



State of Colorado
Department of Public Health and Environment

Patient Safety Initiatives
Mandatory Health Facility Acquired Infections Disclosure
Colorado Reporting Standards

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Introduction

This document was developed to help health facilities understand the Colorado health facility acquired infections reporting standards and navigate the reporting system. This document is not meant to replace the training materials provided by National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) but is meant to help infection professionals and facility administrators understand how the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (the department) is using NHSN to develop the disclosure reports and the reporting standards each facility should follow.

General Requirements

Based on 25-3-601 et seq., C.R.S. each facility is required to:

- Enroll in NHSN;
- Complete the Annual NHSN Survey for each licensed (state license) facility in your health system;
- Complete a Monthly NHSN Reporting Plan each month that your facility has denominator data;
- Submit data on state tracked¹ infections to NHSN at least monthly;
- Complete NHSN training and refreshers as needed; and
- Join and confer rights to the Colorado NHSN Group (ID 11351).

Note: These are general requirements related to reporting of health facility acquired infections and are not inclusive of all requirements.

State tracked procedures

The Colorado Health Facility Acquired Infection Advisory Committee selects the metrics for health facilities to collect and submit to NHSN. The 2007 and 2008 requirements are listed in the table below. The 2010 requirements are still under consideration.

Health Facility Acquired Infections Reporting Measures		
2007 Began reporting August 1, 2007	2008 Began reporting July 1, 2008	2010
Central lines in select ICUs	All 2007 metrics	All 2007 and 2008 metrics
Hip prosthesis	Central lines in long term acute care setting	
Knee prosthesis	Hernia repair	
Coronary artery bypass grafts with chest and donor site incisions		TBD
Coronary artery bypass grafts with chest incisions only		TBD

NHSN Overview

Anyone who is interested in learning more about NHSN can gather information from the CDC Web site at:

<http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dhqp/nhsn.html>

NHSN Enrollment

Any hospital or dialysis treatment center is able to enroll with NHSN. Currently, in Colorado only hospitals are reporting to the department through NHSN. Once the system allows ambulatory surgery centers (ASCs) will begin reporting as well. Enrollment information is available on the CDC Web site at:

http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dhqp/nhsn_howToEnroll.html

Training

NHSN offers extensive training around appropriate use of the system. Archived trainings can be accessed from the CDC Web site at:

http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dhqp/nhsn_training.html

Health facilities reporting to the department are required to follow the NHSN guidelines and protocols for surveillance and report procedures using proper NHSN definitions.

NHSN Reporting

Once a facility has completed the NHSN enrollment and installed the digital certificate that facility is able to enter the NHSN reporting system. Access the reporting system at:

<https://sdn.cdc.gov>

Add the site to your list of favorites to make accessing easy.

When reporting to NHSN, at the very minimum enter data in the mandatory fields, which are indicated by a red asterisk *.

Mandatory fields for surgical procedures are:

- **Facility ID**
Pre-populated
- **Patient ID**
Use the medical record number as the patient ID. Once a patient ID is entered in NHSN the system will automatically search for and pull up the patient information that matches the ID entered.
- **Gender**
- **Date of Birth**
Typing the date in the field is much faster than using the calendar. Just be sure to use the correct format DD/MM/YYYY.
- **NHSN Procedure Code**

Four letter code (e.g., knee prosthesis is KPRO).

- **Procedure Data**

- **Outpatient**

Was this an outpatient surgery?

Mandatory fields for device associated procedures are:

- **Facility ID**

Pre-populated

- **Location Code**

Each facility must create location codes in advance of entering device associated surveillance data. In NHSN locations are defined globally by the CDC and at the individual facility level. Locations must be created in the Facility navigation option in NHSN.

- **Month**

- **Year**

There are other specific mandatory fields for adding an event, which change depending on the type of event (i.e., SSI or BSI).

Rate Calculation

Remember NHSN will calculate infection rates. To get accurate rates each facility must enter both the number of infections and the number of clinical procedures performed.

Procedure associated data (surgeries):

- **Denominator data** is the number of surgeries performed during a given month based on the discharge codes in the NHSN operative procedure categories listed in table 12 of the NHSN manual.
- **Numerator data** is the infection or NHSN refers to this as an event.
- Per NHSN, denominator data must be entered within 30 days of the end of the month (i.e., December data must be entered by January 30).
- General surgery information:
 - Track surgeries for 30 days to monitor for infection.
 - If the surgery includes an implant, track that surgery for a full year to monitor for infection.
 - In NHSN a facility will be required to link infection events to the original surgery.

Device associated data (central line insertions):

- **Denominator data** is the number of central line days a facility has in an NHSN defined location (e.g., Adult Medical ICU).
- **Numerator data** is the infection or NHSN refers to this as an event.
- Per NHSN, central line data must be entered within 30 days of the end of the month (i.e., December data must be entered by January 30).

Note: Central line associated bloodstream infection surveillance is not required after the patient is discharged from the facility; however, if discovered, the infection should be reported to NHSN. Do not report additional central line days.

Conferring Right to the Colorado Group (ID 11351)

Each facility must join the Colorado group (ID 11351) and confer selected rights to the group. The group is administered by the department and is the only mechanism the department has to review data submitted to NHSN by each facility. For all state tracked procedures, confer right to:

- ☐ Patients (without identifiers);
- ☐ Monthly Reporting Plan;
- ☐ Annual Hospital Survey;
- ☐ Data Analysis;
- ☐ Infections and other Events;
- ☐ Summary Data for Events; and
- ☐ Denominator Data for Events.

Ensure the Colorado Group has rights to bloodstream infections (BSI) and surgical site infections (SSI) data from August 1, 2007 and beyond. Follow the NHSN how to guide for assistance with conferring rights to the group:

<http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dhqp/pdf/nhsn/Confer%20Rights%20to%20Group%20How-To%20Guide.pdf>

The state is only able to review data submitted to NHSN through the group feature. As such, each facility is responsible for ensuring the state is able to view the required data. If there are technical problems with the group/confer rights feature that hinder data sharing the facilities should consult NHSN to resolve the issue.

nhsn@cdc.gov

NHSN is a powerful tool for infection surveillance and reporting. Facilities are encouraged to use NHSN to perform infection surveillance beyond what is currently required by the department. However, health facilities are only required to give the department access rights to the information being tracked.

Public Report Development Process

After facilities give the department access to their data the department compiles preliminary reports. These reports are taken to the Colorado Health Facility Acquired Infection Advisory Committee (CHFAIAC) for clinical input and format recommendations. Before infection disclosure reports are released to the public, both the CHFAIAC and the department thoroughly review the format and presentation of the data to ensure comparisons are statistically sound and the narrative explanations are accurate.

Any patient health information entered into NHSN is protected by the CDC confidentiality rules. The Colorado NHSN group (administered by the department) is protected under Colorado statute. Individual health information will not be published in the public reports. Health facility specific information remains confidential until a public report is released.