



Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr.
Governor

Gregory N. Larkin, M.D., F.A.A.F.P.
State Health Commissioner

DATE: September 6, 2011

TO: Executive Board
Indiana State Department of Health

FROM: Terry Whitson 
Assistant Commissioner
Health Care Quality and Regulatory Services Commission

RE: Final Adoption of the Health Care Associated Infections Reporting Rule, 410 IAC 15-4 (LSA Document #11-102)

The Health Care Quality and Regulatory Services Commission has been given a mandate from Governor Daniels to develop and implement a rule for the mandatory reporting of healthcare associated infections by the first of calendar year 2012. The Hospital Council, at their March 2, 2011 meeting, voted to recommend the proposed rule for preliminary adoption by the Executive Board.

Meetings were held on March 16, May 4, June 8, and July 6, 2011 to discuss a draft rule with several outside groups.

The Executive Board preliminarily adopted this proposed rule at the May 11, 2011 meeting. A public hearing was held on August 19, 2011. Comments received were positive and supportive of the rule with some changes to the healthcare associated infections to be reported initially. This was anticipated as was discussed in my preliminary adoption memo of April 26, 2011. An analysis of the comments made and the department's response is included with this memo.

This rule requires mandatory reporting of three healthcare associated infections by hospitals effective January 1, 2012. Those reportable infections are central line associated bloodstream infections, surgical site infections, and catheter associated urinary tract infections. Reporting of these infections will be done through the National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) which is operated through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The NHSN requires the adherence to CDC approved definitions and standards for identifying and reporting each healthcare associated infection. This provides a nationwide standard for reporting.

I respectfully request that you adopt this proposed Healthcare Associated Infections Reporting Rule (410 IAC 15-4) as a final rule.

Attachment: Proposed Rule
Public comments and department response