



FAQ: Analysis Guide for Those Tracking *C. difficile* in the NHSN MDRO/CDAD Module but are Out-of-Plan or Using Custom Events

When facilities choose not to file a Monthly Reporting Plan that includes *C. difficile* under the MDRO/CDAD Module, but want to enter *C. difficile* events, these events are considered Out-of-Plan. Such events may be CDC-defined events (GI-GIT or GI-GE) that include *C. difficile* as one of the three reported pathogens (code=CD), or a custom event that is named such that entering pathogen data is not necessary (e.g., CDIFF-*C. difficile* Infection). To obtain output that includes these events, you'll need to use the advanced analysis features of NHSN. You will need to follow these same steps whether running a Line Listing, Frequency Table, Bar/Pie Chart, or Rate Table for these data.

In NHSN, go to: Analysis – Output Options – Advanced – Event Level Data – CDC Defined Output – Line Listing All Events – Modify. If you have entered a pathogen for each of your events, go to “Specify Other Selection Criteria” and set pathogen1=CD or pathogen2=CD or pathogen3=CD (according to the screen shot below) and you will obtain a line list of all events with CD as the pathogen.

Specify Other Selection Criteria:

[Show Criteria](#) [Column +](#) [Row +](#) [Clear Criteria](#)

pathogen1	pathogen2	pathogen3		
= CD				
	= CD			
		= CD		

If you have not entered a pathogen for each of your events, because you are using a facility-defined custom event that doesn't include pathogens, go to “Specify Other Selection Criteria” and set customEventType equal to the name you have given the *C. difficile* event (e.g., CDIFF) (refer to screen shot below) and you will obtain a line list of all your *C. difficile* custom event entries, as long as your named customEventType is used only to report *C. difficile*.



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Specify Other Selection Criteria:

[Show Criteria](#) [Column +](#) [Row +](#) [Clear Criteria](#)

customEventType				
= CDIFF				

You will notice that the generic “CUSPS” code will be displayed in the output rather than the actual code (e.g., CDIFF), so you may choose to export your output to a file so you can edit it.

If you have any questions about these instructions, please contact NHSN at nhsn@cdc.gov.