Dear NHSN Patient Safety Component Users,

The attached 2017 NHSN Training Fact Sheet provides the importance and suggested NHSN training guidance for measuring success in eliminating healthcare associated infections (HAIs). Each year, NHSN provides various training formats, which includes an in-person on-site training (March 20-24th); randomly selected; more information can be found here: https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/training/annualtraining.html), live video web-streaming capabilities, along with access to the NHSN training website. The training website features self-paced, recorded webinar training. Upon successful completion, NHSN participants may receive Continuing Educations Units (CEUs) after each training module.

In our effort to enhance the knowledge and skills of NHSN facility and group-level participants and their partners, we highly recommend hospitals allow dedicated, uninterrupted time for their Infection Preventionists (IPs) or assigned staff to log in and participate in the NHSN live webstreaming and/or the recorded webinar training. Trainings discuss NHSN data collection methods, submission requirements, and analysis options to participants so that IPs may acquire, submit, and disseminate high quality, actionable data.

Participating in training provides users with the skills and knowledge needed to effectively use the NHSN system and ensure that data obtained from the surveillance system can be used to improve patient and healthcare personnel safety. This investment in the form of time and commitment can really pay off. Preventing HAIs is possible, but it will take a conscious effort of everyone—clinicians, healthcare facilities and systems, public health, quality improvement groups, and the federal government—working together toward improving care, protecting patients, and saving lives. The attached flyer may be shared with your facility administration to advocate for dedicated, uninterrupted time for staff involved in performing and analyzing surveillance.

Thank you!

The NHSN Team