

## HEALTHCARE ASSOCIATED INFECTIONS PREVENTION PROGRAM

# In the Know

A Quarterly Newsletter for  
Infection Preventionists

## Meet the New Members of the HAI Team!

Two new personnel were hired in the Infectious Disease Epidemiology Section of LA Office of Public Health. We welcome Andrea Salinas and Julius Tonzel to the Healthcare-Associated Infections team. They are recent graduates from Tulane University's School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, with concentrations in Monitoring & Evaluation and Epidemiology, respectively. Andrea is originally from La Joya, TX and Julius is from Little Rock, AR. As they continue their training, NHSN users can expect to receive user support responses from them as we work to assist providers complying with CMS Inpatient Quality Reporting. They will also work with emerging infectious diseases, Antibiotic Stewardship, and other HAI surveillance activities.



Left to right: Andrea Salinas ([andrea.salinas@la.gov](mailto:andrea.salinas@la.gov)) and Julius Tonzel ([Julius.tonzel@la.gov](mailto:Julius.tonzel@la.gov))

### Inside This Issue

*New Members of the HAI Team*  
*2015 NHSN Trainings*  
Page 1

*Acadiana Health Coalition*  
Page 2

*Scenes from APIC 2015*  
Page 3

*Scenes from APIC 2015*  
Page 4

*Your NHSN Questions Answered*  
Page 5

*Your NHSN Questions Answered*  
*Learnlinc Webinars*  
Page 6

*NHSN Training Registration Form*  
Page 7

*NHSN Training Agenda*  
Page 8

## 2015 Statewide NHSN Workshops

The annual National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) training workshops will be given again this year, and will now include focus areas on emerging infectious diseases in addition to regular HAI prevention and surveillance content. The workshops will be carried out by the Infectious Disease Epidemiology Section and is targeted towards infection preventionists who are seeking to reduce HAI and prepare for emerging infectious disease threats that may present in their facility. The workshops will be held in three different cities in the state: Metairie (October 22), Shreveport (October 28), and Alexandria (October 29). Nursing continuing education credits have been requested for the workshops. The registration form is available on page 7 and the agenda is on page 8.

- **October 22, 2015** - East Bank Regional Library, 4747 West Napoleon Avenue, Metairie, LA 70001
- **October 28, 2015** – Willis-Knighton Bossier, 2400 Hospital Drive, Bossier City, LA 71111
- **October 29, 2015** – Region 6 Office of Public Health, Conference Room 5604-B Coliseum Boulevard, Alexandria, LA 71303

The HAI program allows Louisiana to create a collaborative effort to prevent healthcare associated infections. It includes development of a state plan for preventing healthcare associated infections, development of a monitoring system, and implementation of a prevention program. Visit [dhh.louisiana.gov/idepi](http://dhh.louisiana.gov/idepi) to access the Healthcare-Associated Infections Resource Center.



## ACADIANA HEALTH COALITION Lafayette, LA

The Acadiana Health Coalition is a community coalition of acute care hospitals (Our Lady of Lourdes Regional Medical Center, Heart Hospital of Lafayette, Lafayette General Health and Regional Medical Center of Acadiana) and sub-acute providers, all of whom are working collaboratively to facilitate improved transitions of care. The goal is to utilize best practices to achieve quality outcomes for the patients who are served within our community.

The Coalition focuses on improving quality care at all levels and reducing readmissions for our patient population. The Coalition meets monthly with each sub-acute task force (Nursing Home, LTAC, Home Health, Hospice and Assisted Living) to actively work on specific objectives and projects that can improve the care provided to our patients. Together, they work to resolve issues that may be potential barriers in the delivery of quality patient care. Each member of the Coalition maintains an open mind and is willing to listen to specific needs of the different levels of the continuum. Sharing of pertinent information also occurs. The “breaking down of walls” between the levels of providers has resulted in the institution of changes which will ultimately benefit our patient population.

The coalition has accomplished several objectives within the last year:

- The initial objective of enhanced communication between providers at all levels of care was met by adoption of the team’s recommendation. The hospitals’ Depart/Discharge Summaries were revised and standardized to meet the needs of the sub-acute levels of care. (Standardized hospital depart summaries ensure consistent dissemination of information to all sub-acute levels.)
- Second initiative—the standardization of the LaPOST order set.

A third objective, the standardization of Admission/Standing Nursing Home orders based on best practices, is in the implementation phase within the community and is soon to be met.

Education is another key area on which the Community Coalition focuses. The educational component has been based on requests and needs of the community. The coalition has provided four educational opportunities within the last year:

- AASI-Reimbursement
- LaPOST Facilitator Course
- Bundled payments
- Nutrition

All educational programs have been well-attended with approximately 200 attendees per session. The LaPOST facilitator course allowed members, including physicians from acute and sub-acute areas, to become certified in End of Life advanced care planning for patients/family members.

The Acadiana Health Coalition plans to prioritize Infection Prevention and Control in the upcoming year. The initial focus will be on improving quality care and standardization in the delivery of care to our patients. This will be accomplished through educational sessions and the distribution of standardized Infection Prevention related information for staff, patients and caregivers with a focus on isolation precautions, cleaning/prevention measures (CDC recommendations) and on standardized usage of supplies and products. Antibiotic Stewardship will also be addressed in collaboration with physicians from the acute and sub-acute levels.

TOGETHER we will make a difference!!!! For questions about the Coalition, contact [Myra.Foley@lourdesrmc.com](mailto:Myra.Foley@lourdesrmc.com).

*Acadiana Health Coalition  
Lafayette, La*

## Scenes from #APIC2015!

June 26-29, 2015

Nashville, TN



**Top Row from Left:** 1. Erica Washington (OPH) at the Tidi selfie booth

2. Cindy Barnes (Ochsner BR), Dr. William Rutala, Erica Washington, Tianna Randolph (West Jefferson), and an IP from Texas.

3. Erica Washington and Terrie Hymel (St. James Parish Hospital)

**Middle Row from Left:** 1. Erica Washington, Dana Bellafontaine (Lane RMC), Genie Woodring (SSCBR), and Connie DeLeo (BR General)

2. Tonya Romero (Opelousas General), Jennifer Feucht (Mercy RMC), Myra Foley (Lourdes), and Erica Washington

**Bottom Row from Left:** 1. Marilyn Smith (Central Louisiana Surgical Hospital)

2. Tianna Randolph, Sharon Berry (Ochsner Medical Center), Cindy Barnes (Ochsner Baton Rouge), and Erica Washington



## Scenes from #APIC2015!

June 26-29, 2015  
Nashville, TN



**Top Row from Left:** 1. Tianna Randolph (West Jefferson), Erica Washington, Katie Drago (PDI), Cindy Barnes (Ochsner BR), Sharon Berry (Ochsner Medical Center), and Lahra Boitnott (Kindred)

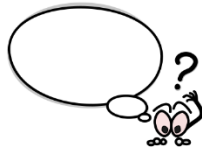
2. Tianna Randolph (West Jefferson)

**Middle Row from Left:** 1. Pam Vaccaro (North Oaks) and Erica Washington

2. Janice Augustine (Our Lady of the Angels) and Sharlene Dering (Slidell Memorial)

**Bottom Row from Left:** 1. Janice Augustine (Our Lady of the Angels), Sharlene Dering (Slidell Memorial), and Erica Washington

2. Marilyn Smith (Central Louisiana Surgical Hospital), Lahra Boitnott (Kindred), and Janice Augustine (Our Lady of the Angels)



## Your NHSN Questions Answered

Infection Preventionists who seek help identifying case determinations and NHSN user issues will be shared in this newsletter in a de-identified manner. See below for a user question that was submitted along with the answer and rationale. This answer was given by Erica Washington, HAI Prevention Coordinator. See if you can determine the answer before reviewing the rationale on page 6.

**Question:** Will you look at the attachment? It is a copy of a VAE calculator worksheet. Do you agree that this is not a VAE? From 4-22 through 4-26 there was a period of worsening that lasted more than two days. Just want to be sure I am not getting confused. I thought I would have had an event but the calculator says differently.

Ventilator-Associated Event Calculator Page 1 of 2

### Ventilator-Associated Event Calculator

Calculate VAC Start Over Explain...

No VAE detected. Click on the "Explain" button to see an explanation of the VAC definition.

MV Day	Date	Min. PEEP (cmH <sub>2</sub> O)	Min. FiO <sub>2</sub> (% 21-100)	VAE
1	4/8/2015	10	50	
2	4/9/2015	10	50	
3	4/10/2015	8	50	
4	4/11/2015	10	50	
5	4/12/2015	10	50	
6	4/13/2015	8	40	
7	4/14/2015	8	40	
8	4/15/2015	5	40	
9	4/16/2015	5	40	
10	4/17/2015	5	40	
11	4/18/2015	5	40	
12	4/19/2015	5	40	
13	4/20/2015	5	40	
14	4/21/2015	5	40	
15	4/22/2015	7	40	
16	4/23/2015	10	70	
17	4/24/2015	14	50	
18	4/25/2015	14	50	
19	4/26/2015	12	45	
20	4/27/2015	5	40	
21	4/28/2015			

[http://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/VAE-calculator/vae\\_cdcddev\\_V63.html](http://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/VAE-calculator/vae_cdcddev_V63.html) 4/28/2015

## Your NHSN Questions Answered

**Answer:** When analyzing this, we would need to make sure we identify the correct baselines. According to the VAE definitions, the baseline period of stability or improvement on the ventilator is defined as the 2 calendar days immediately preceding the first day of increased daily minimum PEEP or FIO<sub>2</sub>. 4/20-21 showed a true baseline, but the PEEP values did not increase by at least +3. There's a caveat in the manual that says that PEEP values between 0-5 are considered equivalent. When patients with daily minimum PEEP values in this range must have an increase to at least 8cm, sustained for at least 2 calendar days, to meet the VAC definition ([page 10-4](#)).

The two days preceding 4/23 did not show sustainability, nor on the respective two-days prior to 4/24 and 4/25. The period 4/24-25 is a period of sustainability because the values stayed constant, however they cannot be considered a baseline for 4/26 because the patient improved and required less ventilation on day 19 of mechanical ventilation.

MV Day	Date	PEEP	Δ Baseline Peep	FIO <sub>2</sub>	Δ Baseline FIO <sub>2</sub>	Notes
13	4-20	5		40		Baseline
14	4-21	5		40		Baseline
15	4-22	7*	(7-5) = +2	40	(40-40) = 0	Not Met, PEEP should increase by at least +3
16	4-23	10		70		
17	4-24	14		50		Stability
18	4-25	14		50		Stability
19	4-26	12		45		Not Met, decrease

\*For periods of stability where daily minimum PEEP values are ≤5, the corresponding period of worsening oxygenation must have a daily minimum PEEP value of 8 or greater.

## Learnlinc On-Demand HAI Training Webinars

*Learnlinc is a free, web-based tool that allows you to stream live and on-demand presentations from Infectious Disease Epidemiology Section. There are numerous HAI presentations saved in the application. Register for a Learnlinc username and password by emailing [Rosemarie.Robertson@LA.gov](mailto:Rosemarie.Robertson@LA.gov).*

- CAUT & CDI
- Conferring Rights
- Missing Data and Alerts
- Analysis and the Standardized Infection Ratio
- Data Entry, Import and Customization
- Surgical Site Infections
- Case Studies Workshop
- Understanding the Standardized Infection Ratio
- Ventilator-Associated Events
- CMS Rules
- Quality is Key
- NHSN Update
- CRE
- NHSN 2015 Update
- NHSN Onboarding for ASC

NHSN AND EMERGING INFECTIOUS DISEASES WORKSHOP

**REGISTRATION FORM**

**Which location** will you be attending?

**Metairie** \_\_\_\_\_10/22/15

**Bossier City** \_\_\_\_\_10/28/15

**Alexandria** \_\_\_\_\_10/29/15

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Position \_\_\_\_\_

Work Site \_\_\_\_\_

Work Address \_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_  
Street City State Zip Code

\*Email \_\_\_\_\_ Parish/County \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_ FAX \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Do you need Education Credits? Nurse \_\_\_Yes

Please email this registration form to [erica.washington@la.gov](mailto:erica.washington@la.gov) or fax to (504)568-8290 no later than October 15, 2015 for the Metairie location, October 21, 2015 for the Bossier City and Alexandria locations.

The addresses for each of the three follows:

- **Metairie** – East Jefferson Library East Jefferson Library Conference Room, 4200 Houma Boulevard, Metairie, LA
- **Bossier City** – Willis-Knighton Bossier Hospital Conference Room, 2400 Hospital Drive, Bossier City, LA
- **Alexandria** – Region 6 Office of Public Health Conference Room, 5604-B Coliseum Boulevard, Alexandria, LA

For more information, please call (504) 568-8319, email to [erica.washington@la.gov](mailto:erica.washington@la.gov), or check the webpage <http://new.dhh.louisiana.gov/index.cfm/page/2226>.

**Note:** Additional information will be emailed to registrants closer to each event.

*This activity has been submitted to South Central Accreditation Program for approval to award contact hours. South Central Accreditation Program is accredited as an approver of continuing nursing education by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation.*

## NHSN/Emerging Infectious Diseases Training Workshop Agenda

<b>Time</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Presenter</b>
8:15 – 8:30 a.m.	Registration	
8:30 – 9:00 a.m.	Outbreak Investigations	Erin Delaune/Raychel Hebron
9:00 – 9:45 a.m.	Injection Safety	Erica Washington
9:45 – 10:00 a.m.	Break	
10:00 – 10:30 a.m.	Antibiotic Stewardship	Erica Washington
10:30 – 11:00 a.m.	Emerging Infectious Diseases	Julie Hand
11:00 – 12:15 p.m.	NHSN Definitions Review	Erica Washington
12:15 – 1:30 p.m.	Lunch	
1:30 – 3:00 p.m.	NHSN Case Studies	Julius Tonzel/Erica Washington
3:00 – 4:00 p.m.	NHSN Analysis	Erica Washington
4:00 – 4:15 p.m.	Evaluations	