



Technical Advisory: HAI-2015-001

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Department of Health guidance regarding the National Safety Healthcare Network (NHSN) transition to ICD-10-CM codes and the operative procedure category Pennsylvania other (PAOTH).

ICD-10-CM/PCS codes will replace ICD-9-CM codes on October 1, 2015.

Due to this change, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is updating ICD-10/CM/PCS and CPT mapping to all NHSN operative procedure categories for surgical site infection (SSI) surveillance.

Due to the amount of work involved in mapping the new codes to the NHSN operative procedure categories, the CDC will no longer include the category OTH/PAOTH. For reporting purposes, ICD-10-CM/PCS and CPT codes and the procedures in that group will not be considered a NHSN operative procedure. Infections associated with these types of procedures will no longer be considered SSIs for NHSN purposes.

In an effort to remain consistent with the CDC NHSN surveillance definitions and reporting requirements, the Department of Health will not require infections previously entered as OTH/PAOTH to be entered as SSIs in NHSN. However, should the infection meet another surveillance definition (Chapter 17 CDC NHSN Manual) such as a skin and soft tissue (SST) infection, the infection should be reported in this category.

Hospitals should continue to enter PAOTH until the field is no longer available in NHSN.

Questions regarding this advisory may be directed to the Healthcare-Associated Infection Prevention Section, Telephone (717) 425-5422.