Dear NHSN Users,

The attached guide has been created to assist with scenarios that involve the reporting of Big 4 infections (BSI, UTI, PNEU, SSI) for the Device- or Procedure-Associated Modules that are caused by an MDRO selected for monitoring through the MDRO and CDAD Module. This guidance will help to keep the counts and rates consistent throughout your facility and between all of the NHSN Modules that are being followed.

Please note that the question that is asked during entry of a BSI, UTI, PNEU, and SSI - MDRO/CDAD Infection: Yes or No - is NOT simply asking if the pathogen you are reporting is an MDRO, but IS asking if you are In Plan for the MDRO and CDAD Module according to your Monthly Reporting Plan for the MDRO pathogen that you are about to report. So, if you are In Plan for the MDRO you are reporting as the pathogen related to the BSI, UTI, PNEU, SSI that you are reporting for that month and location, the system will expect you to answer Yes to this question.

Please review the attached document (titled NHSN Newsletter.pdf) to assist with the handling of MDRO and CDAD Module Infection Surveillance and LabID Event Reporting when also following other NHSN modules like the Device- and Procedure-Associated Modules.

Thank you.
Guidance for Handling MDRO and CDAD Module Infection Surveillance and LabID Event Reporting When Also Following Other NHSN Modules

If a facility is monitoring CLABSIs, CAUTIs, or VAPs within the Device-Associated Module and/or SSIs or PPPs within the Procedure-Associated Module and is also monitoring MDROs (i.e., MRSA) in the MDRO and CDAD Module, then there are a few situations where reporting the infection or LabID event may be confusing. The following scenarios provide guidance to keep the counts and rates consistent throughout your facility and between all of the NHSN Modules. These rules apply to the reporting of “Big 4” infections (BSI, UTI, PNEU, SSI) caused by an MDRO selected for monitoring.

Device-Associated Module with MDRO and CDAD Module

Scenario 1: Facility is following CLABSI, CAUTI, or VAP along with MDRO Infection Surveillance and possibly LabID Event Reporting in the same location:
Infection identified that was NOT present or incubating on admission to this location.
1. Report the infection (BSI, UTI, or PNEU).
2. Answer “Yes” to the MDRO infection question.
This fulfills the infection reporting requirements of both modules in one entry and lets the NHSN reporting tool know that this infection should be included in both the Device-Associated and the MDRO infection datasets and rates.
3. If following LabID event reporting in the same location, report also (separately) as a LabID Event (if meets the MDRO protocol criteria for LabID event).

Scenario 2: Facility is following CLABSI, CAUTI, or VAP along with MDRO Infection Surveillance and possibly LabID Event Reporting in multiple locations:
Infection identified within 48 hours of patient being transferred from one location (the transferring location) to another location (the new location).
1. Report the infection (BSI, UTI, PNEU) and attribute to the transferring location, if transferring location was following that Event Type (BSI, UTI, PNEU) during the Date of Event.
2. Answer “Yes” to the MDRO infection question, if the transferring location was following that MDRO during the Date of Event.
3. If following LabID event reporting in the new location, report also (separately) as a LabID Event and attribute to the new location (if meets the MDRO protocol criteria for LabID event).
Procedure-Associated Module with MDRO and CDAD Module

Note: SSIs and PPPs are associated with a procedure and not a patient location, but MDROs are connected with the patient location.

Scenario 3: Facility is following SSI or PPP along with MDRO Infection Surveillance and possibly LabID Event Reporting:
Patient has surgery, is transferred to a single unit for the remainder of the stay, and during the current stay acquires an SSI or PPP.

1. Report the infection (SSI, PPP) and attribute to the post-op location.
2. Answer “Yes” to the MDRO infection question, if the post-op location is following that MDRO.
3. If following LabID event reporting in the post-op location, report also (separately) as a LabID Event (if meets the MDRO protocol criteria for LabID event).

Scenario 4: Facility is following SSI along with MDRO Infection Surveillance and possibly LabID Event Reporting:
Patient has surgery, is either discharged immediately (outpatient) or transferred to a unit (inpatient), is discharged, and subsequently is readmitted with an SSI.

1. Report the infection (SSI) and attribute to the discharging (post-op) location (not the readmission location).
2. Answer “Yes” to the MDRO infection question, if the discharging (post-op) location was following that MDRO during the Date of Procedure.
3. If following LabID event reporting in the readmitting location or outpatient clinic where the specimen was collected, report also (separately) as a LabID Event (if meets the MDRO protocol criteria for LabID event).