

## Healthcare-Associated Infection Prevention Ambulatory Surgical Center Edition Newsletter Winter 2016

### NHSN Information

#### Healthcare Personnel Safety Component

Ambulatory surgical centers (ASC) that participate in the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Ambulatory Surgical Center Quality Reporting (ASCQR) program must report health care personnel (HCP) influenza vaccination summary data via the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) for the 2015-2016 influenza season (Oct. 1, 2015 through March 31, 2016). This module is designed to assist staff in health care facilities to monitor influenza vaccination percentages among HCP.

Facilities not yet enrolled in NHSN should follow the steps outlined in the [Enrollment information for Ambulatory Surgical Centers](#).

Detailed information, guidance and training for this reporting are available at: [NHSN ASC Surveillance for Healthcare Personnel Vaccination](#).

The [NHSN Manual for the Healthcare Personnel Safety Component Protocol](#) provides instructions on correctly determining both the numerators and denominators that are required to be entered on an annual basis. HCP who are physically present in the facility for at least one working day between Oct. 1, 2015 and March 31, 2016 are included in the denominator. [Methods and strategies used to collect health care personnel influenza vaccination data](#) are provided.

Frequently asked questions (FAQs) are provided to assist facilities with reporting HCP data to NHSN. These include:

- [CMS Reporting Requirements FAQs](#);
- [Denominator FAQs](#);
- [Numerator FAQs](#); and
- [General FAQs](#).

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### Non-tuberculous Mycobacterium (NTM) Infection Resources

#### CDC Health Advisory

The CDC issued a [Health Alert Network Advisory](#) on Sept. 11, 2015, alerting health care facilities of the need to properly maintain, clean, and disinfect or sterilize reusable medical devices and equipment. Health care facilities that utilize reusable medical devices were urged to immediately review their current reprocessing practices, policies and procedures to ensure manufacturer's instructions are being followed and that their policies and procedures are consistent with current standards and guidelines.

#### CDC Interim Practical Guidance – NTM Infections

The CDC issued a document titled [Non-tuberculous Mycobacterium \(NTM\) Infections and Heater-Cooler Devices Interim Practical Guidance: Updated October 27, 2015](#) to raise awareness of the possible association between NTM infections and the use of heater-cooler devices and to provide guidance on identifying patients with infection. Recommendations for health departments, health care facilities, health care providers and patients are also provided.

#### Patient Safety Communication – NTM Infections

The Pennsylvania Department of Health (PADOH) and Pennsylvania Patient Safety Authority (PSA) issued guidance through the Health Alert Network regarding [Non-Tuberculous Mycobacterium Infections Among Patients Undergoing Open Heart Surgeries on Cardiopulmonary Bypass](#). [Frequently Asked Questions](#) regarding this topic are also available.

#### NHSN Contact Information

For NHSN help, please send an email to: [nhsn@cdc.gov](mailto:nhsn@cdc.gov).

Include the facility five-digit NHSN assigned ID number with your question in the email subject.

CDC's NHSN website: [www.cdc.gov/nhsn](http://www.cdc.gov/nhsn)

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**Resources**

**Training Opportunities**

[APIC EPI Intensive](#)

March 14-18, 2016  
Pittsburgh, Pa.

[Infection Prevention for Ambulatory Surgical Centers \(ASC 101\)](#)

April 18-20, 2016  
San Diego, Calif.

[Infection Prevention for Ambulatory Surgical Centers \(ASC 102\)](#)

April 21-23, 2016  
San Diego, Calif.

[Education for the Prevention of Infection \(EPI®\) 101](#)

April 18-23, 2016  
San Diego, Calif.

[Education for the Prevention of Infection \(EPI®\) 102 \(formerly EPI 201\)](#)

April 18-23, 2016  
San Diego, Calif.

[SHEA Spring 2016: Science Guiding Prevention](#)

May 18-21, 2016  
Atlanta, Ga.

[APIC Annual Conference 2016](#)

June 11-13, 2016  
Charlotte, N.C.

[ID Week 2016](#)

October 26-30, 2016  
New Orleans, La.