

## HEALTHCARE ASSOCIATED INFECTIONS INITIATIVE

# In the Know

A Quarterly Newsletter for  
Infection Preventionists

## Ensure NHSN Reporting Continuity at Your Facility

The most frequently-asked question received at Infectious Disease Epidemiology with regard to National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) reporting is from infection preventionists who are new to positions that inherit reporting responsibilities but were not added to NHSN before their predecessors left. To prevent deadline scrambles, follow these helpful tips to assist in your reporting continuity:

- Before an infection preventionist leaves the facility, ensure that the role of “Facility Administrator” is transferred to another active NHSN user
- NHSN Facility Administrator should add at least one other NHSN user with “administrative rights”

If the aforementioned steps are not completed, a “C” level executive at your healthcare facility must formally request in writing and sign on hospital letterhead that there is a change in the facility administrator role. The letter should include the name of the new NHSN Administrator to be assigned, phone number, and email address, as well as the 5-digit NHSN Facility ID, if known. This letter should be faxed to the NHSN office at (404) 929-0131.

Another issue that occasionally affects NHSN reporters is the matter of expired digital certificates. Remember that your digital certificates expire after 12 months. One month prior to expiration, NHSN will send an automated email specifying that another certificate must be downloaded. Take the steps to renew your digital certificates immediately when you receive this message and save a backup copy of the certificates to a thumb drive. If your download link expires after the 30-day period, you must email [nhsn@cdc.gov](mailto:nhsn@cdc.gov) to receive another download link.

### LearnInlc On-Demand HAI Training Webinars

- 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

## From the NHSN Help Desk

*The following inquiry and response was forwarded by Leslie Kelt, Infection Preventionist at St. Tammany Parish Hospital. Many thanks to Leslie for sharing this exchange. If you have helpful information from the NHSN help desk, please forward to [Erica.Washington@la.gov](mailto:Erica.Washington@la.gov) to share with other infection prevention colleagues.*

February 21, 2013  
To: NHSN (CDC)  
Subject: C diff Lab ID

Q: For LabID for C. diff, if the patient had an overnight stay in an Observation Unit in our facility within 3 months of C. diff admit and was not classified as an inpatient, does this qualify as a discharge in the last 3 months?

A: This question is specific to inpatient admissions only. In other words, the patient must spend time in an inpatient location to be considered an inpatient stay. Outpatient visits (even overnight) are excluded.



Learn more about this free service,  
training, and enrollment at  
[www.cdc.gov/nhsn](http://www.cdc.gov/nhsn)

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.

Acute Care Hospitals

Acute Care Hospitals are required to report CLABSI (adult, pediatric, and neonatal ICUs) since January 2011, CAUTI (adult and pediatric ICUs) since January 2012, SSI (colon and abdominal hysterectomy) since January 2012, MRSA Bacteremia and *Clostridium difficile* LabID Events since January 2013, and Healthcare Worker Influenza Vaccinations for the 2012-2013 Flu Season.

<b>Patient Safety Component Monthly Reporting Plan</b>	
Do you have Monthly Reporting Plans (MRP) on file for Jan/Feb/Mar 2013?	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Device-Associated Module</i>	
Are each of your adult and pediatric intensive care units (ICU) added?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are each of your neonatal intensive care units (NICU) added?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are CAUTI and CLABSI checked for each of your adult and pediatric ICU locations?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is CLABSI checked for each of your (NICU) locations?	<input type="checkbox"/>
If you do not have ICU locations, have you completed the Quality Net waiver form?	<input type="checkbox"/>
*Waiver available at <a href="http://bit.ly/17tWY7C">http://bit.ly/17tWY7C</a>	
<i>Procedure-Associated Module</i>	
Is HYST selected for inpatient procedures?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is COLO selected for inpatient procedures?	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Multi-Drug Resistant Organism Module</i>	
Is "MRSA LabID Event Blood Specimens Only" selected for FACWIDEIN-FacWideIN locations?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is "CDIF LabID Event All Specimens" selected for FACWIDEIN-FacWideIN locations?	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>Infection Event Data</b>	
Have you entered infection information under Event? → Add for any of the measures you are tracking in your MRP.	<input type="checkbox"/>
If no infections have arisen, have you reviewed the Alerts portion of NHSN to "Report No Events"?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Alerts is the first menu option on the blue Navigation Bar	

<b>Other Information</b>	
Have you ensured all of your inpatient locations are entered into NHSN and the correct bed size information is documented?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Facility → Locations; ensure that each location is "active"	

Acute Care Hospitals

Acute Care Hospitals are required to report CLABSI (adult, pediatric, and neonatal ICUs) since January 2011, CAUTI (adult and pediatric ICUs) since January 2012, SSI (colon and abdominal hysterectomy) since January 2012, MRSA Bacteremia and *Clostridium difficile* LabID Events since January 2013, and Healthcare Worker Influenza Vaccinations for the 2012-2013 Flu Season.

<b>Patient Safety Component Summary Data</b>	
<i>Device Associated - Intensive Care Unit/ Other Locations</i>	
Are total patient days populated for each location and for each month of 2013Q1?	<input type="checkbox"/>
*Are central line days populated for each location and for each month of 2013Q1?	<input type="checkbox"/>
*Are catheter days populated for each location and for each month of 2013Q1?	<input type="checkbox"/>
*Reporting contingent upon Waiver Submission to Quality Net.	
If you have no events (infections) to report, is "Report No Events" checked for each measure for the respective months?	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>MDRO and CDI prevention Process and Outcome Measures Monthly Monitoring</i>	
For each month of 2013Q1, is FACWIDEIN selected for the "Location Code"?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are total patient days and total admissions populated?	<input type="checkbox"/>
For LabID Event (all specimens), is C. difficile checked?	<input type="checkbox"/>
For LabID Event (blood specimens only), is MRSA checked?	<input type="checkbox"/>
If you have no infections to report, is "Report No Events" checked next to the respective measure?	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Procedure Summary Data</i>	
Have you completed "Denominator for Procedure" forms for each surgical procedure completed at your facility?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Denominators for surgeries are entered in Procedure → Add	

<b>Healthcare Personnel Safety Component Monthly Reporting Plan</b>	
Do you have Monthly Reporting Plans (MRP) on file for Jan/Feb/Mar 2013?	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Healthcare Personnel Vaccination Module</i>	
Is "Influenza Vaccination Summary" selected?	<input type="checkbox"/>

Long Term Acute Care Hospitals (LTAC)

LTACs are required to report CLABSI (all inpatient locations) since October 2012 and CAUTI (all inpatient locations) since October 2012.

<b>Patient Safety Component Monthly Reporting Plan</b>	
Do you have Monthly Reporting Plans (MRP) on file for Jan/Feb/Mar 2013?	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Device-Associated Module</i>	
Are each of your inpatient locations added?	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>Infection Event Data</b>	
Have you entered infection information under Event? → Add for any of the measures you are tracking in your MRP.	<input type="checkbox"/>
If no infections have arisen, have you reviewed the Alerts portion of NHSN to "Report No Events"?	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Alerts is the first menu option on the blue Navigation Bar</i>	

<b>Patient Safety Component Summary Data</b>	
<i>Device Associated - Intensive Care Unit/ Other Locations</i>	
Are total patient days populated for each location and for each month of 2013Q1?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are central line days populated for each location and for each month of 2013Q1?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are catheter days populated for each location and for each month of 2013Q1?	<input type="checkbox"/>
If you have no events (infections) to report, is "Report No Events" checked for each measure for the respective months?	<input type="checkbox"/>
If you have no infections to report, is "Report No Events" checked next to the respective measure?	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>Other Information</b>	
Have you ensured all of your inpatient locations are entered into NHSN and the correct bed size information is documented?	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Facility → Locations; ensure that each location is "active"</i>	

**Inpatient Rehabilitation Facilities (IRF)**

IRF are required to report CAUTI (all inpatient locations) since October 2012.

<b>Patient Safety Component Monthly Reporting Plan</b>	
Do you have Monthly Reporting Plans (MRP) on file for Jan/Feb/Mar 2013?	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Device-Associated Module</i>	
Are each of your inpatient locations added?	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>Infection Event Data</b>	
Have you entered infection information under Event? → Add for any of the measures you are tracking in your MRP.	<input type="checkbox"/>
If no infections have arisen, have you reviewed the Alerts portion of NHSN to "Report No Events"?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Alerts is the first menu option on the blue Navigation Bar	

<b>Patient Safety Component Summary Data</b>	
<i>Device Associated - Intensive Care Unit/ Other Locations</i>	
Are total patient days populated for each location and for each month of 2013Q1?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are cathether days populated for each location and for each month of 2013Q1?	<input type="checkbox"/>
If you have no events (infections) to report, is "Report No Events" checked for each measure for the respective months?	<input type="checkbox"/>
If you have no infections to report, is "Report No Events" checked next to the respective measure?	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>Other Information</b>	
Have you ensured all of your inpatient locations are entered into NHSN and the correct bed size information is documented?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Facility → Locations; ensure that each location is "active"	