

Anticipated June 25, 2020 Upcoming PSCCOVID-19 Supplies and AUR Modules Changes

Dear NHSN Users:

This email includes information about two upcoming enhancements to the NHSN application related to COVID-19. The enhancements involve the COVID-19 module and the Antibiotic Use and Resistance (AUR) module. Please see below:

COVID-19 Module:

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC's) National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) continues to support the nation's COVID-19 response by updating the acute care COVID-19 Module. Because the NHSN COVID-19 data received from hospitals has proven to be so useful for preparedness and response activities nationally and locally, additional data on the numbers of personal protective equipment (PPE) available in facilities has been requested.

Additional fields are **anticipated to be included** in the **Healthcare Supply Pathway** on the evening of **Thursday, June 25, 2020**. The morning after the application update, a follow-up communication will be sent to users to confirm the changes. Facilities will have the ability to provide the number of each of the following types of PPE available, as well as to identify if the counts are at the system level (in the case of a healthcare care system) or facility level (for a single hospital). Numbers of individual units (or "eaches") which are available should be indicated.

Types of PPE for which numbers may be provided:

- N95 masks[†]
- Other respirators such as PAPRs or elastomeric
- Surgical masks
- Eye protection including face shields and goggles
- Single-use gowns
- Gloves

One other optional field is being added which will allow facilities to identify if they are using reusable/washable gowns for isolation purposes in their facility. Such information will be useful for COVID planning and response activities. If more than 50% of the facility's isolation gown usage includes the use of reusable/washable gowns, a facility should answer Yes to the following new question:

Are reusable/laundryable isolation gowns used for most of the isolation needs at the facility?

To accompany these application changes, NHSN will also update the Table of Instructions (TOI), the data collection form and the CSV (comma separated values) template used by facilities to upload COVID-19 data. All documents will be available on [NHSN's COVID-19 webpage](#) soon after the changes have been made to the system. Links will be provided in the post-release communication. **Data submission for the new and updated fields are**

anticipated to begin on Friday, June 26, 2020, dependent on successful system update on Thursday evening.

As a reminder, submitting data via the NHSN application's COVID-19 Module continues to fulfill the reporting request for "Capacity and Utilization Data" detailed in Secretary Azar's letter and FAQs dated April 10, 2020 available at <https://www.fema.gov/news-release/2020/04/10/coronavirus-covid-19-pandemic-hhs-letter-hospital-administrators> .

Facility-level data collected through NHSN as part of the COVID-19 Module are being made available to a broader set of Federal, state, and local agency data users than data typically collected by NHSN. Specifically, COVID-19 data at the state, county, territory, and facility level submitted to NHSN will continue to be used for public health emergency response activities by CDC's emergency COVID-19 response, by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS') COVID-19 tracking system maintained in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Preparedness and Response as part of the National Response Coordination Center at the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and by the White House Coronavirus Task Force.

AUR Module:

Remdesivir, a drug which has received FDA Emergency Use Authorization for treatment of suspected or laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 in adults and children hospitalized with severe disease will be added to drug list for the NHSN Antimicrobial Use (AU) Option on June 25, 2020.

Remdesivir will be required in AU files for summary months \geq July 2020. Additionally, Remdesivir can be optionally included in AU files for summary months January – June 2020. The NHSN AU Option Team has communicated this to the NHSN Vendor Community. If your facility submits data to the AU Option, please work with your vendor and/or internal informatics team to ensure your AU files are updated to include Remdesivir for July 2020 records moving forward. Please contact NHSN@cdc.gov with "hospital reporting COVID-19" in the subject line for questions regarding the COVID-19 Module or "AUR" for questions regarding the addition of Remdesivir.

Thank you for your continued NHSN participation and delivery of safe patient care during the COVID-19 pandemic.