

Data Field Definitions for Any Patient Criteria for Nosocomial Pneumonia

Facility ID #: The five-digit number assigned to your hospital by the National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN).

Event #: The unique identification number assigned to an event by the NHSN.

Event Date: The date when the first clinical evidence of the nosocomial pneumonia appeared or the date the specimen used to make or confirm the diagnosis was collected, whichever comes first. Use the format MM/DD/YYYY.

SECTIONS

X-RAY:

In the patient who ***has underlying pulmonary disease*** such as respiratory distress syndrome, bronchopulmonary dysplasia, pulmonary edema, or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, at least **two or more positive serial chest x-rays** are required and the patient must exhibit **one** or more of the listed symptoms [new or progressive and persistent infiltrate, consolidation, cavitation, or pneumatoceles (in patients < 1 year)]. Check the tick box of the symptom(s) and proceed to the Signs and Symptoms section of the Flow Diagram.

In the patient who has ***no underlying pulmonary disease*** (see above), only **one positive chest x-ray** and **one** of the listed symptoms is sufficient to proceed to the Signs and Symptoms section. Check the tick box of the symptom(s) and proceed to the Signs and Symptoms section of the Flow Diagram.

SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS:

Immunocompromised patient¹: If the patient is immunocompromised and exhibits at least **one** of the signs or symptoms listed, check the appropriate tick boxes and proceed to the Laboratory section.

Non-immunocompromised patient: If the patient is not immunocompromised¹ and exhibits at least **one** of the signs or symptoms listed in the top box (i.e., fever (> 38° C or 100.4°F) with no other recognized cause, leukopenia (< 4000 WBC/mm³) or leukocytosis (\geq 12,000 WBC/mm³), and/or for patients > 70 years of age only, altered mental status with no other recognized cause), check the appropriate tick box(es) and proceed to the next set of signs and symptoms boxes.

- a. If the non-immunocompromised patient meets at least **two** of the signs and symptoms criteria, check the appropriate tick boxes. Then proceed to the bottom of the Flow Diagram and check the tick box to indicate that this pneumonia meets the criteria for specific site PNU1.

- b. If the non-immunocompromised patient has at least **one** of the signs and symptoms listed, check the appropriate tick boxes and proceed to the Laboratory section.

LABORATORY:

Immunocompromised patient¹: If the patient is immunocompromised, check the results listed in any of the three Laboratory section boxes corresponding to the patient's positive laboratory tests. Then proceed to the bottom of the Flow Diagram and check the tick boxes indicating that this pneumonia meets the criteria for specific sites PNEU2 and/or PNU3.

Non-immunocompromised patient: If the patient is not immunocompromised, check the results listed in either the left or center boxes of the Laboratory section corresponding to the patient's positive laboratory tests. Then proceed to the bottom of the Flow Diagram and check the tick boxes indicating that this pneumonia meets one or both of the sets of criteria for specific site PNU2.

¹ Immunocompromised patients include those with neutropenia (absolute neutrophil count < 500/mm³), leukemia, lymphoma, HIV with CD4 count < 200, or splenectomy; those who are in their transplant hospital stay; and those who are on cytotoxic chemotherapy, high dose steroids or other immunosuppressives daily for >2 weeks (e.g., > 40 mg of prednisone or its equivalent [> 160 mg hydrocortisone, > 32 mg methylprednisolone, > 6 mg dexamethasone, > 200 mg cortisone]).