

NOTES FROM MONTHLY SHARP NHSN USERS' CONFERENCE CALL
February 22, 2012

Thank you to those who were able to join our monthly NHSN users' conference call. If you were unable to participate on this call, we hope that you will be able to participate next month. Any healthcare facility is welcome to participate in these calls, whether they are sharing NHSN data with us or not. These conference calls are voluntary. Registration and name/facility identification are **not** required to participate.

Our monthly conference calls will be held on the 4th Wednesday each month at 10:00 a.m.

Call-in number: 877-336-1831

Passcode: 9103755

Webinar: <http://breeze.mdch.train.org/mdchsharp/>

Suggestions for agenda items and discussion during the conference calls are always welcome! Please contact Judy at weberj4@michigan.gov to add items to the agenda.

HIGHLIGHTS OF FEBRUARY 2012 CONFERENCE CALL

Welcome & Previous Meeting Minutes

Judy welcomed participants on the call, and SHARP staff on the call introduced themselves. Judy reminded participants that previous call minutes will be posted on the MDCH SHARP website at www.michigan.gov/hai. Previous conference calls will be posted under "NHSN Information & SHARP Trainings & Conferences".

Reports Update

Allison informed everyone that the 2011 Quarter 3 and Quarter 4 reports are in their final editing stages and will be posted to the website soon. She also indicated that the 2010-2011 Annual Report, that covers October 2010 through September 2011, is being reformatted for easier viewing. She is working on some trend tables and graphs. Allison made a note to contact her if anyone would like any part of their individual report in word or excel format. This format will allow a facility to use their data how they wish (for example, placing their logo on a report), and distribute the information to others within their hospital.

Updates and Reminders

FACWIDEIN and FACWIDEOUT variables

Allison explained the FACWIDEIN and FACWIDEOUT variables to participants but there is still some uncertainty regarding their use and interpretation. The SHARP Unit is waiting for further clarification from CDC regarding this. FACWIDEIN includes all inpatient locations facility-wide, and FACWIDEOUT includes all outpatient locations facility-wide. The FACWIDE variables can only be used as locations in the reporting plan and summary data sections for the MDRO/CDI module, LabID option.

Using FACWIDEOUT as an example, a facility would need to map each specific outpatient location or clinic, then assign each LabID event to its respective location. The facility can then tally their total encounters for the FACWIDEOUT (or total admissions for FACWIDEIN) for the summary/denominator data. All location-specific events should sum to provide a cumulative inpatient or outpatient event number for all inpatient or outpatient summary data when the FACWIDE variable is run in analysis. It should be noted that total admits and total encounters are marked with an asterisk for each specific location, indicating that they are required fields, but NHSN does not show any error screen or incomplete warning if they are not filled in. Further clarification on these variables will be provided as CDC provides more clarification.

CLABSI Analysis glitches

Allison informed the group that she had experienced an analysis glitch after the release of version 6.6. She discovered that all CLABSI infections had disappeared when running a rate table under the device-associated module, all device-associated events folder. She reported this to the CDC help desk, and they had the issue resolved in about a week. She then asked the group if they had experienced anything similar, and a couple of people indicated that they had experienced minor issues.

Procedures and SSI reporting

Effective January 1, 2012, CMS requires that all acute care hospitals must report all abdominal hysterectomies and colon surgeries within NHSN. These procedures can be added to NHSN under “Procedures” on the navigation bar. If an infection occurs in one of these reported surgical procedures, the SSI can then be reported under “Event” on the navigation bar and can be linked to the surgical procedure. Note that surgical procedures must be monitored for 30 days, whereas procedures involving an implant must be monitored for one year. Remember too that it is very important to follow the NHSN definitions for SSIs in order for all hospitals to be consistent with their reporting. Equally important, the SSI module must be included on the Monthly Reporting Plan in order for SSIs to be reported to CDC.

Dialysis Event Reporting

It is now a CMS requirement, effective January 1, 2012, that outpatient ambulatory dialysis facilities must report specific events. This is also true if the dialysis clinic is hospital-affiliated or for dialysis units within hospitals which treat outpatients. The outpatient dialysis facility must be enrolled as a separate facility within NHSN as an “Amb-Hemo” Hemodialysis Center facility type, and must have its own digital certificate. Events that must be reported include the following: IV antimicrobial starts, positive blood cultures, and signs of vascular access infection. Instructions for reporting these events can be found on the NHSN website. The Region 11 Renal Network, which covers Michigan dialysis facilities, has been providing training to dialysis facilities within their network. Requests for training and specific answers to questions can be directed to their office in St. Paul, Minnesota at 651-644-9877.

Third Party Addendum to Master Data Use Agreement

In January 2012, the MHA Keystone Center for Patient Safety & Quality mailed information requesting hospital participation in a Hospital Engagement Network (HEN) project funded under a grant from the Partnership for Patients to hospitals. Along with this information, a MHA letter of commitment and a copy of the MDCH SHARP Data Use Agreement (DUA) Addendum (entitled “Data Use Addendum to Master Agreement”) were included. Under the current MDCH SHARP Master Data Use & Confidentiality Agreement, the SHARP Unit is not able to share data they

receive with any third party agency. The Addendum, if signed by the hospital, allows MDCH SHARP to share specified NHSN data with the MHA Keystone Center for Patient Safety and Quality, and/or with the Michigan Vermont Oxford Network (VON). Acute care hospitals who wish to share their NHSN data with MHA Keystone or VON must sign the MDCH SHARP Addendum, as well as the Master Data Use and Confidentiality Agreement. Questions regarding the DUA and Addendum can be directed to Judy Weber, MDCH SHARP Healthcare Facility Liaison, at weberj4@michigan.gov or 517-335-8331.

Release of New NHSN Version 6.6

In early February 2012, CDC released their latest version of NHSN. The new version incorporates changes in the NHSN Patient Safety Component Manual and in the way that hospitals collect and report data on NHSN. Hospitals and other facilities using NHSN should review the changes and make note of them. A few changes that may impact the majority of acute care hospitals:

- 1) Central line & umbilical catheter day counts have been combined on the NICU summary data form, as well as CLABSI rate tables for NICU locations.
- 2) SSIs detected on readmission must now be reported as “RF” (readmission to facility in which original procedure was performed), or as “RO” (if readmission was to a different facility).
- 3) Device-associated rate tables have been updated to use national comparative rates from 2010.
- 4) New locations have been added to the NHSN location descriptions to accommodate LTACs and hospital rehabs in preparation for their reporting to begin October 1, 2012.
- 5) Dialysis event protocols have been revised and expanded.

Please review other changes in the new NHSN release which can be found on the home page of the NHSN website under “Communication Updates” and in NHSN newsletters from CDC.

LTCH and Inpatient Rehab Reporting

Effective October 1, 2012, long-term care hospitals (LTCHs) or long-term acute care will be required by CMS to begin reporting CLABSIs and CAUTIs in NHSN. On the same date, Inpatient Rehab facilities will also be required to start reporting CAUTIs. These facilities should start applying for their digital certificates as soon as possible.

CMS Reporting Deadlines

CDC will send NHSN data to CMS quarterly. Deadlines for submitting data within NHSN to ensure that reporting facilities meet the CMS deadlines are listed below:

- January – March (1st quarter of each year) – Deadline is **August 15**
- April – June (2nd quarter) – Deadline is **November 15**
- July – Sept (3rd quarter) – Deadline is **February 15**
- October – December (4th quarter) – Deadline is **May 15**

These deadlines allow facilities 4 ½ months from the end of the quarter to get their data entered into NHSN; however, it is best to not wait for the deadline and get data entered as soon as possible. **If a facility fails to meet the deadline, data not entered for that quarter will not be counted with data for the next quarter. As a result of not meeting the scheduled deadline, facilities may incur financial consequences.**

Links to Educational Webinars by CDC

Please remember to check out training slides and webinars on the NHSN website if you are having difficulty working with specific modules within NHSN. Some of the training modules have been updated. The link for these trainings is: <http://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/training.html>.

VAP, SSI, and CLABSI Changes to Come

In January 2013, there will be changes in VAP, SSI, and CLABSI reporting. Details will be forthcoming from CDC as we get closer to 2013.

MRSA/CDI Prevention Initiative

Gail Denkins provided an update on the MRSA/CDI Prevention Initiative. Over 90 applications had been received and the Collaborative Committee reviewed them and selected agencies that met the Prevention Initiative criteria. Agencies will be notified of the results very soon. 13 acute care and 12 skilled nursing facilities were chosen for the project. April 20, 2012 is the scheduled date for the MRSA/CDI Prevention Initiative Kick Off Conference, and the selected agencies' "Champions" will attend with their team. Conference is by invitation only, but materials will be available online at www.michigan.gov/hai under "MDCH SHARP HAI Prevention Initiatives".

CRE Prevention Initiative

Brenda Brennan introduced the Carbapenem-Resistant Enterobacteriaceae (CRE) Surveillance and Prevention Initiative. The goals of the initiative are to reduce CRE prevalence/incidence, identify and implement best practice recommendations across the healthcare continuum, and build regional partnerships within the healthcare and public health communities. Brenda, Joe Coyle and Marty Boehme have visited 8 healthcare systems throughout the state gathering information on CRE lab detection and infection prevention practices. This preliminary information helped create surveys (one for laboratorians and one for infection preventionists) that will help capture CRE information from additional facilities. The surveys will be sent out via list serves within the next few weeks. This input from our healthcare partners will help direct surveillance and prevention efforts.

Other Announcements

Judy asked if anyone on the call had other announcements to make. Russ Olmsted announced that first quarter CLABSI data from acute care hospitals has been posted on *Hospital Compare*. He also mentioned that APIC is developing a Practice Guidance Center to help answer key clinical questions. Persons calling into the Center will talk to key expert staff. Gail Denkins from the SHARP Unit asked if anyone on the call has previously attended the Patient Safety Conference. Call Gail at 517-241-3638 if you have information to provide her about past conferences.

Suggested Topics for Discussion in March

Judy stated that Allison will go through a sample Individual Hospital Report during the next conference call. Other topic suggestions are welcomed.

NHSN Module Case Studies

Time ran out during this call and we were not able to get to these case studies. They will be added to the agenda for our March call. The case studies are posted on the Home Page of the MDCH SHARP website at www.michigan.gov/hai. Please review these prior to the March conference call and be prepared with how you would answer each question.

Next Conference Call

The next conference call is scheduled for **Wednesday, March 28 at 10:00 a.m.** The call-in phone number and passcode are posted on the MDCH SHARP HAI website at www.michigan.gov/hai.