

**SURGICAL SITE INFECTION (SSI)  
 SUPERFICIAL INCISIONAL SSI (SIP/SIS)**

(NHSN SSI protocol <http://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/PDFs/pscManual/9pscSSIcurrent.pdf?agree=yes&next=Accept>)

<b>Patient Name</b>		<b>Medical Records No.</b>	
<b>Date of Procedure</b>	<b>Date of Review</b>	<b>Date of Event</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Infection occurs within 30 days after any NHSN operative procedure (where day 1 = the procedure date)			
<b>AND</b>			
<input type="checkbox"/> Involves only the skin and subcutaneous tissue of the incision			
<b>AND</b>			
Patient has at least <b>one</b> of the following: <input type="checkbox"/> Purulent drainage from the superficial incision <input type="checkbox"/> Organisms isolated from an aseptically-obtained specimen from the superficial incision or subcutaneous tissue by a culture or non-culture based microbiologic testing method which is performed for purposes of clinical diagnosis or treatment (e.g., not Active Surveillance Culture/Testing [ASC/AST]) <input type="checkbox"/> Superficial incision that is deliberately opened by a surgeon, attending physician*, or other designee and culture or non-culture based testing is <u>not</u> performed (a negative test does not meet this criterion) <b>AND</b> patient has at least <b>one</b> of the following signs or symptoms: <input type="checkbox"/> Pain or tenderness <input type="checkbox"/> Localized swelling <input type="checkbox"/> Erythema <input type="checkbox"/> Heat Diagnosis of a superficial incisional SSI by the surgeon or attending physician* or other designee			
*The term attending physician for the purposes of application of the NHSN SSI criteria may be interpreted to mean the surgeon(s), infectious disease, other physician on the case, emergency physician, or physician's designee (nurse practitioner or physician's assistant).			
<b>Note</b>			
There are two specific types of superficial incisional SSIs: 1. Superficial Incisional Primary (SIP) – a superficial incisional SSI that is identified in the primary incision in a patient that has had an operation with one or more incisions (e.g., C-section incision or chest incision for CBGB) 2. Superficial Incisional Secondary (SIS) – a superficial incisional SSI that is identified in the secondary incision in a patient that has had an operation with more than one incision (e.g., donor site [leg] incision for CBGB)			
<b>Reporting instructions</b>			
The following do not qualify as criteria for meeting the NHSN definition of superficial SSI: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Diagnosis/treatment of cellulitis (redness/warmth/swelling), by itself, does not meet criterion d for superficial incisional SSI. An incision that is draining or has organisms identified by culture or non-culture based testing is not considered a cellulitis.</li> <li>• A stitch abscess alone (minimal inflammation and discharge confined to the points of suture penetration).</li> <li>• A localized stab wound or pin site infection. While it would be considered either a skin (SKIN) or soft tissue (ST) infection, depending on its depth, it is not reportable under this module. Note: A laparoscopic trocar site for an NHSN operative procedure is not considered a stab wound.</li> <li>• Circumcision is not an NHSN operative procedure. An infected circumcision site in newborns is classified as CIRC and is not reportable under this module.</li> <li>• An infected burn wound is classified as BURN and is not reportable under this module.</li> </ul>			