

**Indiana State Department of Health
Health Care Quality and Regulatory Services
Healthcare Associated Infections Reporting**

Healthcare Associated Infections Reporting Rule

ISDH HCQRS Program Advisory Letter

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Cancels: n/a

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Purpose

The purpose of this program advisory letter is to inform hospitals about the requirements of the Healthcare Associated Infections Reporting Rule, 410 Indiana Administrative Code (IAC) 15-4.

Background

The Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) adopted a rule requiring hospitals to report three (3) healthcare associated infections through the National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN). By reporting through the NHSN there is one system and set of definitions for all to use. The Indiana State Department of Health had no intention to create a separate reporting system that would add to the reporting efforts of hospitals.

The Healthcare Associated Infections Reporting Rule, 410 IAC 15-4, took effect October 28, 2011 and can be found at <http://www.in.gov/legislative/iac/T04100/A00150.PDF>?. All hospitals that are licensed by the ISDH, which include critical access, long term acute care, and rehabilitation hospitals, must comply with this rule. This includes hospitals that are not currently eligible for the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Inpatient Prospective Payment System.

Infections to be Reported

The healthcare associated infections that are required for the CMS Inpatient Prospective Payment System must be reported by hospitals. These infections are the following:

1. Central line associated bloodstream infections (CLABSI) in all intensive care units.
2. Surgical site infections (SSI) for all abdominal hysterectomies and colon surgeries.
3. Catheter associated urinary tract infections (CAUTI) in all adult and pediatric intensive care units.

The wording of the rule indicates that surgical site infections in “colorectal surgeries” must be reported. NHSN currently does not allow colorectal surgery data to be reported; only colon surgery can be reported. Surgical site infections in colon surgeries are what the Indiana State Department of Health intended to be reported and the Indiana State Department of Health will consider such reporting to be in compliance with the rule.

Use of the National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN)

Healthcare associated infections must be reported through the NHSN. The NHSN is a secure, Internet-based system developed and managed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to collect, analyze, and report risk-adjusted healthcare associated infection data related to the incidence of healthcare associated infections and the process measures implemented to prevent these infections. Many hospitals use NHSN as part of the CMS Inpatient Prospective Payment System program. The Indiana rule requires all Indiana hospitals to enroll with the NHSN by January 31, 2012. Once enrolled, each hospital must confer rights to the Indiana State Department of Health giving the Indiana State Department of Health access to data on the infections listed in the rule. Any of the required infections attributed to the locations listed in the rule that are identified in the hospital on or after January 1, 2012 must be reported through NHSN.

NHSN Eligibility and training information can be found at <http://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/>. The steps to enroll are in the CDC document “NHSN Facility Administrator Enrollment Guide” which is found at <http://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/PDFs/FacilityAdminEnrollmentGuideCurrent.pdf>.

In addition, you will find definitions in the NHSN Patient Safety Component Manual that help to determine what constitutes a reportable healthcare associated infection at http://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/TOC_PSCManual.html. These definitions must be followed for reporting to NHSN and for the Indiana rule. These resources are extensive and thorough and will provide what you need for successful use of NHSN. Questions about identifying healthcare associated infections can be directed to Shannon Millay, ISDH HAI Epidemiologist, (317) 233-7036, smillay@isdh.in.gov.

The NHSN requires a hospital to enter monthly plans and enter data on reportable infection events and device/patient days (i.e., catheter days, central line days, or number of patients in a patient care location). Under the Indiana Rule, hospitals must report either infection events and device/patient days or device/ patient days (if no infection events occur) each month through NHSN. Reporting your facility’s data every month will result in more reliable healthcare associated infection rates and a more accurate depiction of the overall prevalence in Indiana. This data will be included in an annual report issued by the Indiana State Department of Health.

Data entry timelines are listed for the CMS Inpatient Prospective Payment System at <http://www.qualitynet.org/dcs/ContentServer?c=Page&pagename=QnetPublic%2FPage%2FQnetTier3&cid=1138900297956>. These CMS timelines are a requirement for most all hospitals and will be for all hospitals in the future who participate in the CMS Inpatient Prospective Payment System. This is consistent with the intent of the rule to avoid making any unnecessary requirements that add to or conflict with the existing NHSN reporting system.

Joining the Indiana Infection Reporting Group

After successful enrollment in NHSN, you must join the Indiana Infection Reporting Group. To do so follow these steps:

1. Go to the NHSN website at http://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/start_here.html.
2. Select “Group User Enrollment.” On the next page under Group User Enrollment select “Guide to Joining a Group in NHSN.” This link will open a power point presentation from CDC that will guide you through the group enrollment process.
3. After review of this power point, sign in to your NHSN account and follow the instructions from the power point.
- 3 Group ID number for the Indiana Infection Reporting Group is: 16218

- 4 Password for the Indiana Infection Reporting Group is: Nomorehais
- 5 In about two (2) days you will receive, through NHSN, a template which will indicate what data fields will be collected by the Indiana Infection Reporting Group.
- 6 Accept this template and rights to access this data will be conferred to the Indiana Infection Reporting Group as required under the Healthcare Associated Infections Reporting Rule, 410 IAC 15-4.

Questions about this program advisory letter may be directed to Burton Garten, Director, Quality Initiatives, Indiana State Department of Health, (317) 233-7948, bgarten@isdh.in.gov. Questions about identifying healthcare associated infections can be directed to Shannon Millay, ISDH HAI Epidemiologist, (317) 233-7036, smillay@isdh.in.gov.