Dear NHSN Users:

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, an additional field as well subset information for some previous fields have been requested. These fields will provide the ability to distinguish suspected vs confirmed cases of COVID-19 as well as to distinguish neonatal ICU beds that would not be available for adult ICU patients.

The following changes are anticipated to be made to the Patient Impact and Hospital Capacity Pathway on the evening of Thursday, June 4, 2020. The morning after the application update, a follow-up communication will be sent to users to confirm the changes.

Section 1: Patient Impact Data Elements

- Addition of 1 new data entry field with a subset field for Confirmed COVID-19
- Addition of 7 subset fields for Confirmed COVID-19, which will be conditionally required if the numeric response to the preceding question is greater than zero

Section 2: Hospital Bed/Intensive Care Unit (ICU)/Ventilator Capacity Data Elements

- Addition of 2 subset fields for number of neonatal ICU beds and number of neonatal ICU beds occupied, which will be conditionally required if the numeric response of the preceding question is greater than zero

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 5, 2020, dependent on successful system update on Thursday evening.

NEW SUBSET FIELDS:

Number of Previous Day’s New Hospital Onset with Confirmed COVID-19:
This is a subset of PREVIOUS DAY’S NEW HOSPITAL ONSET which includes both suspected and confirmed COVID-19

Number of Hospitalized with Confirmed COVID-19:
This is a subset of HOSPITALIZED which includes both suspected and confirmed COVID-19

Number of Hospitalized and Ventilated with Confirmed COVID-19:
This is a subset of HOSPITALIZED and VENTILATED which includes both suspected and confirmed COVID-19
Number of Hospital Onset with Confirmed COVID-19:
This is a subset of HOSPITAL ONSET which includes both suspected and confirmed COVID-19

Number of ED/Overflow with Confirmed COVID-19:
This is a subset of ED/OVERFLOW which includes both suspected and confirmed COVID-19

Number of ED/Overflow and Ventilated with Confirmed COVID-19:
This is a subset of ED/OVERFLOW and VENTILATED which includes both suspected and confirmed COVID-19

Number of Previous Day’s Deaths with Confirmed COVID-19:
This is a subset of PREVIOUS DAY’S DEATHS which includes both suspected and confirmed COVID-19

Number of ICU Beds that are Neonatal Beds:
This is a subset of a subset ICU BEDS which includes all types of ICU beds in the facility

Number of Occupied ICU Beds that are Neonatal Beds:
This is a subset of ICU BED OCCUPANCY which includes all types of ICU beds in the facility

NEW FIELD AND SUBSET:

HOSPITALIZED and ICU: Patients currently hospitalized in an inpatient ICU bed who have suspected or confirmed COVID-19

Number of Hospitalized and ICU with Confirmed COVID-19: this is a subset of HOSPITALIZED and ICU


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.

Please contact NHSN@cdc.gov with “hospital reporting COVID-19” in the subject line for questions regarding the COVID-19 Module.

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