Use of Evidence-based Strategies in Reducing Healthcare-Associated Infections

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2014 Annual Convention
Healthcare-Associated Infections

- HAIs are a leading cause of death in the US and cause needless suffering and expense.
- It is estimated that 1 in 20 U.S. hospitalized patients will acquire an HAI.
- 99,000 deaths; $26-33 billion in excess costs
- While this data is specific to acute care hospital patients, HAIs can occur in any healthcare setting including long-term care facilities (LTCFs).

Long-Term Care

When a nursing home resident is hospitalized with a primary diagnosis of infection, the death rate can reach as high as 40 percent.
Dialysis

More than 5,000 Hemodialysis centers nationwide:

Incidence of methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) bloodstream infection: 100 x greater than in nondialysis population
Estimated Burden of MDROs in Healthcare Facilities in the US

Morbidity

Patients with MDROs are at an increased risk for hospitalization and for transfer to an intensive care unit. These patients also have longer hospital stays, higher hospital costs and a higher risk of death.

An estimated 94,000 invasive MRSA infections occur annually in the United States.

86 percent of all invasive MRSA infections are healthcare-associated.
Morbidity

Of the HAIs reported to the National Healthcare Safety Network from 2006-2007:

- 49-65% of healthcare-associated *S. aureus* infections were caused by MRSA.
Mortality

There are nearly 19,000 deaths each year because of invasive MRSA infections.

Patients with bloodstream infections or surgical site infections caused by MRSA have a higher risk of death compared with patients with infections caused by a strain of *Staphylococcus aureus* (staph) that does not have resistance to antibiotics.
Transmission Between Facilities

Because residents of LTCFs are hospitalized frequently, they can transfer pathogens between LTCFs and healthcare facilities in which they receive care.

Hospitals can transmit pathogens to hospitalized LTCF patients who then take them back to the LTCF.
## Cost of Each HAI

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HAI Type</th>
<th>Cost in Dollars</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MRSA Infection</td>
<td>$35,000-$60,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. diff Infection (CDI)</td>
<td>$18,000-$90,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surgical Site Infection (SSI) (Knee or Hip)</td>
<td>$30,000-$50,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Line Associated Blood Stream Infection (CLABSI)</td>
<td>$16,000-$20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catheter associated Urinary Tract Infection (CAUTI)</td>
<td>$5,000-$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ventilator associated pneumonia (VAP)</td>
<td>$15,000-$25,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Infect Control Hosp Epidemiol 2010; 31:365-373
Merollini et al. BMC Health Services Research 2013, 13:91
http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6008a4.htm
http://www.cdc.gov/hai/pdfs/hai/scott_costpaper.pdf
**Clostridium difficile**

- 250,000 infections per year requiring hospitalization or affecting already hospitalized patients.
- 14,000 deaths per year.
- At least $1 billion in excess medical costs per year.
- Deaths related to *C. difficile* increased 400% between 2000 and 2007, in part because of a stronger bacteria strain that emerged.
- Almost half of infections occur in people younger than 65, but more than 90% of deaths occur in people 65 and older.

Source: CDC
National Action Plan

In recognition of HAIs as an important public health and patient safety issue, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) convened the Federal Steering Committee for the Prevention of Healthcare-Associated Infections.

The Steering Committee's charge is to coordinate and maximize the efficiency of prevention efforts across the federal government.

http://www.health.gov/hai/prevent_hai.asp
Since the publication of the first phase of the National Action Plan in 2009, which focused on the acute care setting, there has been growing awareness of the need for a chapter to address LTCFs.

A growing number of individuals are receiving care in LTCFs, and it is projected that by 2030 more than 5 million Americans will reside in nursing homes/skilled nursing facilities (NHs/SNFs).

These trends create an increased risk for HAIs, which can worsen health status and increase healthcare costs.
# Prevention Targets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metric</th>
<th>Baseline</th>
<th>5-Year Target</th>
<th>Metric</th>
<th>Target SIR or Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CLABSI</td>
<td></td>
<td>50% reduction</td>
<td>SIR</td>
<td>0.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAUTI</td>
<td></td>
<td>25% reduction</td>
<td>SIR</td>
<td>0.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSI</td>
<td></td>
<td>25% reduction</td>
<td>SIR</td>
<td>0.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MRSA bacteremia</td>
<td></td>
<td>25% reduction</td>
<td>SIR</td>
<td>0.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Invasive MRSA infections (population)</td>
<td>2007–08</td>
<td>50% reduction</td>
<td>Rate</td>
<td>13.5 per 100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDI</td>
<td>2010–11</td>
<td>30% reduction</td>
<td>SIR</td>
<td>0.70</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: CDC
What is the Standardized Infection Ratio?

The standardized infection ratio (SIR) is a summary measure used to track HAIs over time. It compares actual HAI rates in a facility or state with baseline rates in the general U.S. population. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) adjusts the SIR for risk factors that are most associated with differences in infection rates.

In other words, the SIR takes into account that different healthcare facilities treat different types of patients. For example, HAI rates at a hospital that has a large burn unit (where patients are at higher risk of acquiring infections) can not be directly compared to a hospital that does not have a burn unit.
How Does the CDC Calculate the SIR?

The SIRs for CLABSIs and CAUTIs are adjusted by type of patient care location, hospital affiliation with a medical school and bed size of the patient care location.

The SIRs for hospital-onset *Clostridium difficile* and MRSA bloodstream infections are adjusted using slightly different risk factors such as facility bed size, hospital affiliation with a medical school, the number of patients admitted to the hospital who already have CDI or an MRSA bloodstream infection (“community-onset” cases) and adjusts for the type of test the hospital laboratory uses to identify *Clostridium difficile* from patient specimens.
Surgical Site Infections (SSIs)

- The SIRs for SSIs take into account patient differences and procedure-related risk factors within each type of surgery.

- These risk factors include duration of surgery, surgical wound class, use of endoscopes, re-operation status, patient age and patient assessment at time of anesthesiology.
Phase 1: Acute Care Hospital (ACH) Measures

- Central line-Associated Bloodstream Infections (CLABSI)
- Catheter-associated Urinary Tract Infections (CAUTI)
- SSIs
- Methicillin-Resistant Staph aureus (MRSA)
- Health Care Worker (HCW) Influenza Vaccination Rates
Phase 2: Ambulatory Surgery Centers

SSI

Dialysis Centers:
- Use of IV Antibiotics
- Positive Blood Cultures
- Vascular Access Infection

Inpatient Rehabilitation Facilities:
- CAUTI
Phase 3: Long-term Care Facilities

Proposed:
- CAUTI
- *C. difficile* infections
- Resident and Influenza Vaccination Rates
- HCW Influenza Vaccination Rates
They decided to focus on the NHs and SNFs settings and the five priority areas and goals:

- NHSN enrollment
- Urinary tract infections (UTIs)/CAUTIs
- CDI
- Resident Influenza and Pneumococcal vaccination
- Healthcare personnel Influenza vaccination

These were intended not as a final goal but as a first step.
Restructuring the QIO Program

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) awarded contracts as part of restructuring the Quality Improvement Organization (QIO) Program to improve care for beneficiaries, families and caregivers.

QIOs are private, mostly not-for-profit organizations staffed by doctors and other health care professionals trained to review medical care and help beneficiaries with complaints about the quality of care and to implement improvements in the quality of care available throughout the spectrum of care.
QIN-QIOs

The new contracts were awarded to fourteen organizations. The awardees will work with providers and communities across the country on data-driven quality initiatives. These QIOs will be known as Quality Innovation Network (QIN)-QIOs.

QIN-QIO projects will be based in communities, health care facilities and clinical practices. They will drive quality by providing technical assistance, convening learning and action networks for sharing best practices, collecting and analyzing data for improvement.
QIN-QIO Initiatives

Each QIN-QIO will work on common strategic initiatives:
- reducing HAIs
- reducing readmissions and medication errors
- improving care for nursing home residents
- supporting use of interoperable health information
- promoting prevention activities
- reducing cardiac disease and diabetes
- reducing health care disparities
- improving patient and family engagement

QIN-QIOs will also provide technical assistance for improvement in CMS value based purchasing programs.
# QIN-QIO Awarded Contracts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quality Innovation Network (QIN)</th>
<th>States</th>
<th>Quality Innovation Network (QIN) con’v’</th>
<th>States</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Great Plains Quality Innovation Network</td>
<td>KS, ND, NE, SD</td>
<td>Mountain Pacific Quality Health Foundation</td>
<td>AK, HI, MT, WY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TMF</td>
<td>AR, MO, OK, TX</td>
<td>Atlantic Quality Improvement Network</td>
<td>DC, NC, SC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Superior Quality Innovation Network / St. Louis Health</td>
<td>MN, WI, MI</td>
<td>Quality Insights Quality Improvement Network</td>
<td>DE, GA, NJ, PA, WV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telligen</td>
<td>CO, IA, IL</td>
<td>VHQC</td>
<td>MD, VA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HealthInsight</td>
<td>NM, NV, OR, UT</td>
<td>Qualis Health</td>
<td>ID, WA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alliant-Georgia Medical Care Foundation</td>
<td>GA, NC</td>
<td>Health Services Advisory Group</td>
<td>AZ, CA, FL, OH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>atom Alliance</td>
<td>AL, KY, MS, TN</td>
<td>HealthCentric Advisors</td>
<td>CT, MA, ME, NH, RI, VT</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SOURCE:** CMS
QIN-QIOs Work to Reduce HAIs

- Work with participating providers to:
  - Comply with meaningful use through antimicrobial stewardship programs
  - Examine the role of improved care transitions in HAI reduction
  - Emphasize the importance of vaccination health
  - Facilitate collaborative ties with partners in the healthcare community
  - Focus on appropriate medication use in HAI prevention
  - Tracking HAIs in multiple settings
  - Employing methods to ensure updated immunization status
What is atom Alliance?

atom Alliance is a multi-state initiative, composed of three healthcare quality improvement consultancy organizations, who have joined forces to win a five-year QIN-QIO contract from CMS.

Under provisions of the new contract, atom Alliance will work to improve healthcare quality for Medicare patients and their families in Alabama, Indiana, Kentucky, Mississippi and Tennessee.
Quality Improvement Organizations (QIOs)

- QIN-QIOs shall align where possible with the 5-year HHS goals for HAI reduction and with other public and private initiatives such as:
  - CDC sponsored state based HAI initiatives
  - Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality’s (AHRQ) Comprehensive Unit-based Safety Program (CUSP) work
  - Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) bundles
Information & Quality Healthcare (IQH)

IQH is committed to improving health quality at the community or local level.

IQH is a part of atom Alliance.
General HAI Tasks of IQH

- Provide education and training for participating providers, collaborative partners, beneficiaries, family members and/or patient advocates on infection transmission control practices such as catheter maintenance, environmental disinfection, hand hygiene, appropriate vaccination practices.

- Work with AHRQ to educate and train on CUSP and/or TeamSTEPPS principles.
General HAI Tasks of IQH (cont.)

- Introduce and disseminate evidence-based tools for HAI prevention and reduction

- Maintain National Health Safety Network (NHSN) expertise by educating facilities on:
  - HAI definitions
  - Data reporting
    - Elements
    - Calculations
    - Changes as they evolve
Surveillance

“The unsettling truth is that our best estimates of healthcare-associated infections in long-term care facilities, such as nursing homes, most likely understate the true problem. Clinicians in nursing homes cannot prevent healthcare-associated infections unless they know where and how they are occurring. Tracking infections within facilities is the first step toward prevention and ultimately saves lives.”

— Nimalie Stone, MD

CDC Medical Epidemiologist
CDC’s National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) is the nation’s most widely used HAI tracking system. NHSN provides facilities, states, regions, and the nation with data needed to identify problem areas, measure progress of prevention efforts and ultimately eliminate healthcare-associated infections.

In addition, NHSN allows healthcare facilities to track blood safety errors and important healthcare process measures such as healthcare personnel influenza vaccine status and infection control adherence rates.
What Services Does NHSN Provide?

- NHSN provides medical facilities, states, regions, and the nation with data collection and reporting capabilities needed to:
  - identify infection prevention problems by facility, state, or specific quality improvement project
  - benchmark progress of infection prevention efforts
  - comply with state and federal public reporting mandates, and ultimately,
  - drive national progress toward elimination of HAIs.

- Beginning decades ago with 300 hospitals, NHSN now serves more than 12,000 medical facilities tracking HAIs.
Enrollment

To access or enroll your facility in NHSN’s, see CDC’s website:

http://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/enrollment/index.html
Benefits

Additionally, with sufficient LTCF reporting data in the NHSN system, national HAI benchmarks can be determined, therefore allowing for meaningful interpretation of data and facilitating evaluation of the impact of implemented prevention efforts.

Increases in the number of LTCFs using NHSN over time can be a way to track the successful implementation and adoption of the NHSN LTC Component.
# Acute Care Facilities

## Reporting Requirements and Deadlines in NHSN per CMS Current Rules

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Healthcare Settings</th>
<th>NHSN Event</th>
<th>CMS Reporting Deadlines</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Acute Care Facilities that participate in CMS Hospital QIR Program</td>
<td>CAUTI</td>
<td>G1 (Jan.-March): August 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>G2 (April-June): November 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>G3 (Jul.-Sept.): February 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>G4 (Oct.-Dec.): May 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SSI (following COLD Procedures)</td>
<td>G1 (Jan.-March): August 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>G2 (April-June): November 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>G4 (Oct.-Dec.): May 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MRSA Bacteremia Event (FacWidEIN)</td>
<td>G1 (Jan.-March): August 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>G2 (April-June): November 15</td>
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<td>G4 (Oct.-Dec.): May 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>C. difficile Event (FacWidEIN)</td>
<td>G1 (Jan.-March): August 15</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>G4 (Oct.-Dec.): May 15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Acute Care Facilities that participate in CMS Hospital QIR Program. Medicare beneficiary number required for all applicable patients, beginning July 2014.*

*Updated September 2013*
# Outpatient Dialysis, LTACs, IRFs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Healthcare Settings</th>
<th>NHSN Event</th>
<th>CMS Reporting Deadlines</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Outpatient Dialysis Facilities that participate in CMS ESRD QIP Program</strong></td>
<td>Dialysis Event [includes Positive blood culture, I.V. antimicrobial start, and Signs of vascular access infection]</td>
<td>Q1-Q4 2012 (Jan.-Dec.; 3 month minimum): April 30, 2013 Q1-Q4 2013 (Jan.-Dec.; 6 month minimum): April 15, 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Long-term Acute Care Facilities (LTACs) that participate in CMS LTCH Improvement Program</strong></td>
<td>CAUTI (all bedded inpatient care locations)</td>
<td>Starting Q1 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Starting January 2014, reporting deadline will be 1.5 months after the end of the quarter</em></td>
<td>Data from Q4 2013 &amp; Q1 2014 are both due on May 30, 2014</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MERSA Bacteremia LabID Event</strong> [Pos./Wash/N]</td>
<td>CAUTI (all bedded inpatient care locations)</td>
<td>Starting Q1 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>C. difficile LabID Event</strong> [Pos./W/N]</td>
<td>Healthcare Personnel Influenza Vaccination</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Inpatient Rehabilitation Facilities (IRFs) that participate in CMS Quality Reporting Program</strong></td>
<td><strong>CAUTI (all bedded inpatient care locations)</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Healthcare Personnel Influenza Vaccination</strong></td>
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**Updated September 2013**
# PPS-Exempt Cancer Hospital Quality Reporting (PCHQR) Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Healthcare Settings</th>
<th>NHSN Event</th>
<th>CMS Reporting Deadlines</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| PPS-Exempt Cancer Facilities that participate in CMS PCHQR Program | CLABSI (all bedded inpatient care locations) | Q1 (Jan.-March): August 15  
Start Q1 2013 | Q2 (April-June): November 15  
Q3 (Jul.-Sept.): February 15  
Q4 (Oct.-Dec.): May 15 |
| CAUTI (all bedded inpatient care locations) | Q1 (Jan.-March): August 15  
Start Q1 2013 | Q2 (April-June): November 15  
Q3 (Jul.-Sept.): February 15  
Q4 (Oct.-Dec.): May 15 |
| SSI (following COLO Procedures) | Q1 (Jan.-March): August 15  
Start Q1 2014 | Q2 (April-June): November 15  
Q3 (Jul.-Sept.): February 15  
Q4 (Oct.-Dec.): May 15 |
| SSI (following HYST Procedures) | Q1 (Jan.-March): August 15  
Start Q1 2014 | Q2 (April-June): November 15  
Q3 (Jul.-Sept.): February 15  
Q4 (Oct.-Dec.): May 15 |
CUSP

http://www.onthecuspstophai.org

As part of this action plan, the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) increased support and scope of a project funded in 2008 to reduce central line-associated bloodstream infections (CLABSI) and funded a second initiative to reduce catheter-associated urinary tract infections (CAUTI).

Both of these projects, On the CUSP: Stop BSI and On the CUSP: Stop CAUTI, apply the Comprehensive Unit-based Safety Program (CUSP) to improve the culture of patient safety and implement evidence-based best practices to reduce the risk of infections.
What Is a Bundle?

A bundle is a structured way of improving the processes of care and patient outcomes: a small, straightforward set of evidence-based practices — generally three to five — that, when performed collectively and reliably, have been proven to improve patient outcomes.

Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) Vice President and patient safety expert, Carol Haraden, PhD, comments on the power and popularity of “bundles” in improvement initiatives. “While the allure of this tool is undeniable,” says Haraden, “quality teams should resist the impulse to label any list of good changes a bundle.”
VAP Bundle

The IHI Ventilator Bundle — a grouping of best practices that, when applied together, may result in substantially greater improvement — has been implemented in many ICUs, along with teamwork and communication strategies such as structured multidisciplinary rounds and daily goal setting, to wean and remove patients from ventilators as quickly as possible, while providing evidence-based care.

http://www.ihi.org/topics/vap/pages/default.aspx
TeamSTEPPS

- http://teamstepps.ahrq.gov/

TeamSTEPPS is a teamwork system designed for health care professionals that is:

- A powerful solution to improve patient safety within your organization.
- An evidence-based teamwork system to improve communication and teamwork skills among health care professionals.

Are You Ready for TeamSTEPPS?

- Use the TeamSTEPPS Readiness Assessment Tool to determine your organization's readiness to begin implementing the TeamSTEPPS process
HAI Learning & Action Networks (LANs)

One strategy used to drive change is to bring together local communities to problem-solve, learn from one another, and create solutions to improve how care is delivered, called learning and action networks:

- Participants can connect with peers for mentoring.
- Offer collaborative and educational benefits that make use of evidence-based medicine to improve quality of care.
HAI Specific Tasks

QIN-QIOs will work to reduce the following HAIs in hospitals (ICU and non-ICU wards):

- Central line bloodstream infections (CLABSI)
- Catheter-associated urinary tract infections (CAUTI)
- *Clostridium difficile* infections (CDI)
- Ventilator-Associated Events (VAE)
HAI Specific Tasks (cont.)

- Integration of other HAIs as priorities shift and/or evidence-base emerges is encouraged and made possible through the LAN.

- The use of evidence-based strategies such as guidelines for infection control released by the CDC.

- Operational principles such as TeamSTEPPS that promote a culture of safety within a healthcare institution.
Patient Engagement

The QIN-QIO shall monitor and report out the degree in which hospital providers engage beneficiaries/patients and/or their family members and/or patient representatives in the following activities:

- Prior to admission, a discharge planning check list (such as CMS Discharge Planning Checklist available at [http://www.medicare.gov/Pubs/pdf/11376.pdf](http://www.medicare.gov/Pubs/pdf/11376.pdf)) is provided to every patient that has a scheduled admission.
- Conducts both shift change huddles for staff and do bedside reporting with patients and family members in all feasible cases.
Patient Engagement (cont.)

- Dedicates a person or functional area that is proactively responsible for Patient and Family Engagement and evaluates their activities regularly.

- Has an active Patient and Family Engagement Committee OR at least one former patient that serves on a patient safety or quality improvement committee or team.

- Has one or more patient(s) who serve on a Governing and/or Leadership Board and serves as a patient representative.
Discharge Planning Checklist Instructions

For patients and their caregivers preparing to leave a hospital, nursing home, or other care setting

Name:

Reason for admission: _______________________

During your stay, your doctor and the staff will work with you to plan for your discharge. You and your caregiver (a family member or friend who may be helping you) are important members of the planning team. You and your caregiver can use this checklist to prepare for discharge.

Instructions:

- Use this checklist early and often during your stay.
- Talk to your doctor and the staff (like a discharge planner, social worker, or nurse) about the items on this checklist.
- Check the box next to each item when you and your caregiver complete it.
- Use the notes column to write down important information (like names and phone numbers).
- Skip any items that don’t apply to you.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action Items</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>What’s ahead?</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☐ Ask where you’ll get care after you leave (after you’re discharged). Do you have options (like home health care)? Be sure you tell the staff what you prefer.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☐ If a caregiver will be helping you after discharge, write down their name and phone number.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Your health</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☐ Ask the staff about your health condition and what you can do to help yourself get better.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☐ Ask about problems to watch for and what to do about them. Write down a name and phone number of a person to call if you have problems.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Action Items/Information

**Action Items**

- Use “My drug list” on page 5 to write down your prescription drugs, over-the-counter drugs, vitamins, and herbal supplements.
- Review the list with the staff.
- Tell the staff what drugs, vitamins, or supplements you took before you were admitted. Ask if you should still take these after you leave.
- Write down a name and phone number of a person to call if you have questions.

**Recovery & support**

- Ask if you’ll need medical equipment (like a walker). Who will arrange for this? Write down a name and phone number of a person you can call if you have questions about equipment.
- Ask if you’re ready to do the activities below. Circle the ones you need help with, and tell the staff:  
  - Bathing, dressing, using the bathroom, climbing stairs  
  - Cooking, food shopping, house cleaning, paying bills  
  - Getting to doctors’ appointments, picking up prescription drugs
- Make sure you have support (like a caregiver) in place that can help you. See “Resources” on page 6 for more information.
- Ask the staff to show you and your caregiver any other tasks that require special skills (like changing a bandage or giving a shot). Then, show them how you can do these tasks. Write down a name and phone number of a person you can call if you need help.
- Ask to speak to a social worker if you’re concerned about how you and your family are coping with your illness. Write down information about support groups and other resources.
- Talk to a social worker or your health plan if you have questions about what your insurance will cover, and how much you’ll have to pay. Ask about possible ways to get help with your costs.

**Notes**

**Action Items**

- Ask for written discharge instructions (that you can read and understand) and a summary of your current health status, lab results, information and your completed “My drug list” to your follow-up appointments.
- Use “My appointments” on page 5 to write down any appointments and tests you’ll need in the next several weeks.

**For the caregiver**

- Do you have any questions about the items on this checklist or on the discharge instructions? Write them down, and discuss them with the staff.
- Can you give the patient the help he or she needs?
  - What tasks do you need help with?
  - Do you need any education or training?
  - Talk to the staff about getting the help you need before discharge.
- Write down a name and phone number of a person you can call if you have questions.
- Get prescriptions and any special care instructions early, so you won’t have to make extra trips after discharge.

**More information for people with Medicare**

If you need help choosing a home health agency or nursing home:
- Talk to the staff.
- Visit Medicare.gov to compare the quality of home health agencies, nursing homes, drug therapy facilities, and hospitals in your area.
- Call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY users should call 1-877-486-2598.

If you think you’re being asked to leave a hospital or other health care setting (discharged) too soon:
You may have the right to ask for a review of the discharge decision by the hospital and Family-Centered Care Quality Improvement Organization (FCCC-QIO) before you leave. A FCCC-QIO is a type of quality improvement organization (a group of doctors and other health care experts) under contract with Medicare that reviews complaints and quality of care for people with Medicare. To get the phone number for your FCCC-QIO, visit Medicare.gov/contact, or call 1-800-MEDICARE. You can also ask the staff for this information. If you’re in a hospital, the staff should give you a notice called “Important Message from Medicare,” which contains information on your FCCC-QIO. If you don’t get this notice, ask for it.

For more information on your right to appeal, visit Medicare.gov/appeals, or visit Medicare.gov/publications to view the booklet “Medicare Appeals.”
Drug List/Appointments Resources

My drug list

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<tr>
<th>Drug name</th>
<th>What it does</th>
<th>Dose</th>
<th>How to take it</th>
<th>When to take it</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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My appointments

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<tr>
<th>Appointments and tests</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Phone number</th>
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Resources

The agencies listed here have information on community services, (like home-delivered meals and rides to appointments). You can also get help making long-term care decisions, Ask the staff in your health care setting for more information.

**Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) and Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRCs):** Help older adults, people with disabilities, and their caregivers. To find the AAA or ADRC in your area, visit the ElderCare Locator at eldercare.gov, or call 1-800-677-1116.

**Medicare:** Provides information and support to caregivers of people with Medicare. Visit medicare.gov/campaigns/caregivers/caregiver.html.

**Long-Term Care (LTC) Ombudsman Program:** Advocate for and promote the rights of residents in LTC facilities. Visit ombudsman.org.

**Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP) Programs:** Work with seniors to protect themselves from the economic and health-related consequences of Medicare and Medicaid fraud, error, and abuse. To find a local SMP program, visit smpresource.org.

**Centers for Independent Living (CILs):** Help people with disabilities live independently. For a state-by-state directory of CILs, visit ilcah.org/publications/directory/index.html.

**State Technology Assistance Projects:** Has information on medical equipment and other assistive technology. Visit ran.org, or call 1-734-584-8062 to get the contact information in your state.

**National Long-Term Care Clearinghouse:** Provides information and resources to plan for your long-term care needs. Visit longtermcare.gov.

**National Council on Aging:** Provides information about programs that help pay for prescription drugs, utility bills, meals, health care, and more. Visit benafscheckup.org.

**State Health Insurance Assistance Programs (SHIPs):** Offer counseling on health insurance and programs for people with limited income. Also help with claims, billing, and appeals. Visit medicare.gov/contacts, or call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227) to get your SHIP’s phone number. IF you need should call 1-877-486-5668.

**State Medical Assistance (Medicaid) Offices:** Provides information about Medicaid. To find your local office, visit medicare.gov/contacts, or call 1-800-MEDICARE.

SOURCE: CMS
What is APIC?

The Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (APIC) is the leading professional association for infection preventionists (IPs) with more than 15,000 members.

Most APIC members are nurses, physicians, public health professionals, epidemiologists, microbiologists, or medical technologists who:

- Collect, analyze, and interpret health data in order to track infection trends, plan appropriate interventions, measure success, and report relevant data to public health agencies.
What is APIC? (cont.)

Most APIC members…:

- Establish scientifically based infection prevention practices and collaborate with the healthcare team to assure implementation.

- Work to prevent healthcare-associated infections (HAIs) in healthcare facilities by isolating sources of infections and limiting their transmission.

- Educate healthcare personnel and the public about infectious diseases and how to limit their spread.
APIC Guides

The APIC guidelines are available for download or purchase at www.apic.org.


✦ Guide to Preventing Clostridium difficile Infections (2013)
APIC Guides (cont.)

- Guide to Hand Hygiene Programs for Infection Prevention (June 2014)
- Guide to Preventing Central Line-Associated Bloodstream Infections (June 2014)
The Healthcare Infection Control Practices Advisory Committee (HICPAC) is a federal advisory committee assembled to provide advice and guidance to the CDC and the DHHS regarding the practice of infection control and strategies for surveillance, prevention, and control of HAIs, antimicrobial resistance and related events in United States healthcare settings.
HICPAC (cont.)

The primary activity of the Committee is to provide advice on periodic updating of existing CDC guidelines and development of new CDC guidelines.

Additionally, this advice may take the form of resolutions or informal communications.
Development of Key Questions

Each HICPAC guideline begins with the drafting and refining of the key questions most critical to infection prevention and control personnel and providers for the given guideline topic.

The working group first conducts a search of medical literature databases and websites for all relevant guidelines and narrative reviews on the topic of interest.
Development of Key Questions (cont.)

Databases commonly searched include MEDLINE and the National Guideline Clearinghouse.

Websites commonly searched include those of government technology assessment programs like the National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) in the United Kingdom, commercial payors like BlueCross/BlueShield or federal/state websites in the US.
Top CDC Recommendations to Prevent HAIs

General Guidelines

Preventing Healthcare-Associated Infections
Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists Workshop June 7, 2009

2008 Guideline for Disinfection, and Sterilization in Healthcare Facilities presents evidence-based recommendations on the preferred methods for cleaning, disinfection, and sterilization of patient-care medical devices and for cleaning and disinfecting the healthcare environment. In addition to updated recommendations, new topics are also addressed in this guideline.

CDC General Guidelines

Guidelines for Environmental Infection Control in Healthcare Facilities June 6, 2003 / 52(RR10);1-42 The Guidelines for Environmental Infection Control in Healthcare Facilities is a compilation of recommendations for the prevention and control of infectious diseases that are associated with healthcare environments. Available for download

Guidelines for Hand Hygiene in Healthcare Settings
Recent developments in the field have stimulated a review of the scientific data regarding hand hygiene and the development of new guidelines designed to improve hand hygiene practices in healthcare facilities. Guidelines for Hand Hygiene in Healthcare Settings Published 2002 Oct. 25, 2002 / Vol. 51 / No. RR-16
Isolation Guidelines

2007 Guideline for Isolation Precautions: Preventing Transmission of Infectious Agents in Healthcare Settings

This document is intended for use by infection control staff, healthcare epidemiologists, healthcare administrators, nurses, other healthcare providers, and persons responsible for developing, implementing, and evaluating infection control programs for healthcare settings across the continuum of care.

Complete PDF version available for download
Public Reporting

Guidance on Public Reporting of Healthcare-Associated Infections: Recommendations HICPAC has developed this guidance document based on established principles for public health and HAI reporting systems. This document is intended to assist policymakers, program planners, consumer advocacy organizations, and others tasked with designing and implementing public reporting systems for HAIs. Available for download

Interim Guidance for Managing Patients with Suspected Viral Hemorrhagic Fever in U.S. Hospitals May 2005. This document updates recommendations (MMWR 1995; 44 (25) ;475-9) for managing patients with suspected viral hemorrhagic fever (VHF) who are admitted to U.S. hospitals.
Device-Associated Infection Prevention Guidelines

In addition to updating the previous 1981 guideline, this revised guideline reviews the available evidence on CAUTI prevention for patients requiring chronic indwelling catheters and individuals who can be managed with alternative methods of urinary drainage (e.g., intermittent catheterization). The revised guideline also includes specific recommendations for implementation, performance measurement, and surveillance.

Available for download: Guideline for Prevention of CAUTI, 2009
Appendices - Guideline for Prevention of CAUTI, 2009
Device-Associated Infection Prevention Guidelines (cont.)

- **CAUTI Guideline Fast Facts**
- **Podcast:** Dr. Sanjay Saint discusses Catheter-associated UTIs
- **Guidelines for the Prevention of Intravascular Catheter-Related Infections, 2002** Aug. 9, 2002 / 51(RR10);1-26
- **Guidelines for the Prevention of Intravascular Catheter-Related Infections, 2011**
  This report provides Healthcare practitioners with background information and specific recommendations to reduce the incidence of intravascular Catheter-Related Bloodstream Infections (CRBSI).
- Available for download: **Guideline for the Prevention of Intravascular CRBSI, 2011**
Procedure-Associated Infection Prevention Guidelines

Guideline for the Prevention of Surgical Site Infection, 1999

This document is primarily intended for use by surgeons, operating room nurses, postoperative inpatient and clinic nurses, infection control professionals, anesthesiologists, healthcare epidemiologists and other personnel directly responsible for the prevention of nosocomial infections.
Guideline for Preventing Healthcare-Associated Pneumonia, 2003

This report updates, expands, and replaces the previously published CDC "Guideline for Prevention of Nosocomial Pneumonia". The new guidelines are designed to reduce the incidence of healthcare-associated pneumonia and other severe, acute lower respiratory tract infections in acute-care hospitals and in other Healthcare settings (e.g., ambulatory and long-term care institutions) and other facilities where healthcare is provided.

Download the complete guideline
Drug-Resistant Organisms

Guidelines for Developing an Institutional Program to Enhance Antimicrobial Stewardship

Management of Multidrug-Resistant Organisms In Healthcare Settings, 2006 The prevention and control of MDROs is a national priority - one that requires that all healthcare facilities and agencies assume responsibility. The following recommendations are provided to guide the implementation of strategies and practices to prevent the transmission of MRSA, VRE, and other MDROs. Available for download
Guidance for Control of Infections with Carbapenem-Resistant or Carbapenemase-Producing Enterobacteriaceae in Acute Care Facilities MMWR March 20, 2009 / 58(10);256-260
In light of the clinical and infection control challenges posed by CRE and advances in the ability to detect these pathogens, CDC and HICPAC have developed new guidance for CRE infection prevention and control in an effort to limit the further emergence of these organisms. These recommendations are based on strategies outlined in the 2006 HICPAC guidelines for management of multidrug-resistant organisms in Healthcare settings. Available for download
Drug-Resistant Organisms (cont.)

Public Health update of Carbapenem-Resistant Enterobacteriaceae (CRE) producing metallo-beta-lactamases (NDM, VIM, IMP) in the U.S. reported to CDC
CDC staff show two plates growing bacteria in the presence of discs containing various antibiotics.

The isolate on the left plate is susceptible to the antibiotics on the discs and is therefore unable to grow around the discs.

The one on the right has a CRE that is resistant to all of the antibiotics tested and is able to grow near the disks.

SOURCE: CDC
Healthcare Personnel

- Influenza Vaccination of Health-Care Personnel, 2006
  Please note: An erratum has been published for this article. View the erratum. MMWR February, 2006/55(RR02);1-16

- Guideline for Infection Control in Hospital Personnel 1998 PDF (1.04 MB/ 66 pages)
  The revised guideline, designed to provide methods for reducing the transmission of infections from patients to healthcare personnel and from personnel to patients, also provides an overview of the evidence for recommendations considered prudent by consensus of the Hospital Infection Control Practices Advisory Committee members.
Healthcare Personnel (cont.)

- Recommendations for Using Smallpox Vaccine in a Pre-Event Vaccination Program April 4, 2003 / 52(RR07);1-16

- Workbook for Designing, Implementing and Evaluating a Sharps Injury Prevention Program [PDF - 2.09 MB]
Guide to Infection Prevention for Outpatient Settings

Download the printable *Guide to Infection Prevention for Outpatient Settings: Minimum Expectations for Safe Care* (includes an *Infection Prevention Checklist, Appendix A*)
Compendium of Strategies to Prevent HAIs in ACHs

The Compendium is a concise distillation of current guidelines for the prevention of HAI that brings together recommendations from respected sources.
Compendium of Strategies to Prevent HAI in ACHs (cont.)

It is the product of a highly collaborative effort led by the Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America (SHEA), the Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA), the American Hospital Association (AHA), the Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (APIC) and The Joint Commission, with major contributions from representatives of a number of organizations and societies with content expertise, including the CDC, the IHI, the Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society (PIDS), the Society for Critical Care Medicine (SCCM), the Society for Hospital Medicine (SHM) and the Surgical Infection Society (SIS).
The Compendium

Synthesizes best evidence for the prevention of surgical site infections, central line-associated bloodstream infections, catheter-associated urinary tract infections, ventilator-associated pneumonia, *Clostridium difficile*, MRSA, and hand hygiene

Highlights basic HAI prevention strategies plus advanced approaches for outbreak management and other special circumstances

Recommends performance and accountability measures to apply to individuals and groups working to implement infection prevention practices

http://www.sheaonline.org/PriorityTopics/CompendiumofStrategiestoPreventHAIs.aspx
To Prevent CAUTIs

- Insert catheters only for appropriate indications
- Leave catheters in place only as long as needed
- Ensure that only properly trained persons insert and maintain catheters
- Insert catheters using aseptic technique and sterile equipment (acute care setting)
- Follow aseptic insertion, maintain a closed drainage system
- Maintain unobstructed urine flow
- Comply with CDC hand hygiene recommendations and Standard Precautions
To Prevent CAUTIs (cont.)

Also consider:

- Alternatives to indwelling urinary catheterization
- Use of portable ultrasound devices for assessing urine volume to reduce unnecessary catheterizations
- Use of antimicrobial/antiseptic-impregnated catheters
To Prevent SSIs

Before surgery

- Administer antimicrobial prophylaxis in accordance with evidence-based standards and guidelines
- Treat remote infections—whenever possible before elective operations
- Avoid hair removal at the operative site unless it will interfere with the operation; do not use razors
- Use appropriate antiseptic agent and technique for skin preparation
To Prevent SSIs (cont.)

**During Surgery**
- Keep OR doors closed during surgery except as needed for passage of equipment, personnel, and the patient

**After Surgery**
- Maintain immediate postoperative normothermia
- Protect primary closure incisions with sterile dressing
- Control blood glucose level during the immediate post-operative period (cardiac)
- Discontinue antibiotics according to evidence-based standards and guidelines
More on SSI Prevention

Before surgery:

- Nasal screening and decolonization for *Staphylococcus aureus* carriers for select procedures (i.e., cardiac, orthopaedic, neurosurgery procedures with implants).
- Screen preoperative blood glucose levels and maintain tight glucose control
More on SSI Prevention (cont.)

- During surgery:
  - Redose antibiotic at the 3 hr interval in procedures with duration >3hrs
  - Adjust antimicrobial prophylaxis dose for obese patients (body mass index >30)
  - Use at least 50% fraction of inspired oxygen intraoperatively and immediately postoperatively in select procedure(s)
To Prevent CLABSIs Outside ICUs

- Remove unnecessary central lines
- Follow proper insertion practices
- Facilitate proper insertion practices
- Comply with CDC hand hygiene recommendations
- Use appropriate agent for skin antisepsis
- Choose proper central line insertion sites
- Perform adequate hub/access port disinfection
- Provide staff education on central line maintenance and insertion
To Prevent CLABSIs Outside ICUs (cont.)

Also consider:

- Chlorhexidine bathing
- Antimicrobial-impregnated catheters
- Chlorhexidine-impregnated dressings
To Prevent *Clostridium difficile* Infections (CDI)

- Contact Precautions for duration of diarrhea
- Comply with CDC hand hygiene recommendations
- Adequate cleaning and disinfection of equipment and environment
- Laboratory-based alert system for immediate notification of positive test results
- Educate about *C. diff* infection: healthcare personnel, housekeeping, administration, patients and families
CDI Prevention

- Extend use of Contact Precautions beyond duration of diarrhea (e.g., 48 hours)

- Presumptive isolation for symptomatic patients pending confirmation of *C. diff* infection

- Evaluate and optimize testing for *C. diff* infection

- Implement soap and water for hand hygiene before exiting room of a patient with *C. diff* infection
CDI Prevention (cont.)

- Implement universal glove use on units with high *C. diff* infection rates

- Use EPA-registered disinfectants with sporicidal claim (e.g., bleach) or sterilants for environmental disinfection

- Implement an antimicrobial stewardship program
To Prevent MRSA Infections

- Comply with CDC hand hygiene recommendations
- Implement Contact Precautions for MRSA colonized and infected patients
- Recognize previously MRSA colonized and infected patients
- Rapidly report MRSA lab results
- Provide MRSA education for healthcare providers
To Prevent MRSA Infections (cont.)

Also consider:

- Active surveillance testing – screening of patients to detect colonization even if no evidence of infection
- Other novel strategies
  - Decolonization
  - Chlorhexidine bathing
# CDC Slide Sets on HAI Prevention

## Slide sets by Device

### CAUTI - Catheter-associated Urinary Tract Infection
- CAUTI Toolkit [PDF - 483 KB]
- CAUTI Toolkit: PowerPoint format [PPT - 996 KB]
- Activity C: ELC Prevention Collaboratives
- CAUTI Baseline Prevention Practices Assessment Tool For States Establishing HAI Prevention Collaboratives [PDF - 229 KB]

### CLABS - Central Line-associated Bloodstream Infections
- CLABS in Non-Intensive Care Unit (non-ICU) Settings Toolkit [PDF - 508 KB]
- CLABS in non-ICU Settings: PowerPoint format [PPT - 751 KB]
- Activity C: ELC Prevention Collaboratives
- CLABS Baseline Prevention Practices Assessment Tool For States Establishing HAI Prevention Collaboratives [PDF - 229 KB]
- Checklist for Prevention of Central Line Associated Blood Stream Infections [PDF - 177 KB]

### Evaluating Environmental Cleaning
- Options for Evaluating Environmental Cleaning also available for download [PDF - 389 KB]
- Appendices to the Conceptual Program Model for Environmental Evaluation
- CDC Environmental Checklist for Monitoring Terminal Cleaning [PDF - 99 KB]
- CDC Environmental Checklist [Word - 52 KB]
- Environmental Cleaning Eval Worksheet [Excel - 63 KB]

### SSI - Surgical Site Infection
- SSI Toolkit [PDF - 208 KB]
- SSI Toolkit: PowerPoint format [PPT - 468 KB]
- Activity C: ELC Prevention Collaboratives
- SSI Baseline Prevention Practices Assessment Tool For States Establishing HAI Prevention Collaboratives [PDF - 229 KB]

## Slide sets by Pathogen

### C. diff - Clostridium difficile Infections
- C. diff Toolkit [PDF - 1.3 MB]
- available in customizable format
- C. diff Toolkit: PowerPoint format [PPT - 4.34 MB]
- Activity C: ELC Prevention Collaboratives
- Clostridium Difficile Infection (CDI) Baseline Prevention Practices Assessment Tool For States Establishing HAI Prevention Collaboratives [PDF - 241 KB]

### CRE - Carbapenem-resistant Enterobacteriaceae
- Guidance for Control of Carbapenem-resistant Enterobacteriaceae (CRE) - 2012 CRE Toolkit [PDF - 2.98 MB]

### MRSA - Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus Infections
- MRSA [PDF - 206 KB]
- MRSA Toolkit: PowerPoint format [PPT - 744 KB]
- Activity C: ELC Prevention Collaboratives
- MRSA Baseline Prevention Practices Assessment Tool For States Establishing HAI Prevention Collaboratives [PDF - 229 KB]

### Norovirus
- Norovirus Prevention Toolkit

http://www.cdc.gov/HAI/prevent/prevention_tools.html
Surviving Sepsis Campaign

The clinical practice guidelines for the management of sepsis, *International Guidelines for Management of Severe Sepsis and Septic Shock: 2012*, were recently updated by the Surviving Sepsis Campaign, which is a joint collaboration of the Society of Critical Care Medicine and the European Society of Intensive Care Medicine (read more about the Surviving Sepsis Campaign).

Based on these guidelines, the Surviving Sepsis Campaign partnered with the Institute for Healthcare Improvement to create Bundles to help frontline providers implement the guidelines.
## Surviving Sepsis Campaign (cont.)

### Clinical Guidelines:

### Bundles for Implementing Sepsis Guidelines:
- [Surviving Sepsis Campaign: Bundles](http://www.cdc.gov/sepsis/clinicaltools/index.html)
- [Institute for Healthcare Improvement (free registration required): Severe Sepsis Bundles](http://www.cdc.gov/sepsis/clinicaltools/index.html)

### Education and Training
- [American Association of Critical-Care Nurses: Severe Sepsis Practice Alert](http://www.cdc.gov/sepsis/clinicaltools/index.html)
- [Institute for Healthcare Improvement: Treating Sepsis in the Emergency Department and Beyond](http://www.cdc.gov/sepsis/clinicaltools/index.html)
- [Society of Critical Care Medicine: Sepsis Knowledge Area](http://www.cdc.gov/sepsis/clinicaltools/index.html)
- [Surviving Sepsis Campaign: Webcasts, Presentations, Podcasts, Videos](http://www.cdc.gov/sepsis/clinicaltools/index.html)

### Sepsis Screening Tools:
- [Surviving Sepsis Campaign: Evaluation for Severe Sepsis Screening Tool [PDF - 84 KB]](http://www.cdc.gov/sepsis/clinicaltools/index.html)
- [Compilation of Sepsis Screening Tools](http://www.cdc.gov/sepsis/clinicaltools/index.html)
- [Society of Critical Care Medicine: Rapid Identification of Sepsis - The Value of Screening Tools](http://www.cdc.gov/sepsis/clinicaltools/index.html)

Certification in Infection Control

Successful certification indicates competence in the actual practice of infection prevention and control and healthcare epidemiology, and is intended for individuals whose primary responsibility within a healthcare setting is infection prevention and control within that setting.

http://cbic.org/certification/candidate-handbook/online-handbook/general-information#eligibility

The total number of certified infection preventionists in Mississippi is 33. We need more CICs!
What Can We Do?

- Take advantage of what is available to you. Utilize all resources.

- Keep links to your CDC Guidelines on your desktop or in a folder where you can find them quickly. Follow these guidelines as closely as possible.

- Keep up to date on HAI costs. Know status of HAIs within your own facility.

- Work closely with your IP staff. Provide support.
Join Us!

Be a part of the powerful change taking place in hospitals and nursing homes across the nation.

Join our collaborative.

Contact:
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