Resolve Alerts
Outpatient Procedure Component

Description
The NHSN alerts were built into the application to assist users in ensuring that complete and accurate data are reported to NHSN in a timely manner. Below are a few examples of alerts and their description. Please be sure to pay special attention to these details to ensure complete reporting into NHSN. If you have questions regarding the below guidance or are still unable to clear your alerts, please contact the NHSN Helpdesk: nhsn@cdc.gov.

Action Items
When logged into the Outpatient Procedure Component home page, facility specific action items are displayed. These items can be resolved by any user in the facility but it impacts all facility data. These action items can include survey completion reminders, as well as, conferring rights to a group (if the facility joined a group in NHSN). The action items are interactive icons, meaning when you click on the alert itself, it will direct you to the page where the specific alerts can be resolved.

Complete These Items
All facilities that submit data into NHSN must complete the annual survey. Surveys are always for the year prior to the current year.

Confer Rights
Not Accepted
This alert will appear if your facility has not accepted the data rights template set up by a Group to which your facility is joined. Facilities can share data with groups (such as state health departments, hospital systems, quality improvement organizations, etc.). Facilities join Groups and provide access to their data as requested by the Group within the NHSN application. A facility that joins a Group does not have access to any data from other facilities in the Group. Groups create a template of rights that is shared with member facilities. Individual facilities within the Group may choose to confer rights to complete data sharing with the Group.

Alerts
Incomplete Summary Items
This alert includes incomplete “In Plan” Summary data records. This means one or more elements of the summary data type record have not been completed.

Missing Events
This alert appears when the reporting month has passed and the month’s denominators has been completed, but surgical site infection (SSI) events and Same Day Outcome Measure (SDOM) events have not yet been reported, nor has the “Report No Events” box been checked. Since either ≥1 event or “Report No Events” is required to complete monthly reporting, there is an alert for each action. To address this alert for SSI events and SDOM events, report the event data or check the “Report No Events” box in the alert.
The “Missing Summary Items” alert is a reminder to facilities that are missing in-plan summary data records. To address this alert, report the missing summary data or uncheck the surveillance option the Monthly Reporting Plan.

This alert appears when there is an incomplete SSI record or SDOM event record, where required fields were not completed or the record was not saved appropriately. Select the alert to view the events that are incomplete. Select the event record hyperlink, which will direct you to the event form, complete the required fields, and save the record. The alert should be resolved once the record is saved with the required changes.

Once the reporting month is complete, if you did not perform any monitored procedures according to the Monthly Reporting Plan, you will receive a “Missing Procedures” alert on your alerts screen. If you truly have no procedures that were performed for that given month, select the “No procedures performed” checkbox.

Data collection on microorganisms with specific resistance patterns prompts NHSN to notify users to an “Unusual Susceptibility Profiles” alert. When a user enters a pathogen’s susceptibility testing result into the NHSN application that aligns with one of the unusual susceptibility profiles, this alert will result.

Tip! Generate a new data set whenever you resolve alerts so that all changes are appropriately captured in the application.

Additional Resources

Group User Resources: https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/group-users/
Unusual Susceptibility Profiles: https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/pdfs/gen-support/USP-Alert-current.pdf