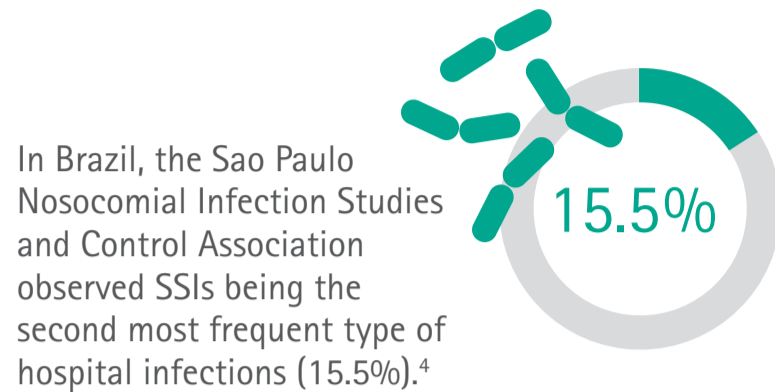
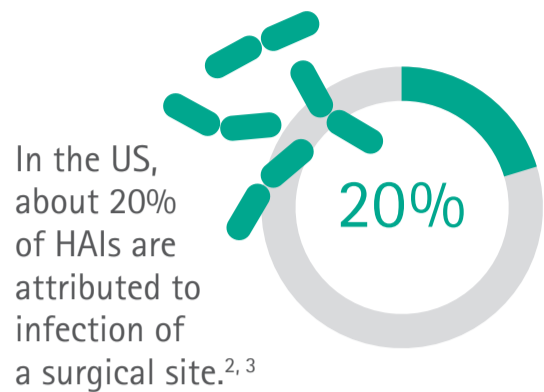


# ECONOMIC CONSEQUENCES OF SURGICAL SITE INFECTION (SSI)

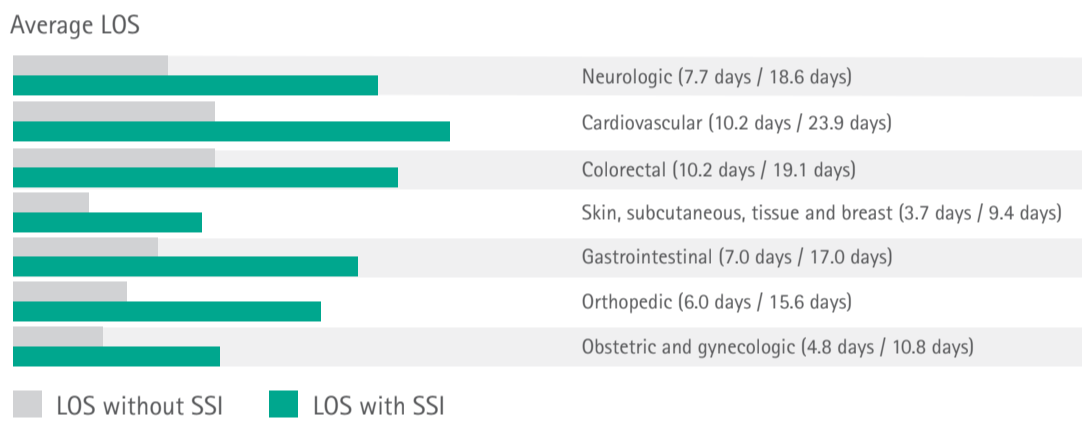
Health care-associated infections (HAIs), especially surgical site infections (SSIs), represent a serious public health problem due to the high rates of morbidity and mortality that occur in conjunction with them. SSIs are among the most common preventable health adverse events and produce direct and indirect costs and prolonged hospital stays.<sup>1</sup>



SSI is one of the most common complications associated with surgery and affects approximately 10% of the patients in low- and middle-income countries.<sup>5</sup> (12.3% of patients worldwide after gastrointestinal surgery<sup>6</sup>.)

## SSIs are significantly and independently associated with an increased length of stay (LOS)

### National sample of US acute care general hospital admissions<sup>2</sup>

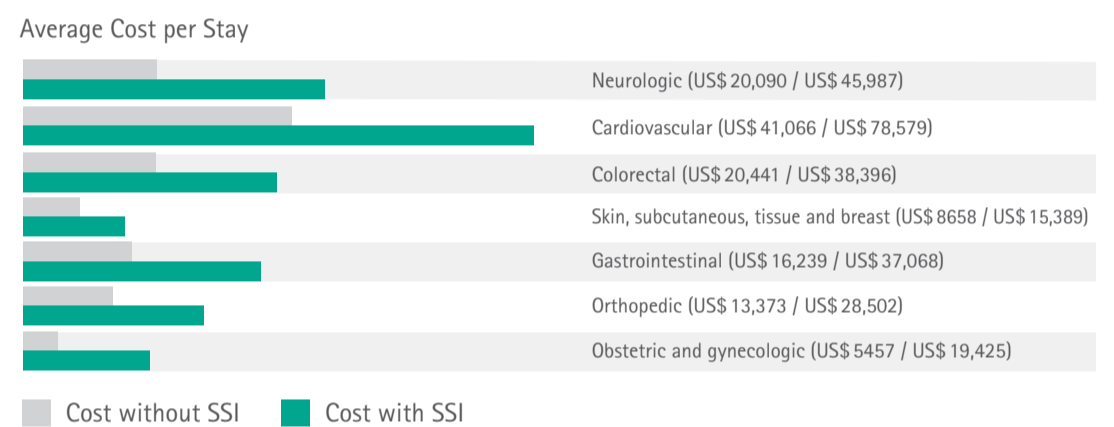


SSI increased mean LOS by 9.7 days.



## Additional costs per patient due to SSIs

### Cost impact of the hospital admission in a US sample<sup>2</sup>



SSI increased mean cost treatment by about US\$ 21,000.<sup>2,7</sup>



## SSI also adds costs in the healthcare setting in Latin America<sup>4</sup>

**Mexico**  
The Department of Epidemiology of Health (2014, 2015) reported<sup>8,9</sup>:



15%

incidents of SSI



25.5%

mortality



7-20.7

days of additional hospital stay



US\$ 6,000

more unit costs per episode

**Germany**  
In comparison, SSI surveillance data for Germany documented<sup>10</sup>:



1.8%

incidents of SSI



17.6%

mortality<sup>11</sup>



7-8

days of additional hospital stay



US\$ 3,859<sup>(mean)</sup>

more unit costs per episode  
(median: US\$ 40,559)<sup>12</sup>



Measures to reduce rates of preventable SSI and their associated adverse outcomes will improve the safety and quality of care while avoiding substantial costs.

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