



**NHSN**  
National Healthcare  
Safety Network

# E-News

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## NHSN Links

*NHSN Website*

*NHSN Manual: Patient Safety  
Component Protocols*

*DHQP Website*

## Contact Us

NHSN@cdc.gov

# NHSN Member Meetings

NHSN members and others who are interested in NHSN will have opportunities to meet with NHSN staff at both the SHEA Annual Scientific meeting in Orlando and the APIC International Educational Conference in Denver. See below for meeting times and locations:

SHEA – Monday, April 7, 2008  
Sapphire Room, Buena Vista Palace Hotel  
12:30 – 1:30 PM

APIC – Tuesday, June 17, 2008  
Colorado Convention Center Room 605-607  
5:15 – 6:15 PM

## NHSN Publications

The following papers have either been published or have been accepted for publication.

- Klevens RM, Edwards JR, Andrus ML, Peterson KD, Dudeck MA, Horan TC, and the NHSN Participants in Outpatient Dialysis Surveillance, Dialysis surveillance report: National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) – Data summary for 2006. *Seminars in Dialysis*, 2008;21(1):24-28
- Edwards JR, Pollock DA, Kupronis BA, LI W, Tolson JS, Peterson KD, Mincey RB, Horan TC, Making use of electronic data: The National Healthcare Safety Network eSurveillance initiative. *Am J Infect Control*, 2008;36(3)Supl 1: S21-S26.
- Horan TC, Andrus ML, Dudeck MA, CDC/NHSN surveillance definition of healthcare-associated infection (HAI) and criteria for specific types of infections in the acute care setting (*Amer J Infect Control*, accepted for publication in June 2008 issue)

## Monthly Data Reporting Requirement

Please remember that your agreement with NHSN is that you will submit your data to us within 30 days following the end of the reporting month. This means that if you indicate in your Monthly Reporting Plan that you will submit CLABSI data in your MSICU for March, we will expect to see *at least* Summary Data (Patient Days and Central Line Days) for your MSICU entered into NHSN by the end of April.

Your state may require that you report your data *quarterly*, but you still must enter the data into NHSN Monthly.

## Setting the “Date Variable” option in Analysis

In the **Analysis Output Options** screens in NHSN, when you choose to modify the **Date Variable** (time period for your output), you can use the table below to determine the correct format for each Date Variable type.

Output desired	Date Variable	Beginning	Ending
Quarterly (one qtr only)	evntDateYQ	2007Q1	2007Q1
Quarterly (3 consecutive qtrs)	evntDateYQ	2007Q1	2007Q3
6 month rates (one period only)	evntDateYH	2007H1	2007H1
6 month rates (3 consecutive)	evntDateYH	2007H1	2008H1
Yearly rate (one year)	evntDateYr	2007	2007
Yearly rate (2 years)	evntDateYr	2007	2008
Monthly rate (1 month)	evntDateYM	01/2008	01/2008

## Protocol Pointers

### Date of Admission for SSI's

When completing the Event record for a Surgical Site Infection (SSI), the date of admission should be the date that the patient was admitted when the operative procedure was performed. It is *not* the date of readmission – even if the SSI was identified at the time of readmission. If you try to put in the readmission date, you'll get an error message.



### Death/Contributed to Event

On the event forms and screens, this means that the patient died during this admission and the event is assessed by surveillance personnel as having contributed to the death. That is, the event either directly caused death or exacerbated an existing disease condition which then led to death.

### Definitions to Include when Reporting to NHSN

As a point of clarification, when you include an Event in your Monthly Reporting Plan, you must include patients identified using *all* the definitions for that Event as outlined in the *NHSN Manual: Patient Safety Component Protocol*. This means:

- For reporting CLABSIs *in the NICU*, you must report all BSIs identified using both LCBI and CSEP.
- For reporting VAPs, you should include PNU1, PNU2 and PNU3 infections.
- For CAUTIs, you should include infections identified using SUTI and ASB
- For SSIs, you should include superficial incisional SSIs (SIP and SIS), deep incisional SSIs (DIP and DIS) and Organ/space SSIs.

### NHSN Statistics – March 31, 2008

Facilities reporting in NHSN	~1350
Users in NHSN	3793
Monthly Reporting Plans	17,814
Patients entered	555,962
Summary Data Records	34,138
Events	
BSI	21,660
PNEU	11,052
SSI	20,064
UTI	19,989
DE	11,343
Procedures	538,797
Facilities importing OR records	152
Output (Rates, graphs, etc.) generated	89,425