

Abbreviations, Terms, and Acronyms Used in this Document

ABUTI*	(NHSN) Asymptomatic bacteremic urinary tract infection. This type of UTI may or may not be catheter-associated (CAUTI).
ADT	Admissions/discharges/transfers (A core facility data system)
AUDIT	On-site medical record review to evaluate concordance of reported data with findings using NHSN methods
BABY LOCATIONS*	(NHSN) Patient care locations housing a high proportion of infants aged <1 year, i.e. newborn nurseries, neonatal ICUs, and LDRP locations
BSI	Bloodstream infection
CAUTI*	(NHSN) Catheter-associated urinary tract infection. New for 2013, a primary UTI where an indwelling urinary catheter was in place for >2 calendar days when all elements of the UTI criteria were first present together AND indwelling urinary catheter was in place on the date of event or the day before
CDC	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CDI	<i>Clostridium difficile</i> Infection
CL	Central line
CLABSI*	(NHSN) Central line-associated bloodstream infection. New for 2013, a primary laboratory-confirmed bloodstream infection (LCBI) where a central line was in place for >2 calendar days when all elements of the LCBI criteria were first present together AND central line was in place on the date of event or the day before
CMS	Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
DI SSI*	(NHSN) Deep incisional surgical site infection
ED	Emergency department
EMR	Electronic medical record
EXTERNAL VALIDATION	Survey and audit process by external agency to assure quality of NHSN surveillance and reporting
FacWideIN*	(NHSN) Facility-Wide Inpatient, a type of surveillance used for LabID Event reporting
Foley catheter	See indwelling urethral catheter
GI*	(NHSN) Gastrointestinal system healthcare-associated infection
HAI*	(NHSN) Healthcare-associated infection. New for 2013, infections are considered HAIs only if all elements of the CDC/NHSN site-specific infection definition were first present together on or after the 3 rd facility day (day of admission is day 1). An element of the infection criteria may be present during the first 2 hospital days as long as it is also present on or after day 3, and all elements needed to meet definition criteria cannot occur before day 3 or with a gap exceeding 1 calendar day between any two elements (see also POA).
IAB*	(NHSN) Intra-abdominal healthcare-associated infection; a subset of GI*
ICU	Intensive care unit
INDWELLING URINARY CATHETER*	(NHSN) Drainage tube inserted through the urethra to the urinary bladder, left in place, and connected to a drainage bag. Also called Foley catheter. May be used for drainage and/or irrigation. Excludes condom catheters, straight in-and-out catheters, nephrostomy tubes, or suprapubic catheters.
INPATIENT*	(NHSN) Patient with date of admission that is different from date of discharge
INTERNAL VALIDATION	Active efforts by a reporting facility to assure completeness and accuracy of NHSN data

IP	Infection preventionist
IT	Information technology
LabID Event*	(NHSN) A proxy measure developed for infection surveillance using laboratory results data and without the requirement for extensive clinical documentation
LCBI 1,2,3*	(NHSN) laboratory-confirmed bloodstream infection criteria
LDRP	Labor, Delivery, Recovery, and Post-partum, a type of NHSN location in an acute care facility
LOS	Length of stay (days)
MEDICAL RECORD	A record systematically documenting a single patient's medical history and care across time within a healthcare provider's jurisdiction
MRN	Medical record number
MRSA, MSSA	Methicillin-resistant <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> , Methicillin-susceptible <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>
NICU	Neonatal intensive care unit
NP	Nasopharyngeal
NHSN	National Healthcare Safety Network
OBSERVATION LOCATION	A bedded patient care location designated for patients under observation, a form of outpatient status. The purpose of observation is to allow the physician time to make a decision about whether the patient should be admitted, and then rapidly move the patient to the most appropriate setting, i.e., admit to inpatient status or to send home.
OrgID*	(NHSN) NSHN facility identifier
O/S SSI*	(NHSN) Organ/space surgical site infection
OUTI*	(NHSN) Other UTI
PATIENT DAYS*	(NHSN) The number of patients (inpatients and observation patients) housed in a facility inpatient location at the same designated counting time each day, and summed for a monthly denominator report for device-associated infections (CLABSI, CAUTI, VAE), and LabID Event
POA*	(NHSN July 2013) Present on admission. An infection is POA if all elements of the site-specific infection criterion are present during the two calendar days before the day of admission, the day of admission, and /or the day after admission, and documented in the medical record by a healthcare provider. POA is not used for SSI, VAE, or LabID Events. POA infections should not be reported as HAIs.
PRIMARY*	(NHSN) Originating source of infection (See SECONDARY)
SECONDARY* INFECTION	(NHSN) Site affected by infection by dissemination from an alternative originating source (see PRIMARY)
SIR*	(NHSN) Standardized infection ratio
SI SSI*	(NHSN) Superficial incisional surgical site infection
SSI*	(NHSN) Surgical site infection
SUTI*	(NHSN) Symptomatic UTI
URINARY CATHETER*	(NHSN) see indwelling urinary catheter
UTI	Urinary tract infection
VAE*	(NHSN) Ventilator-associated event. New for 2013: an objective surveillance algorithm that can identify a broad range of conditions and complications (including but not limited to pneumonia) occurring in mechanically-ventilated adult patients, detailed in NHSN Manual Chapter 10
VALIDATION	Assurance that reported NHSN surveillance data meet their pre-determined specifications and quality attributes as intended

*(NHSN) indicates a term used and defined by NHSN