

December 21, 2012

- Subject: January 2013 NHSN Patient Safety Component Updates (Sent 12/21/2012)

Happy Holidays from the NHSN Team!

As the year draws to a close, we want to thank you for your continued dedication to surveillance, prevention, and control of healthcare-associated infections. Our nation's patients are safer for your diligence and for that you can be proud.

In October we gave you a preview of the changes in the Patient Safety Component of NHSN for 2013, and we have recently posted updates to the slides and other handouts provided at the conference (<http://Events.signup4.com/NHSNTrainingResourceLinks>). We have been working non-stop to re-write the chapters of the manual (http://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/TOC_PSCManual.html) and the tables of instructions for the forms (<http://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/forms/Patient-Safety-forms.html>). While it took us longer than we had hoped, we think you'll be pleased with the additional details we've added that address many of the common questions we receive. We've also added many hyperlinks to make finding information easier for those of you who prefer to access the manual electronically.

The attached document summarizes the key changes in each chapter, and while there are many, we assure you that they do not represent wholesale changes to your case-finding methods. Rather, you'll find a clearer definition of an HAI (no more trying to determine what's "incubating on admission") and its timing (on or after calendar day 3), and its attribution to a device (device must be in place for 3 or more days). Plus, there are explanatory scenarios to help you learn how to apply the information.

As always, we'll be here to answer your questions and hear your concerns. We appreciate your efforts to "get it right"; let us know how we can help!

[Highlighted NHSN January 2013 Patient Safety Component \(PSC\) Manual Updates](#)

The NHSN Team