

Dear NHSN User,

We wanted to inform you of some important updates to the current NHSN protocol, as well as an update to upcoming changes to SSI data collection.

Upcoming Changes to Denominator for Procedure and SSI forms - January 2012:

Although we had announced plans to make significant changes to the NHSN Denominator for Procedure form (57.121) effective in January 2012, those changes have been delayed. Instead the only changes that will be made at that time are as follows: 1) removal of the "Non-autologous Transplant" field and 2) removal of the "Estimated Blood Loss" field for C-Section. The SSI form (57.120) will have one change; the "Readmission" choice for the "Detected" field will be split into 2 choices: "Readmission to facility where procedure was performed" and "Readmission to facility other than where procedure was performed". Also, both forms will have the optional field "Medicare #" added to the patient demographic section. These changes will have minimal impact on the import file layout specifications (either csv or CDA) in that, while a placeholder will be required, any values imported in these columns will be ignored.

Recent Updates to the NHSN Patient Safety Component Manual:

We have updated the Surgical Site Infection Event protocol (Chapter 9) of the NHSN Patient Safety Manual. This document corrects errors in the following sections of Table 1 - NHSN Operative Procedure Category Mappings to ICD-9-CM Codes: BRST (85.55), CARD (37.12), CRAN (01.20), FX (addition of words "with or without" to description), and THOR (53.80). Furthermore, it changes of the name of the American Institute of Architects to the Facilities Guidelines Institute, and adds guidance to the definition of implant found on page 9-6. Finally, the category HEP was added to Table 2 Specific Sites of an Organ/Space SSI on pages 9-9 and 9-10. To review or print the chapter, please visit <http://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/PDFs/pscManual/9pscSSICurrent.pdf>.

Also, we have updated the Catheter-Associated Urinary Tract Infection Event protocol (Chapter 7) of the NHSN Patient Safety Manual. This updated chapter merely corrects page numbering issues as well as includes the following omitted phrase to Figure 3 - Identification and Categorization of SUTI Without Indwelling Catheter at Time of or Within 48 Hours Prior to Specimen Collection, found on page 7-10: "in a patient that is less than or equal to 65 years of age". To review or print the chapter, please visit <http://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/PDFs/pscManual/7pscCAUTICurrent.pdf>.

As always, if you have any questions, please contact nhsn@cdc.gov.

Thank you,
The NHSN Team

