

Infection Preventionist Lunch and Learn

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WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT
of HEALTH SERVICES

Series Objectives

- Encourage learning, growth, and networking
- Provide non-regulatory education and information
- Discuss topics relevant to new infection preventionists (IPs)



National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) Overview and Updates

Nancy Eberle, MPH,
Surveillance Coordinator

Why Health Care Facilities Utilize NHSN

- Provides standardized definitions and criteria
- Guides internal surveillance for healthcare-associated infections (HAIs)
- Fulfills Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) or other federal or state reporting requirements

Health Care Facility Types That Utilize NHSN



- Acute care facilities
- Skilled nursing facilities
- Ambulatory surgery centers
- Outpatient dialysis facilities

Reporting Requirements



CMS-Required Measures for Acute Care Hospitals

Catheter-associated urinary tract infections (CAUTI)

Surgical site infections after colon surgery (COLO)

C. difficile infections (CDI)

Central line-associated bloodstream infections (CLABSI)

Surgical site infections after abdominal hysterectomy (HYST)

Methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) bacteremia

CMS-Required Measures for Acute Care Hospitals

Health care
personnel (HCP)
COVID-19
vaccination rates

Annual HCP
influenza
vaccination rates

Antimicrobial use
and resistance
(AUR) data



New in 2024, and
also required for
critical access
hospitals

Upcoming Required Measures for Acute Care Hospitals

Included in CMS final rule issued August 1, 2024:

**Patient safety
“structural measure”**

Start date: CY 2025
reporting

**Oncology-specific
CAUTI and CLABSI
measures**

Start date: CY 2026
reporting

Upcoming Requirement per CMS Conditions of Participation

Hospital respiratory illness reporting

Start date:
November 1, 2024

- COVID-19, RSV, and influenza hospitalizations and overall bed capacity
- Applies to:
 - Acute care hospitals
 - Critical access hospitals
 - Long-term acute care hospitals
 - Children's hospitals
 - Inpatient rehabilitation facilities
 - Inpatient psychiatric facilities

Current CMS-Required Measures for Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNFs)

COVID-19
“pathway” data

Resident and
HCP COVID-19
vaccination rates

Annual HCP
influenza
vaccination rates

- Required via a COVID-era CMS rule
- Currently reported weekly

- Part of CMS SNF Quality Reporting Program
- Reporting continues long-term

Likely Reporting Requirements for SNFs as of January 1, 2025

Resident respiratory illness and
vaccination status
(Per proposed CMS
CY 2025 rule)



Weekly reporting on **resident**:

- COVID-19
- RSV
- Influenza

HCP vaccination status
(Per CMS SNF QRP)



Reporting on **HCP vaccination
status**:

- COVID-19 (at least monthly)
- Influenza (annually)

Navigating NHSN



Acute Care Facility HAI Surveillance



Underlying
surveillance
concepts



Protocols
and
infection
criteria



NHSN FAQ

NHSN training and technical assistance

Acute Care Facility HAI Surveillance

- Present on admission (POA) vs. HAI timeframe
- Infection window period (IWP)
- Date of event (DOE)
- Repeat infection timeframe

Hospital Day		Criteria Elements
POA	-2	
	-1	
	1 Admitted	
	2	
HAI	3	
	4	DOE → Urine culture: $\geq 10^5$ CFU/ml <i>E. coli</i>
	5	Fever 101.5°
	6	
	7	Dysuria
	8	
	9 Discharged	

IWP

Nursing Home COVID-19 Reporting



Facility
colleagues



Data entry
forms and
tables of
instructions



NHSN FAQ
and guides

NHSN training and technical assistance

www.cdc.gov/nhsn



COVID-19 Modules and Dashboards

COVID-19 reporting and vaccination resources for all healthcare facilities.



Long-term Care Facilities



[LTCF COVID-19 Module](#)



[State Veterans Homes COVID-19 Tool](#)



[Weekly HCP & Resident COVID-19
Vaccination](#)



[Nursing Home Covid-19 Data Dashboard](#)



[Nursing Home COVID-19 Vaccination Data
Dashboard](#)

COVID-19
pathway
reporting



Resident and
HCP COVID-19
vaccination
reporting



Final Points for New NHSN Users

- Each user must register and obtain their own access.
- Be sure you understand definitions and criteria before you start reporting.
- Remember that surveillance criteria \neq clinical criteria.
- Don't hesitate to reach out for help!

Resources for New NHSN Users

NHSN

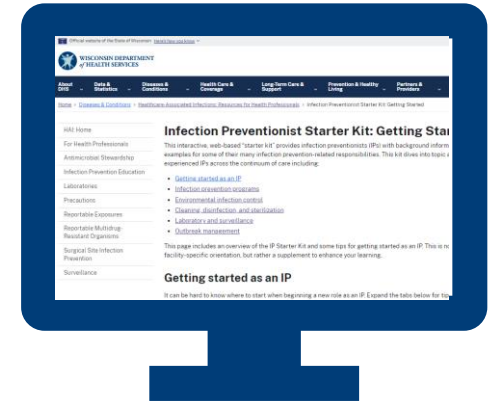
- Protocols, tables of instructions, guides
- Recorded trainings and materials
- Help desk and ServiceNow portal

HAI Prevention Program

- Monthly NHSN users calls
- Monthly email bulletins
- One-on-one technical assistance via phone, email, or videocall

IP Starter Kit

- Interactive, web-based [resource](#)
- Background information, resources, and templates
- Covers topics applicable to IPs across care settings



Send your questions and topic suggestions.

Submit your ideas to Ashley O'Keefe at ashley.okeefe@dhs.wisconsin.gov.



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