

**Healthcare-Associated Infection Prevention  
Hospital Edition Newsletter  
December 2014**

**Department of Health (Department) Updates**

**Ebola Virus Disease Resources**

The most up-to-date guidance regarding screening, testing, treatment, isolation and other Ebola-related topics can be found on the [CDC Ebola website](#). Hospitals are strongly urged to monitor this site as well as the [Pennsylvania Department of Health Ebola website](#).

**Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Service (CMS)  
Survey and Certification Memorandum 15-12-Hospital**

CMS has finalized surveyor worksheets for assessing compliance with three Medicare hospital conditions of participation (CoPs): Quality Assessment and Performance Improvement (QAPI), Infection Control, and Discharge Planning. The worksheets are used by state and federal surveyors on all survey activity in hospitals when assessing compliance with any of these three CoPs. The worksheets and additional information are available on the [CMS website](#).

**Data Integrity and Verification (DIV) Reports**

The Healthcare Associated Infection Prevention (HAIP) section will continue to provide a comprehensive DIV report to hospital infection preventionists to ensure that the data documented in the National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) is complete and accurate. Please note the hospital administrator is no longer routinely receiving these reports. The administrator will only be copied in the event that there is a reporting issue with a particular hospital.



## Healthcare-Associated Infection Prevention Hospital Edition Newsletter December 2014

### NHSN Information

#### Multiple Changes in NHSN beginning Jan. 1, 2015

There will be a number of revisions and enhancements in NHSN beginning January 2015. Please be sure to review the NHSN newsletters for September and December 2014, as well as any emails from NHSN, to keep abreast of these changes. NHSN has also developed several short [training videos](#). Some of the changes include:

##### Surveillance definitions and criteria for:

- Bloodstream infections (BSI)
- Urinary tract infection (UTI)
- Ventilator-associated event (VAE) - possible and probable events will now become one event called PVAP.
- Pneumonia
- Surgical site infection (SSI) - present at the time of surgery (PATOS) is a new question on the SSI event form.
- MDRO and CDI LabID CMS reporting changes

##### General changes:

- NHSN infection window period (does not apply to SSI, VAE or LabID event surveillance)
- Date of event (does not apply to VAE or LabID event surveillance)
- Repeat infection timeframe (RIT) [does not apply to SSI, VAE or LabID event surveillance]
- Secondary bloodstream infection attribution period
- CDC/NHSN surveillance definitions for specific types of infections (Chapter 17).

#### NHSN Training Course for 2015

NHSN will provide a training course, “Applying 2015 Changes to Accurately Report HAI’s,” on Feb. 17 through 19, 2015, at the CDC Global Communications Center in Atlanta, Ga. This presentation will also be available through a live webinar.

Speakers will discuss topics including CMS reporting and definition and protocol clarification for catheter-associated urinary tract infections (CAUTI), central line-associated bloodstream infections (CLABSI), surgical site infections (SSI), ventilator-associated events (VAE), and laboratory-identified (LabID) event reporting for *Clostridium difficile* (CDI) and methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) bacteremia. In addition, the subject matter experts will provide interactive case studies for each infection/event type.

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**NHSN Information**

**Health Care Personnel Safety Component**

NHSN developed new training slide sets for [acute care facilities](#), [long-term acute care hospitals](#) and [inpatient rehabilitation facilities](#) reporting healthcare personnel influenza vaccination information for the 2014-2015 influenza season.

**Acute care hospital** inpatient and outpatient counts should be combined and submitted on a single influenza vaccination summary data form.

This includes inpatient and outpatient units/departments that share the same CMS certification number (CCN) as the hospital AND are affiliated with the specific acute care facility (such as sharing medical privileges or patients), regardless of distance from the acute care facility.

Facilities would not count HCP working in:

- Separate outpatient satellite physician clinics (unless they also physically work in inpatient or outpatient units of the acute care facility for at least one day between Oct. 1 through March 31);
- Patient care units within the acute care hospital having separate CCNs (unless they also physically work in inpatient or outpatient units of the acute care facility for at least one day between Oct. 1 through March 31); and
- Patient care units in NHSN having separate CMS CCNs include, but may not be limited to:
  - Inpatient rehabilitation facilities (IRF);
  - Inpatient psychiatric facilities (IPF);
  - Long term acute care facilities (LTAC/LTACH); and
  - Skilled nursing facilities (SNF).

The monthly reporting plan for acute care hospitals with IRF units should include both the influenza vaccination summary for the hospital, as well as a separate reporting plan for the IRF unit. Both boxes under the health care personnel vaccination module should be checked. →

**Add Monthly Reporting Plan**

No data found for January, 2015

Mandatory fields marked with \*

Facility ID\*:  ▼

Month\*:  ▼

Year\*:  ▼

No NHSN Healthcare Personnel Safety Modules Followed this Month

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**Healthcare Personnel Exposure Modules**

Blood/Body Fluid Exposure Only

Blood/Body Fluid Exposure with Exposure Management

Influenza Exposure Management

**Healthcare Personnel Vaccination Module**

Influenza Vaccination Summary for the Hospital

Influenza Vaccination Summary for Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility Unit(s)

## Healthcare-Associated Infection Prevention Hospital Edition Newsletter December 2014

### NHSN Information

#### Acute Care Hospital MDRO Reporting Change

Beginning Jan. 1, 2015, acute care facilities are required to exclude and indicate that inpatient locations that have a CCN that is different from the acute care facility (even if only different by a single letter in the third position) have been removed from monthly FacWideIN denominator counts (patient days and admissions) for FacWideIN LabID event reporting.

Locations that will now be excluded may include, but are not limited to, inpatient rehabilitation facilities (IRFs) or inpatient psychiatric facilities (IPFs). If there are other locations within your facility that have separate CCNs for which you need further guidance, please contact the NHSN helpdesk at [NHSN@cdc.gov](mailto:NHSN@cdc.gov).

The NHSN website, "[Surveillance for C. difficile, MRSA, and other Drug-resistant Infections](#)," for acute care hospitals has been updated to include new training, protocols, data collection forms and supporting materials. Detailed instructions on [how to set up facility-wide inpatient reporting per NHSN protocol for the CMS inpatient quality reporting program](#) are also provided.

#### LTACH and IRF MDRO Reporting Change per CMS

Beginning Jan. 1, 2015, **Long-Term Acute Care Hospitals (LTACH) and Inpatient Rehabilitation Facilities (IRF)** must report MRSA blood specimen and C. difficile LabID events using the facility-wide inpatient location continuously. Hospitals should include C. difficile and MRSA LabID event reporting in their monthly reporting plan, using the facility-wide inpatient (FacWideIN) location for the entire year.

Reminder: Surveillance for Neonatal Intensive Care Units (NICU), Well Baby Nurseries, Specialty Care Nurseries (SCN) and babies in labor, delivery, recovery and post-partum (LDRP) locations must be removed from denominator counts (admissions, patient-days) when conducting surveillance for C. difficile using facility-wide monitoring.

The NHSN LTACH website, "[Surveillance for C. difficile, MRSA, and other Drug-resistant Infections](#)," and IRF website "[Surveillance for C. difficile, MRSA, and other Drug-resistant Infections](#)," has been updated to include new training, protocols, data collection forms and supporting materials.

## Healthcare-Associated Infection Prevention Hospital Edition Newsletter December 2014

### NHSN Information

#### MDRO Reporting for Hospitals Not Covered by CMS Rules

**Critical access, children's and psychiatric hospitals** may elect to also report inpatient facility-wide continuous MRSA blood specimen and *C. difficile* LabID events or can continue to report data into the Multidrug-Resistant Organism and Clostridium difficile Infection (MDRO/CDI) Module as they have been for the last four years. Hospitals in this latter category may select either the infection surveillance or the LabID event protocols. Both are acceptable for critical access, children's and psychiatric hospitals. To follow the minimum required by either protocol, a hospital must select at least one pathogen in at least one location for monitoring, either via the infection surveillance or the LabID event requirements.

#### LabID Event and HAI Reporting

MRSA and *C. difficile* LabID event reporting is a different reporting pathway in NHSN, so healthcare-associated infections (HAIs) and LabID events must be reported separately. Each event must be reported individually if it meets the applicable criteria, one as an HAI event and another as a LabID event.

**Written patient notification is required only for those events that meet the HAI event criteria, not for the LabID event criteria.**

#### NHSN Annual Facility Survey

The 2014 annual survey will include new questions on infection control practices and antibiotic stewardship practices. These revisions will be made during the January 2015 update of NHSN. Please wait to complete the survey until after the January 2015 NHSN system update. Surveys completed prior to this will be deleted, and a new survey will need to be submitted after the update.

#### NHSN Contact Information

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

Remember to include the facility five-digit NHSN assigned ID number with your question.

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

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**Resources and Information**

**Training Opportunities**

[APIC Annual Conference 2015](#)

June 27 - 29, 2015  
Nashville, Tennessee

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

March 16 - 18, 2015  
Seattle, Washington  
September 21 - 23, 2015  
Austin, Texas

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

March 19 - 21, 2015  
Seattle, Washington  
September 24 - 26, 2015  
Austin, Texas

[SHEA Spring 2015: Science Guiding Prevention](#)

May 14 - 17, 2015  
Orlando, Florida

**Websites**

[www.health.pa.gov](http://www.health.pa.gov) - New link  
[www.oneandonlycampaign.org](http://www.oneandonlycampaign.org)  
[www.patientsafetyauthority.org](http://www.patientsafetyauthority.org)  
[www.phc4.org](http://www.phc4.org)  
[www.apic.org](http://www.apic.org)  
[www.shea-online.org](http://www.shea-online.org)