

Posting of the 2017 Patient Safety Component Protocols and Related Documents

To NHSN Patient Safety Component Users:

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.

Today the NHSN website has been updated with 2017 versions of surveillance protocols that are a part of the NHSN Patient Safety Component (PSC), specifically the surveillance protocols for Central line-associated Bloodstream Infection (CLABSI), Catheter-associated Urinary Tract Infection (CAUTI), Surgical Site Infection (SSI), Multi-drug Resistant Organism and *Clostridium difficile* Infection, Ventilator-associated Event (VAE), Pneumonia, Central Line Insertion Practices (CLIP), and Antimicrobial Use and Resistance (AUR).

These protocols are to be used beginning January 1, 2017. Until that time, please continue to use the 2016 protocols, which will remain posted on the lower left hand corner of the NHSN home page under “NHSN Manuals” and titled “2016 NHSN Patient Safety Component Manual”. It will also be available on the lower left hand corner of all of the event-specific pages under “Related Links”. These 2016 documents will remain available until the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services’ Quality Reporting Program deadline of May 15, 2017, at which time they will be moved to the NHSN Data Validation webpages where they will remain available for facilities/agencies performing retrospective healthcare-associated infection (HAI) data validation.

Because SSI surveillance may involve a surveillance period of up to 90 days from the date of surgical procedure, the 2016 ICD-10-PCS and CPT codes lists will remain on the NHSN SSI website until May 15, 2017 under the header “2016 Operative Procedure Code Documents”. These lists should only be used for surgical procedures occurring between Jan 1-Dec 31, 2016. The 2017 ICD-10-PCS and CPT codes lists should be used for all surgical procedures performed in 2017.

Attached to this email are summaries of the most significant modifications, many of which represent only clarifications of protocol instructions, and not changes in the ways that healthcare-associated infection determinations are made. The document presents the modifications, as best as possible, as either “changes”, “clarifications”, “additions”, or “deletions”. **Data collection forms for 2017 are scheduled to be posted to the website on or around January 1st for your use.** You will receive an email when they are posted. It is our hope that providing the protocol information ahead of the NHSN application update slated for January 7, 2017, will allow you to prepare for surveillance in 2017.

HAI events that have an NHSN event date of 2017, and surgical procedures with a procedure date of 2017 should NOT be entered into NHSN until the next NHSN release. Instead, please keep a paper or electronic copy of the 2017 events and/or procedures and wait to enter this data until instructed to do so in January.

As always, thank you for doing what you do, to ensure the safety of your patients. We look forward to continuing our work with you.

The NHSN Team