2019 - 15:00-18:00  
Thon Hotel EU, Brussels



# AGENDA

- **Ferrara University Hospital: some informations**
- **The contribution to the research of Ferrara University Hospital**
- **NSG Project: a multimodal and multidimensional intervention strategy to reduce HAs**
- **Some Results**
- **New tool pipelines in 2012-2019**

 <b>Ferrara University Hospital: CONTEXT AND ACTIVITIES</b>	2011	2012 (New Hospital Opening from 8th may 2012)	2017 New Hospital
<b>Reference population</b>	<b>359.686</b>	<b>359.686</b>	<b>346.975</b>
<b>Workforce</b> (+ Resident Physicians and Workers of external Partners)	<b>2.571</b> ~ 4.000	<b>2.630</b> ~ 4.000	<b>2.586</b> ~ 4.000
<b>Beds</b>	<b>860</b>	<b>770 (attivi 670)</b>	<b>770 (attivi 708)</b>
<b>Healthcare buildings</b>	<b>~109.000 mq</b> (2 Hospitals)	<b>~250.000 mq</b> (2 Hospitals + 1 Clinic)	<b>~160.000 mq</b> (1 Hospital)
<b>Hospital admissions</b>	<b>37.685</b>	<b>33.023</b>	<b>33.262</b>
<b>% Surgery admissions</b>	<b>45,1%</b>	<b>41,3%</b>	<b>47,9%</b>
<b>% high-complexity DRG</b>	<b>n.r</b>	<b>n.r</b>	<b>20,5%</b>
<b>Hospitalization days</b>	<b>222.158</b>	<b>186.973</b>	<b>220.874</b>
<b>Outpatient health services</b>	<b>4.144.328</b>	<b>4.615.889</b>	<b>2.780.861</b>
<b>Operating Theatres</b> (including 1 Delivery Room )	<b>21 (7 BB.OO. + 1 PNBO)</b>	<b>23 (2 BB.OO. + 1 PNBO)</b>	<b>23 (2 BB.OO. + 1 PNBO)</b>
<b>Access to emergency</b> (I° semestre 2013)	<b>79.811</b>	<b>75.127</b>	<b>85.246</b>



## Ferrara University Hospital: Healthcare Facilities before 2012

► “Old Arcispedale S.Anna Hospital”, FERRARA

Emergency activities, All inpatient functions, All high technologies, Outpatient functions and pathways connected, Related teaching and research activities

► **Rehabilitation Hospital “Nuovo S.Giorgio”, FERRARA**

Rehabilitations pathways (hospitual stay, DH, outpatient rehabilitation and related teaching and research activities)

## Ferrara University Hospital: Healthcare Facilities from 2012 to 2016

► **Outpatient Clinic “Old Arcispedale S.Anna”, FERRARA**

Outpatient specialist activities not related to new Hospital, guaranteeing complete clinical pathways

► **Rehabilitation Hospital “Nuovo S.Giorgio”, FERRARA**

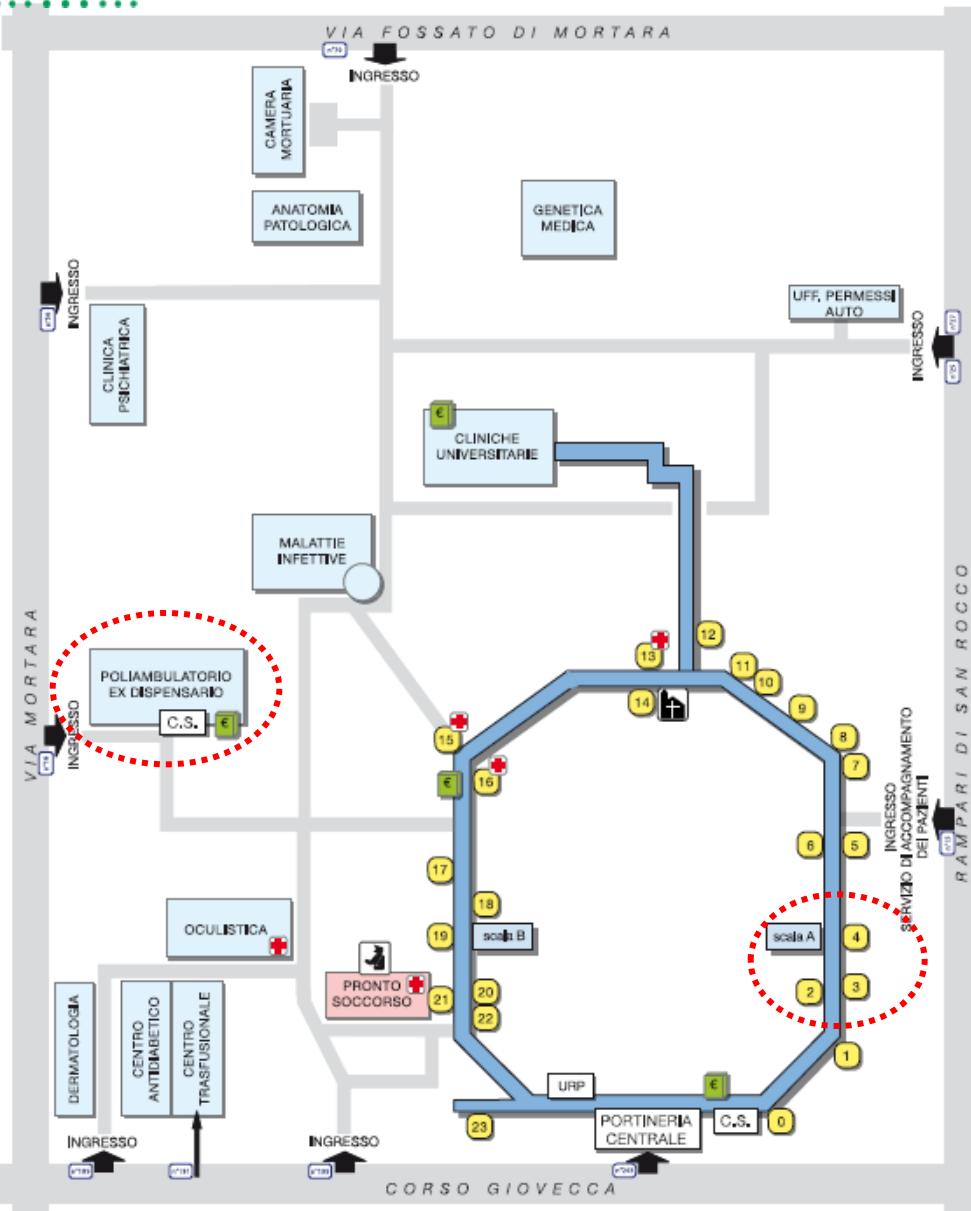
► **“New Arcispedale S. Anna”, Cona di FERRARA**

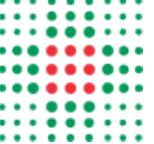
Emergency activities, All inpatient functions, All high technologies, Outpatient functions and pathways connected, Related teaching and research activities

## Ferrara University Hospital: Healthcare Facilities from 2017

► **“New Arcispedale S. Anna” + Rehabilitation Hospital “Nuovo S.Giorgio”**  
**Cona di FERRARA**

# Old “Arcispedale S.Anna Hospital”, FERRARA





# The Case history: CHAPTER 1 (2009)

PURPOSE OF FIRST RESEARCH →

To verify the quantitative, efficacy and efficiency of probiotic products compared to the use of traditional treatments based on chemical disinfectants

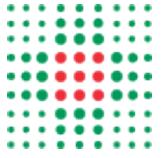
CARRYING OUT →

*in vitro* (to verify the reduction of pathogen on samples of surfaces treated with probiotics)

TESTED PATHOGENS →

*Stafilococcus Aureus*  
*Pseudomonas Aeruginosa*  
*Escherichia Coli*

on sample surfaces,  
**representative of the  
finishes of the  
S.Anna Hospital**



# The Case history: CHAPTER 2 (autumn 2010)

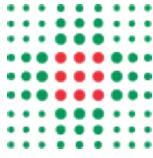
PURPOSE OF FIRST RESEARCH →

To verifie the quantitative, efficacy and efficiency of probiotic products compared to the use of traditional treatments based on chemical disinfectants

CARRYING OUT →

*on the field - real operating conditions* (to verifie the reduction of pathogen load in 2 medical inpatient wards and in the Polyclinic of the “S.Anna Hospital” in Ferrara)

Presence of **recontamination phenomena** of the sanitized environment, linked to the logistic of the wards (recontamination by plant systems, resuspension of deposited powders due to convective phenomena, contribution by staff, patients, visitors and material handling).



The experiments "on the field" were carried out by submitting two different types of hospital areas (inpatients wards and Policlynic) to cleaning procedures using both chemicals and probiotic products and measuring the pathogenic charge.

**TESTED PATHOGENS  
beyond the TVC**

- {
  - Stafilococcus Aureus**
  - Pseudomonas aeruginosa**
  - Escherichia coli**
  - Candida albicans**
  - Acinetobacter**
  - Clostridium difficile**

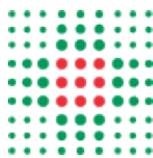
**Total microbiological sampling:** approximately **14,400** (in triple) carried out under real operating conditions, on different types of surfaces, horizontal and vertical, and in the presence of continuous recontamination phenomena

1. The overall average percentage reduction rate of pathogens in the case of use of the Probiotic protocol, compared to the case of use of traditional disinfectants, was **more than 70-80% AFTER 3 MONTHS OF APPLICATION.**
2. In the case of use of traditional disinfectants, **the microbial load increases from the first minutes after sanitization, doubling or tripling within just 7 hours of distance.**
3. As regards Probiotic products, **the increase in bacterial load over time has been significantly lower.**

## The N.S.G. PROJECT: Purpose

Create a **safer environment** for patients, workers, caregivers, visitors by **reducing Healthcare Associated Infections (HAIs)** shares through proven and sustainable actions implemented with a **MULTIMODAL AND MULTIDIMENSIONAL STRATEGY.**

1. Reduce the HAI by 20%
2. To evaluate if it is possible reduce HAI by modifying the environmental microbiota
3. To evaluate if it is possible reduce colonization and infections caused by antibiotic-resistant microorganisms (Alert microorganisms) modifying the environmental microbiota



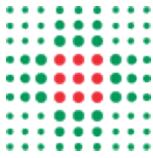
# Rehabilitation Hospital “Nuovo S.Giorgio”: Why?

## Clinical context:

- Neither acute or long-term care Helathcare Facility (Intensive post-acute Rehabilitation)
- Kind of patients: myelo-lesions, severe brain injury (complexity)
- Admission of patients often in continuity with acute care, especially I.C.U.
- Patients coming from provincial, regional and extra-regional areas
- Length of stay also very long: weeks / months
- High prevalence of patients colonized / infected with bacteria resistant / multi-resistant to antibiotics (alert organism)
  - ➡ Eg. 61% Klebsiella pn. I/R (anno 2011)
- Previous prevalence studies which indicated the need to perform a deepening on HAIs in this care setting not much studied

## Organizational context:

- Hospital not involved in the transfer to the "New Arcispedale S.Anna - Cona"



# Materials and methods

→ **Research structure:** to conduct experimental field research for a significantly long period (**14 months**), continuously, monitoring the environmental microbiological status and measure the incidence of HAI

→ **Survey form** (definitions and criteria from PPS ECDC 2011):

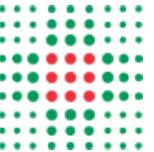
► **2 Sections:**

- At admission in NSG (**44 variables**)
- At diagnosis of HAI (**33 variables**)

→ **Basic operational needs:** **an integrated environmental sanitation system (PCHS - Probiotic Hygiene Cleaning System)**, consisting of an organized set of procedures, materials, techniques

**Rehabilitation Project - Care Areas:**

- Inpatient areas
- rehabilitation gyms
- areas of speech therapy
- areas of cognitive-behavioral rehabilitation
- dining room, rooms for socializing, school, etc..
- Outpatient areas and gyms



# Multimodal strategy: key elements

An evidence-based approach based on 5 basic components (WHO strategy): culture and practice of safety.



## *Organizational actions (system changes)*

- > Eg. - *Hydro-alcoholic Product at the point of care*
- > Eg. *PCHS – Probiotic Hygiene Cleaning System*



**Training of health workers and cleaners  
Promotion of good practices between  
patients - caregivers - visitors**



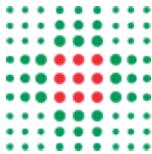
**Observation of care practices & Feedback**



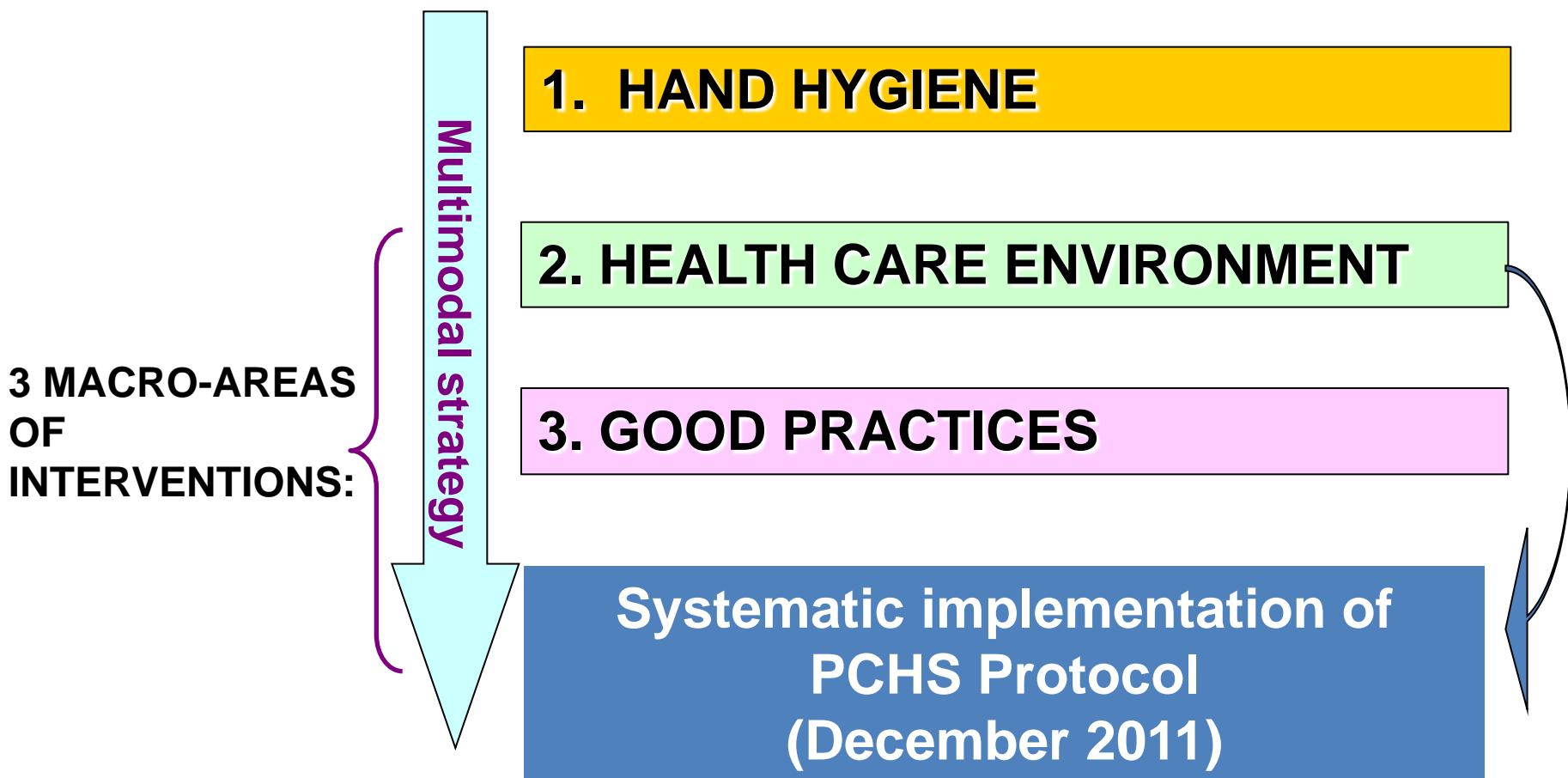
**“Reminders” in the workplace (Posters)**

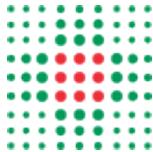


**Climate targeted to patient safety  
and quality of care**



# MULTIDIMENSIONAL STRATEGY (Policy AOUFE):





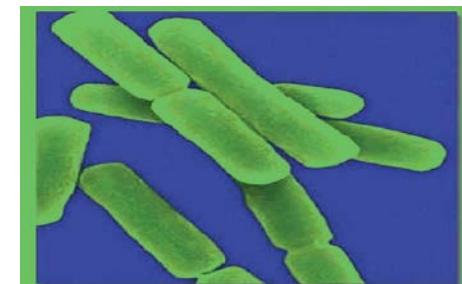
# RESULTS: PROCESS INDICATORS

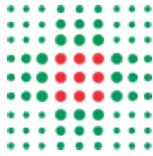
## (1) Reduction in hospital environment of potential pathogens

applying **PCHS**.

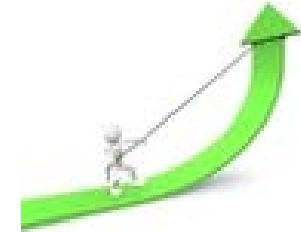
**Compression and stabilization** of nosocomial potentially pathogenic microorganisms on target surfaces sampled (floor, sink, handrails, patient unit).

Compression of the Total Microbial Load **lower 80%**  
detected on **over 30.000 samples**  
of environmental surfaces.





## (2) Hand Hygiene Compliance: results of observations



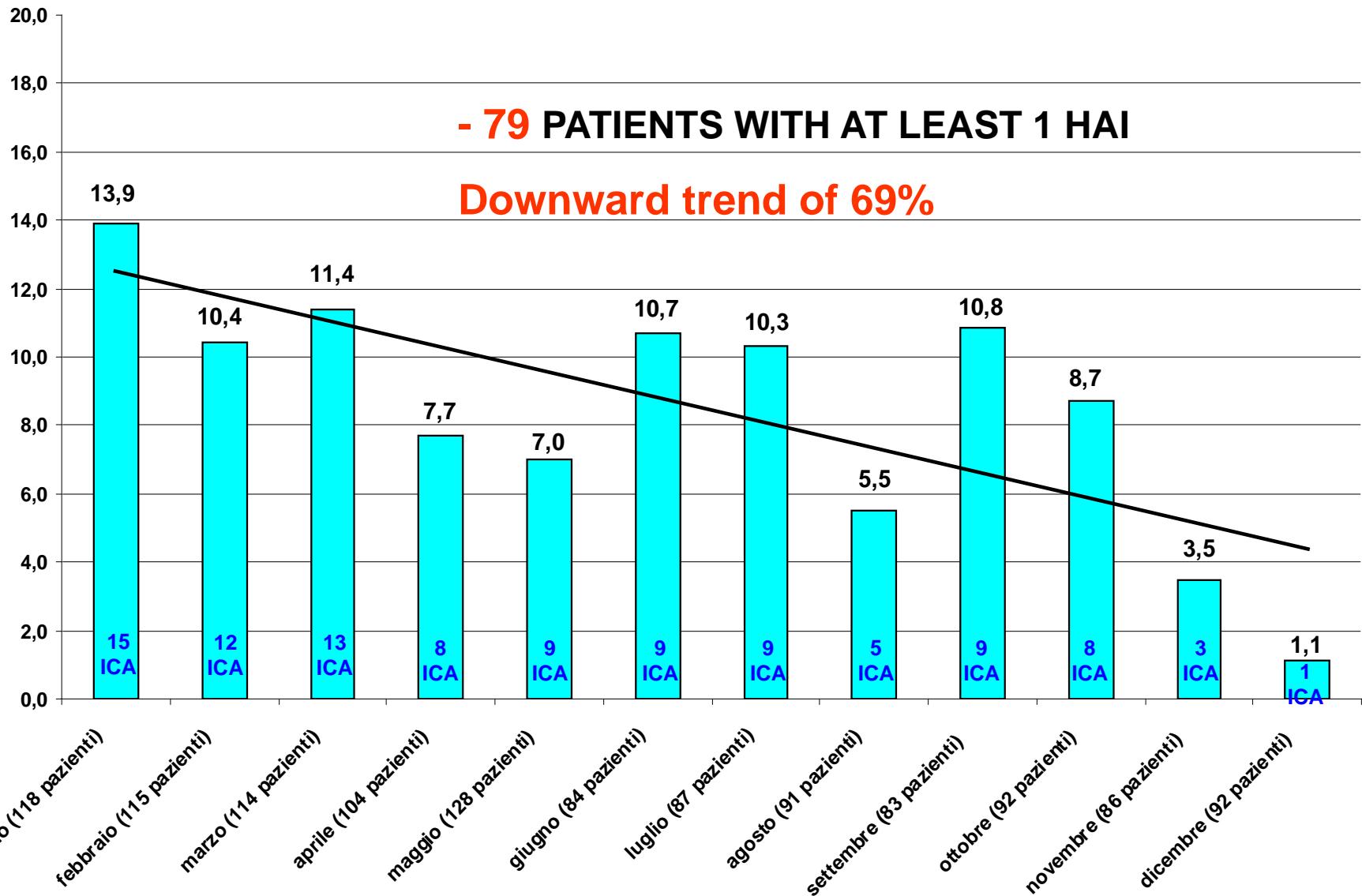
N.S.G	2011 (T0) (Novembre-Dicembre)	2012 (T1) (Aprile-Agosto)	2012 (T2) (Settembre-Dicembre)
<b>Compliance</b>	<b>32%</b> Range: 29-36	<b>61%</b> Range: 58-63	<b>62%</b> Range: 59-65

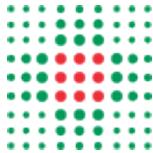


### 3) Incidence rate (%) of HAIs per month (January-December 2012)

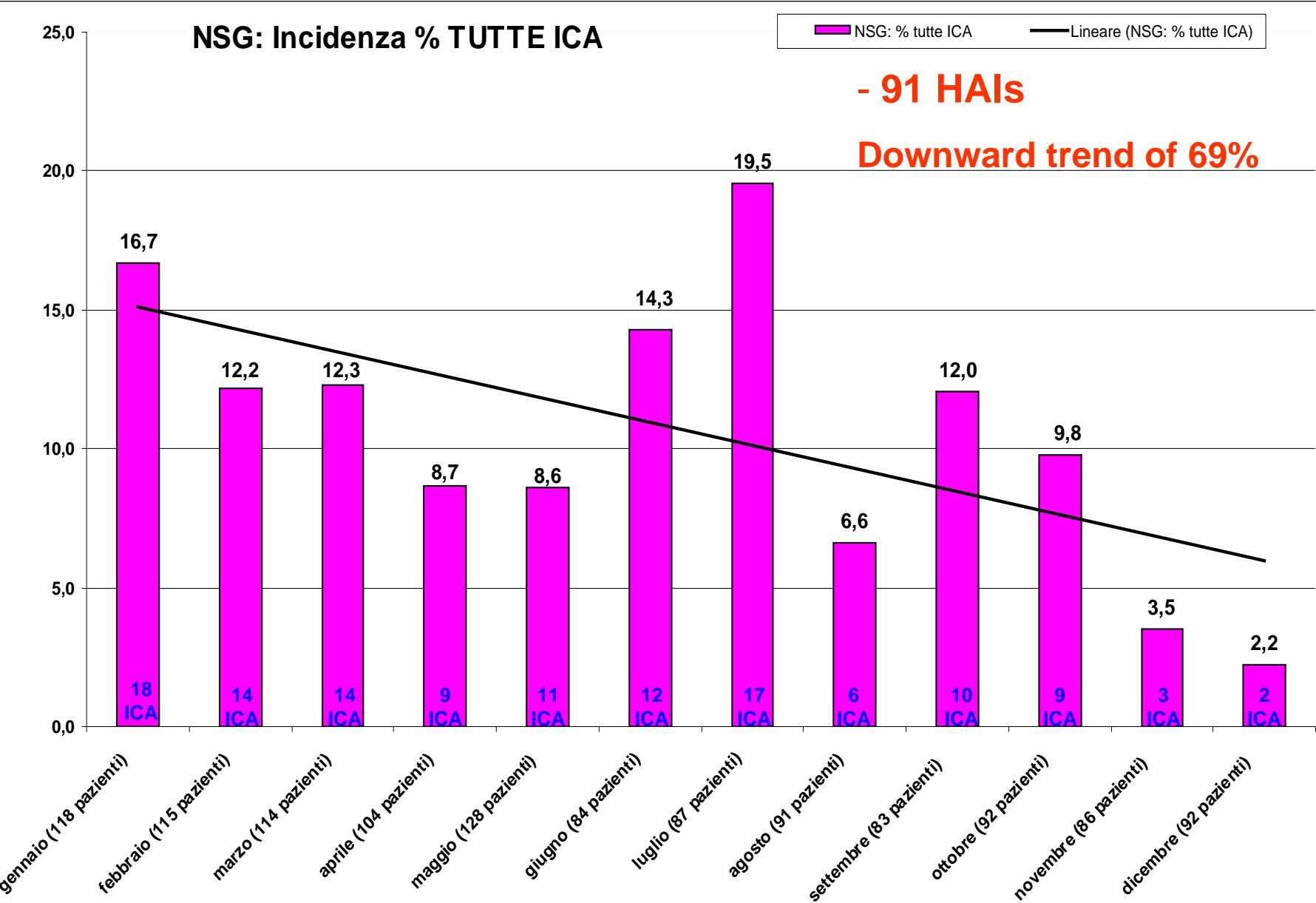
NSG: Incidenza % pazienti con almeno 1ICA

NSG: % Pz. almeno 1 ICA Lineare (NSG: % Pz. almeno 1 IC





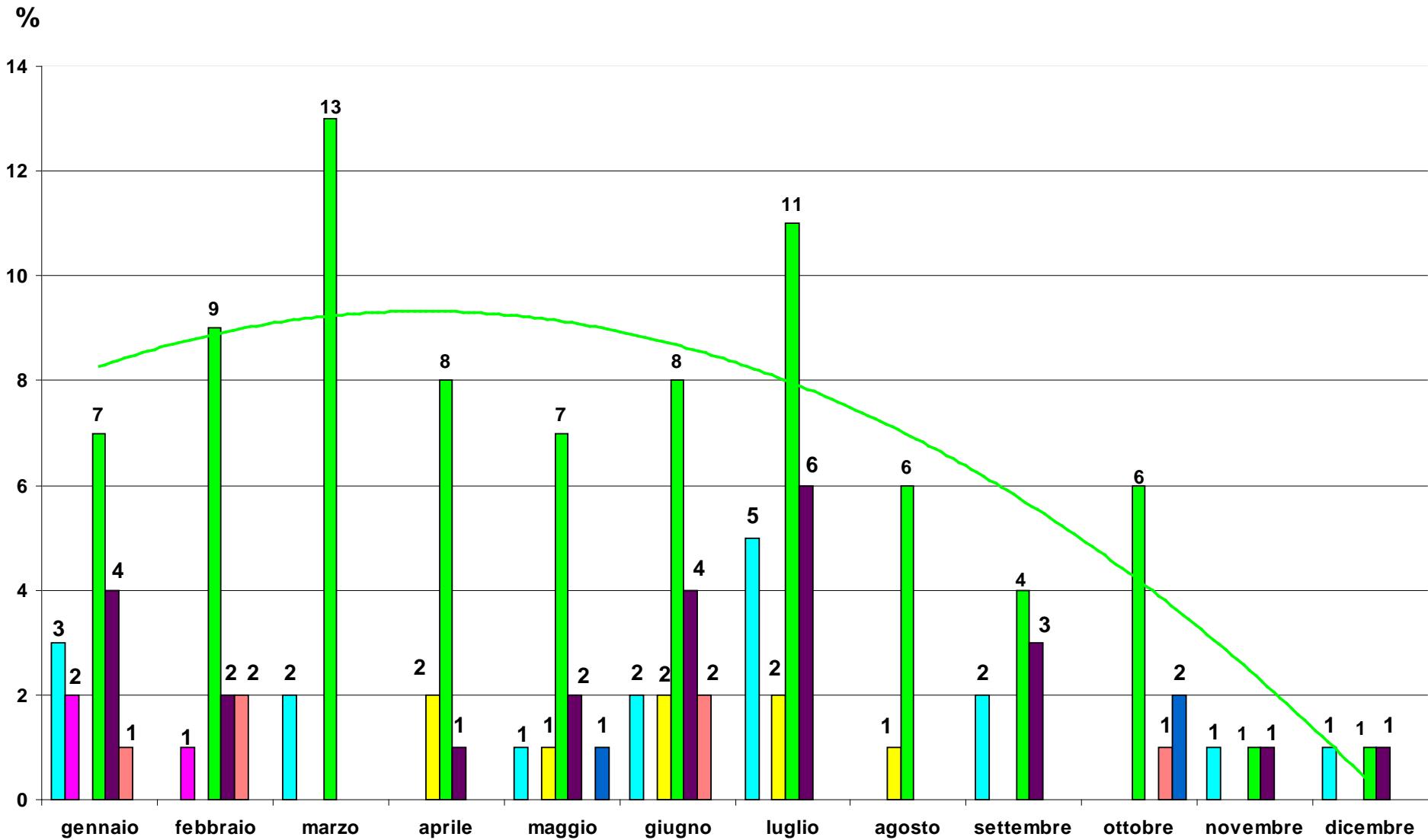
# Incidence Rate (%) of HAIs per month (January-December 2012)



# Monthly distribution (%) of microorganisms responsible of HAIs

Distribuzione mensile dei microrganismi responsabili ICA (gennaio-dicembre 2012)

Staphylococcus (G+)	Clostridium difficile (G+)	Altri G+	Enterobacteriaceae (G-)
Pseudomonas aeruginosa (G-)	Acinetobacter baumannii (G-)	candida albicans	Poli. (Enterobacteriaceae (G-))



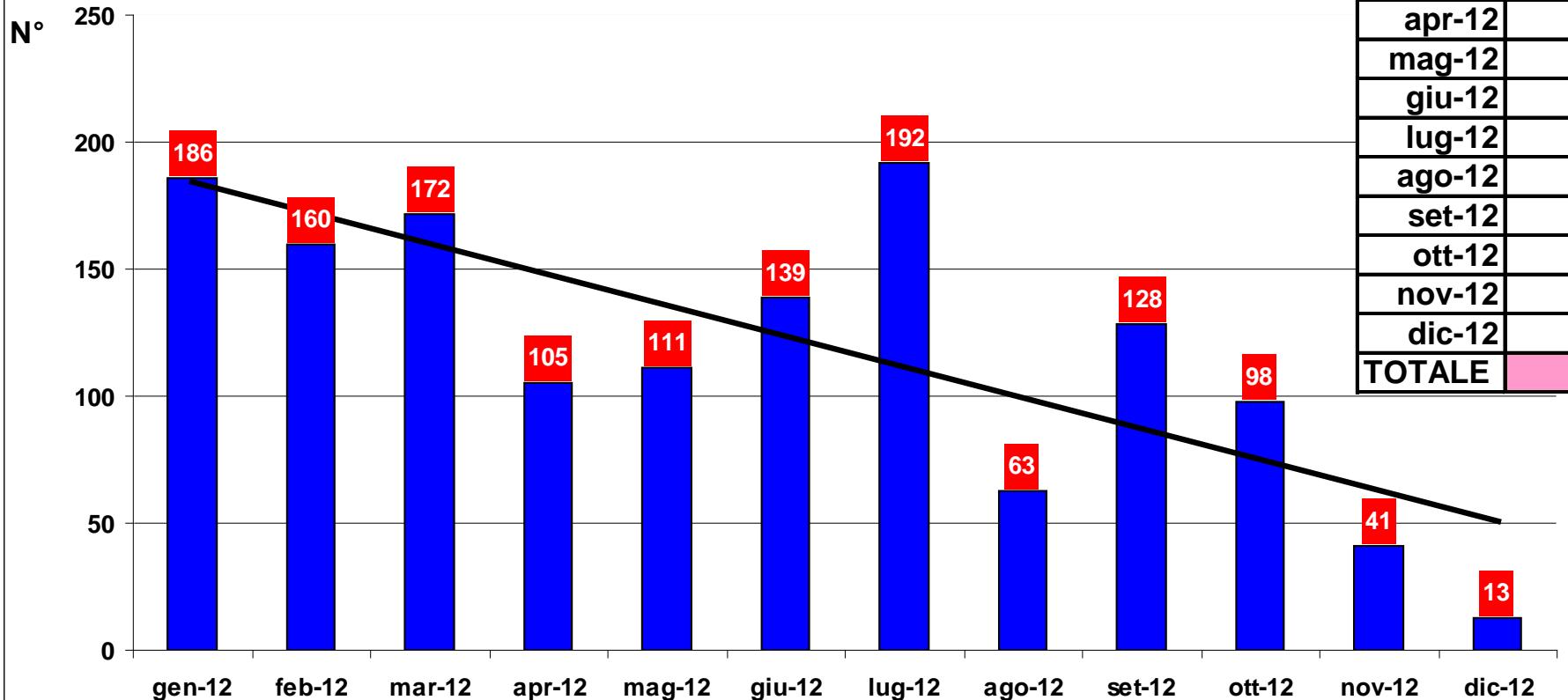
# THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC LOAD OF HAIs

*"The cost associated with a hospital-acquired infection in terms of morbidity and mortality and, even more important in terms of human suffering, it is not calculable."*

Mese	% Giornate di degenza consumate con ICA (tutte ICA) su tutte le ggdd
gen-12	12,7
feb-12	11,0
mar-12	11,1
apr-12	7,7
mag-12	6,5
giu-12	10,0
lug-12	13,4
ago-12	4,1
set-12	8,8
ott-12	6,1
nov-12	2,8
dic-12	0,9
TOTALE	7,8

## NUMBER OF HOSPITAL DAYS WITH HAI

■ N° Giornate con ICA (tutte ICA) NSG — Lineare (N° Giornate con ICA (tutte ICA) NSG)

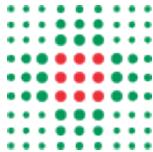


# AVERAGE COST of HAIs BY SYTE & TOTAL IMPACT

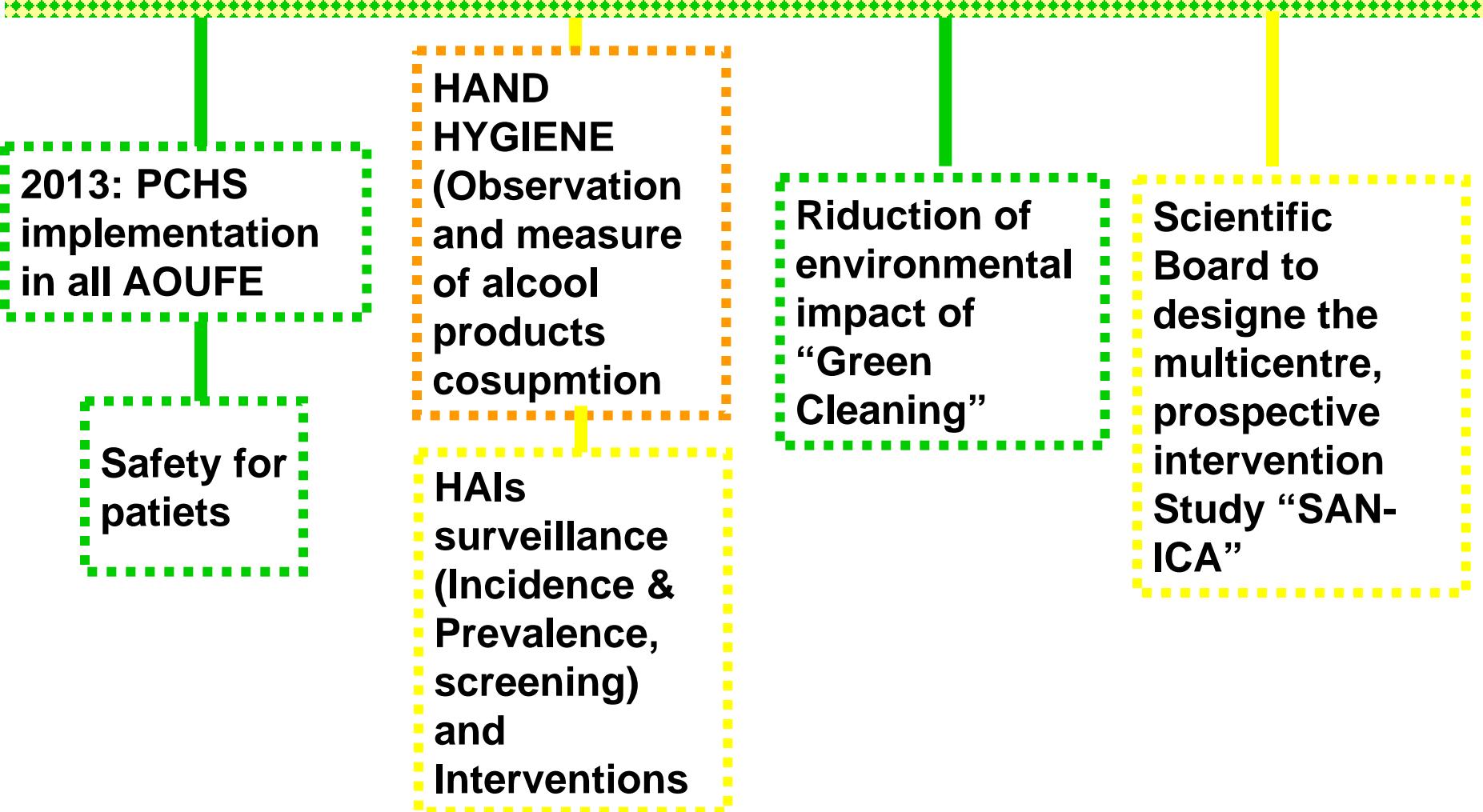
GENNAIO-DICEMBRE 2012: durata (giornate di degenza consumate) ICA e costi, totali e per localizzazione delle ICA	Tutte ICA NSG	N° Giornate con ICA (tutte ICA) NSG	DURATA MEDIA (giorni) NSG	RANGE (giorni) NSG	COSTO TOTALE giornate di degenza con ICA (standard+ATB-T; esclusi costi isolamento) NSG	COSTO MEDIO giornata di degenza con ICA (standard+ATB-T; esclusi costi isolamento) NSG	COSTO MEDIO ICA (standard+ATB-T; esclusi costi isolamento) NSG
<b>N° ICA totali</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>1.408</b>	<b>11,3</b>	<b>6-34</b>	<b>638.009</b>	<b>453</b>	<b>5.104</b>
Tratto urinario	73	951	13,0	6-29	range: 441-540 polomonite-sistemica	5.816	
Polmonite	2	30	15,0	11-19		6.613	
Basso tratto respiratorio	23	421	18,3	7-34		8.143	
Sangue (batteriemie)	18	293	16,3	7-34		7.509	
Cute e tessuti molli	2	30	15,0	12-18		6.933	
Tratto gastro-intestinale	3	59	19,7	9-22		8.794	
Intraddominale	3	33	11,0	6-18		4.907	
Sistemica	1	20	20,0	20		10.804	

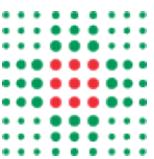
## Socio-economic load of HAIs:

- 7,8% inpatient days was consumed with an HAIs on all ii.dd.
- 5,1% was the increase costs by HAIs on the cost of inpatient days
- HAIs average cost (excluding isolation costs): €5.104,00
- **Savings in 2012 amounted to €464.464,00 (- 91 HAIs)**



# NEW TOOL PIPELINES from 2013





# Safety of probiotics used for hospital environmental sanitation

## Biological samples taken from patients

Analyses performed in the years 2011 - 2018 in the Hospitals continuously using the Bacillus-based Probiotic Cleaning Hygiene System (PCHS)

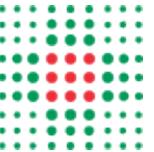


FERRARA UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Total
HOSPITAL ADMISSIONS	29.457	25.917	26.376	27.379	27.135	26.863	24.956	25.738	188.083
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Total
OLD S.ANNA HOSPITAL	429	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	429
S.GIORGIO HOSPITAL	103	704	701	613	765	722	-	-	3.608
NEW S.ANNA HOSPITAL	-	-	6.346	7.290	7.593	7.926	8.931	9.626	47.712
DELTA HOSPITAL	-	76	1.025	969	1.154	1.321	746	1.420	6.711
CENTO HOSPITAL	-	72	631	713	750	819	776	298	4.059
ARGENTA HOSPITAL	-	240	403	498	554	649	523	602	3.469
QUISISANA HOSPITAL	-	-	-	-	510	521	542	568	2.141
Total	532	1.092	9.106	10.083	11.326	11.958	11.518	12.514	55.615

## NO INFECTIONS DUE TO THE BACILLUS USED IN PCHS

# Genuary, 2013: the new Hospital strategy for environmental hygiene

	STRENGTHS (with evidence)	WEAKNESSES (with evidence)
 <b>PCHS PROTOCOL FOR MANUAL CLEANING</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Based on <b>probiotics</b></li><li>- Specific <b>training</b> of cleaners</li><li>- <b>Effective</b> environmental hygiene</li><li>- <b>Exposure reduction</b> to chemicals of patients, caregiver and staff</li><li>- <b>Environmental protection</b></li></ul> <p><b>It's our basic cleaning method.</b></p>	<b>Not usable in all care units</b> (areas where we want <u>low microbial load</u> : eg. operating theatres, interventive rooms, "clean rooms" like Antiblastic or Radiopharmaceutical Units).
<b>MANUAL CLEANING WITH CHEMICALS</b> + <b>DECONT. WITH AUTOMATIC EQUIPMENT (GLOSAIR™)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Sodium hypochlorite</li><li>- Generates a <b>dry mist of fine hydrogen-peroxide + silver cations</b>, non-toxic, non-corrosive and more than 99% biodegradable, <u>maximizing the contact on all surfaces, with no residues &amp; odor</u></li><li>- <b>Final disinfection</b></li><li>- <b>Periodic treatment</b></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Not usable in presence of patients / operators</li><li>- Need time for the decontamination to occur</li></ul>



## Increase of epidemiological trend:<sup>3</sup>

### WHY?

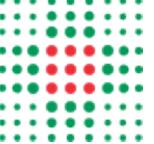
- ✓ increase in immunocompromised patients or, in any case,  
**FRAGILE**
- ✓ increase **COMPLEX** assistance
- ✓ increase procedures and **INVASIVE** devices

## Increase of the most serious sites :<sup>3</sup>

### WHY?

- INCREASE in patients' basic GRAVITY
- diffusion of RESISTANT-MULTIRESISTENT microorganisms to antibiotics
- new and "old" INFECTIOUS EMERGENCIES

<sup>3</sup>[http://asr.regione.emiliaromagna.it/wcm/asr/aree\\_di\\_programma/rischioinfettivo/gr\\_ist/pr\\_inf\\_ccm.htm](http://asr.regione.emiliaromagna.it/wcm/asr/aree_di_programma/rischioinfettivo/gr_ist/pr_inf_ccm.htm)  
Harbarth S, Sax H, Gastmeier P. The preventable proportion of nosocomial infections: an overview of published reports. J Hosp Infect 2003; 54: 258–266



**Not all HAIs are preventable ... BUT**

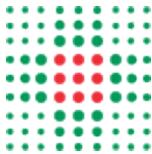
**Approximately 20-30% are considered preventable through STRUCTURED HYGIENE AND CONTROL PROGRAMS.**

**In particular, are more preventable HAIs related to the use of INVASIVE MEDICAL PROCEDURES AND DEVICES:**

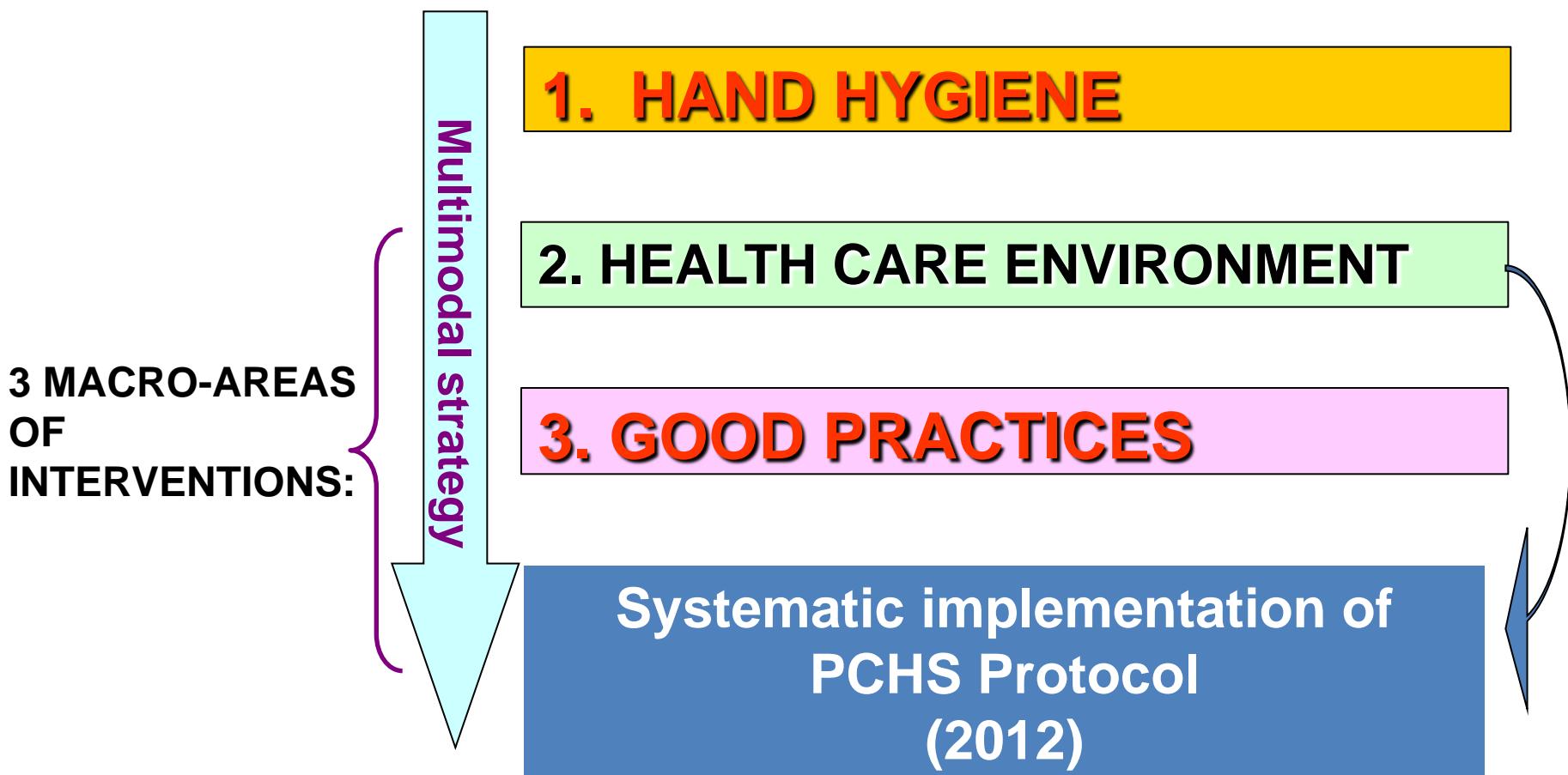
- Central Line-Associated Bloodstream Infection (BSI)
- Urinary Tract Infections Catheter-related
- VAP (Ventilator (Intubation) -Associated Pneumonia)
- SSI (Surgical Site Infections)

(1) Harbarth S, Sax H, Gastmeier P. The preventable proportion of nosocomial infections: an overview of published reports. *J Hosp Infect* 2003; 54: 258–266

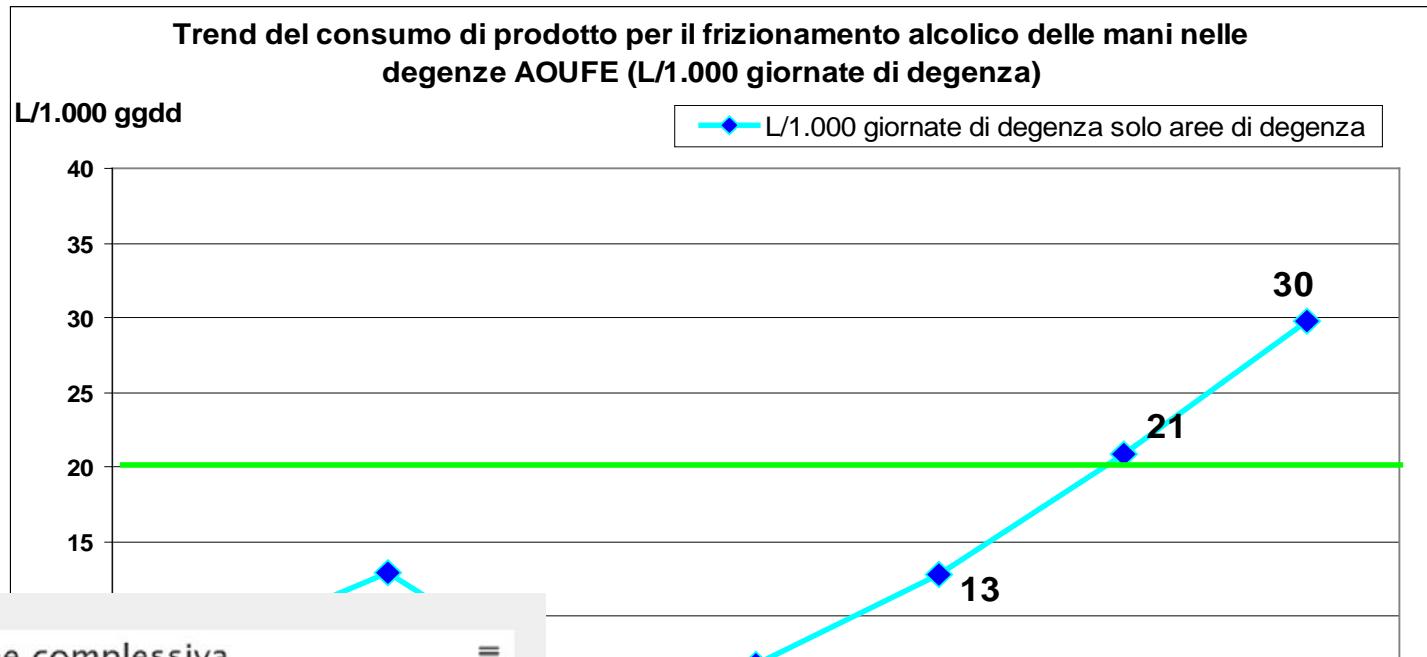
(2) Umscheid CA, Mitchell MD, Doshi JA, Agarwal R, Williams K, Brennan PJ. Estimating the proportion of healthcare-associated infections that are reasonably preventable and the related mortality and costs. *Infect control Hosp Epidemiol*. 2011 Feb;32(2):101-14.



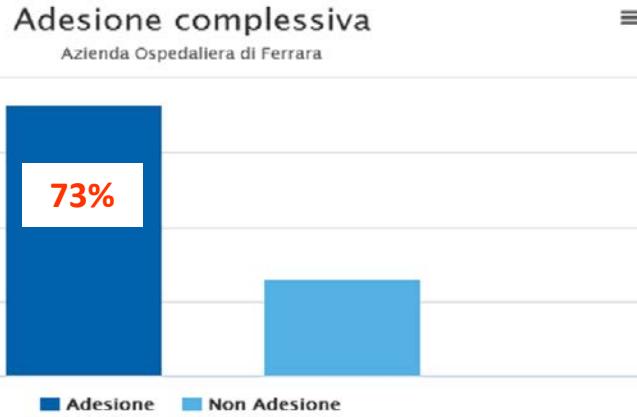
# MULTIDIMENSIONAL STRATEGY (Policy AOUFE):



# Consumption trend of alcohol-based product for hand hygiene (proxy indicator) and Compliance



## Reportistica



Dati di Adesione complessiva - Azienda Ospedaliera di Ferrara

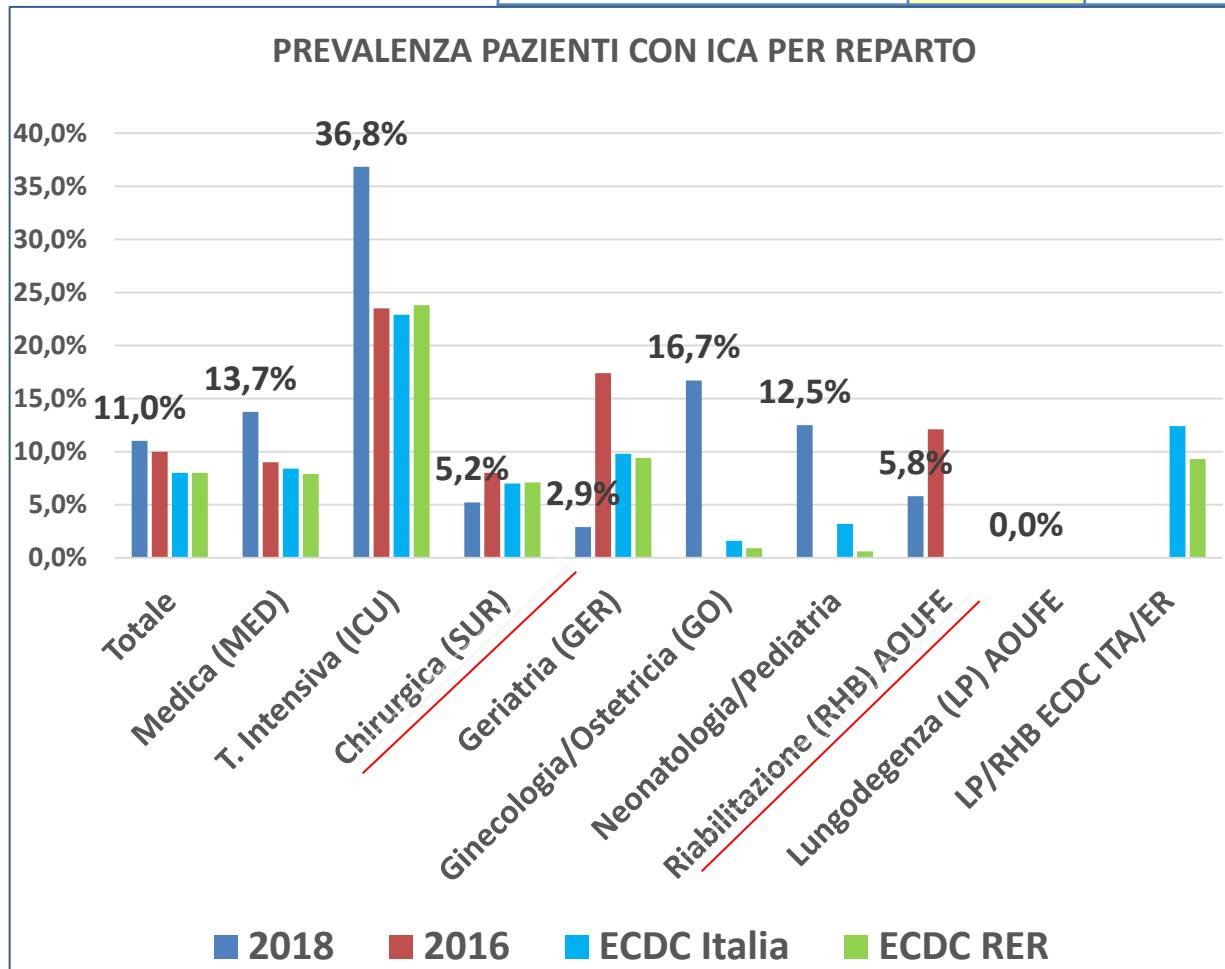
Adesione	606 (73%)
Non Adesione	214 (26%)

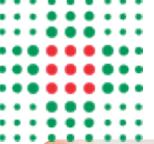
Hand Hygiene Compliance

WHO TARGET 75%

# Ferrara University Hospital: POINT PREVALENCE SURVEY OF HAIs

	2018 AOUFE	2016 AOUFE	2016 PPS2 ITA	2016 ECDC ER
PREVALENCE RATE	11,0%	10,0%	8,03%	8,0%





# Dealing with HAIs in AOufe:



- Hand hygiene
- Prudent antibiotic prescription
  - Antimicrobial Stewardship
- Active research and isolation of colonized patients & Isolation of infected patients
- Suitable Personal Protective Equipment
- Enhanced Environmental Cleaning

Involvement  
of patient and  
patient  
organizations  
in the  
**ALLIANCE**

TANK YOU SO MUCH FOR THE ATTENTION!

