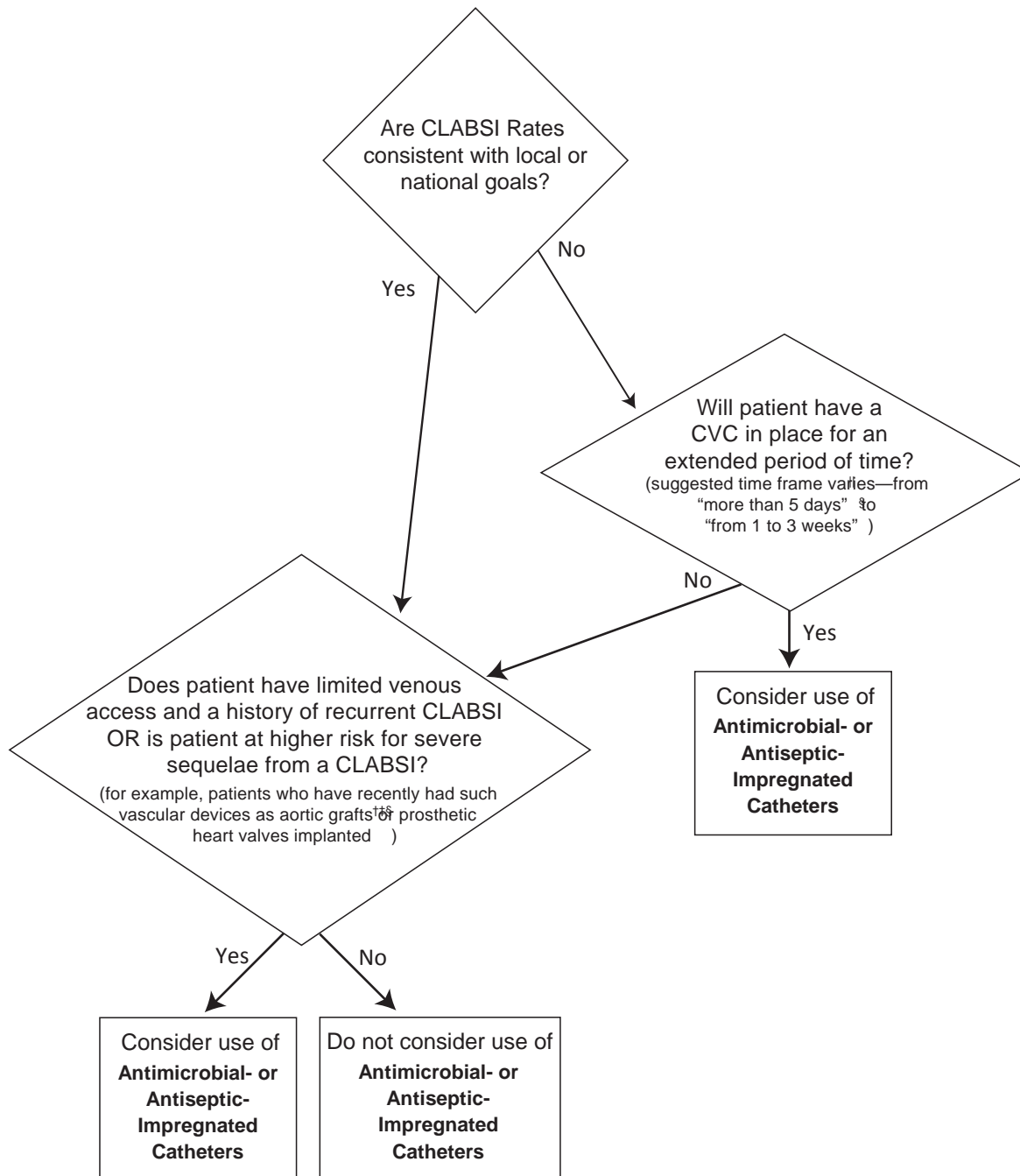


Antimicrobial- or Antiseptic-Impregnated Catheters Utilization Algorithm

Impregnated catheters are useful but do not take the place of good technique. Basic interventions such as good skin antisepsis with an alcohol/chlorhexidine solution, the use of maximal barrier precautions, cleaning needleless connectors appropriately before use, and making sure that those placing, maintaining, and accessing catheters are using good technique should be instituted before impregnated catheters are considered.



* Comprehensive strategy should include, at a minimum, the following:

- Educating health care personnel who insert and maintain CVCs
- Using maximal sterile barrier precautions
- Using a greater than 0.5% chlorhexidine preparation with alcohol for skin preparation prior to CVC insertion

† Infusion Nurses Society. Infusion Nursing Standards of Practice. *J Inf Nurs*. 2011 Jan–Feb;34 Suppl 1:S1–110.

‡ Marschall J, et al. Strategies to prevent central line–associated bloodstream infections in acute care hospitals. *Infect Control Hosp Epidemiol*. 2008 Oct;29 Suppl 1:S22–30. Erratum in: *Infect Control Hosp Epidemiol*. 2009 Aug;30(8):815.

§ Pratt RJ, et al. epic2: National evidence-based guidelines for preventing healthcare-associated infections in NHS hospitals in England. *J Hosp Infect*. 2007 Feb;65 Suppl 1:S1–64.

|| O’Grady NP, et al.; Healthcare Infection Control Practices Advisory Committee (HICPAC). Guidelines for the prevention of intravascular catheter-related infections. *Clin Infect Dis*. 2011 May;52(9):e162–193. Epub 2011 Apr 1.