

MDCH SHARP NHSN USERS CONFERENCE CALL
Wednesday, December 18, 2013

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 are held on the 4th Wednesday each month at 10:00 a.m.
Our next conference call is scheduled for Wednesday, January 22, 2014.

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 FROM CONFERENCE CALL

Welcome & Introductions

Judy welcomed participants, and introductions were made of SHARP staff on the call. Participants were reminded to put their phones on mute or to press *6.

Updates on NHSN

- **Delay in Implementation of several 2014 SSI Changes**

Judy reported that since our November conference call, CDC sent an email reporting additional changes within the SSI reporting requirements for 2014. Several IPs have approached CDC and expressed concern about lacking sufficient time and resources to capture new data for SSI events, particularly patient diabetes diagnosis status and the type of incisional wound closure.

Regarding the diagnosis of diabetes, if the person doing surveillance is not able to find this information in the operative report, CDC suggests that the facility use the default for 'N' ('no' value) for the patient until a system is in place to identify and report this. Diabetes information, however, will be required by CMS the beginning of 2015.

Regarding incisional closure type (primary versus non-primary closure – definitions are included in the CDC newsletter attached to the meeting room). Facilities that have this information readily available should report it in 2014. If a facility is not able to find or access this information, they can report their procedure denominators exactly as they were doing in 2013 and then go back and

thoroughly evaluate each SSI identified and update the procedure record if they find that the incision was a non-primary closure. Incisional closure type will become mandatory reporting in January 2015.

CDC recommends that NHSN users work with their operating room liaison, their IT staff, or other groups within their facility, to ensure that diabetes and incisional closure type are readily available for mandatory reporting to NHSN beginning in January 2015.

There will be **no delay** in reporting height, weight and procedure duration for SSI events. These should be reported beginning January 2014 as previously announced.

- **Reminder to Confer Data Rights to HCP Flu Vaccination Module**
Judy and Allie walked through the steps of conferring data rights to the HCP Flu Vaccination Module for the SHARP Unit. Although reporting into this module is a *CMS requirement for acute care hospitals*, Judy said that she realizes that many hospitals have not yet entered data into this module. (Deadline for entering this data is May 15, 2014.) She reminded hospitals that they first need to add this new Component to their facility's NHSN plan by going to "Facility" on the navigation bar, then to 'Add/Edit Component' underneath "Facility". On the screen that opens, a check mark should be placed before 'Healthcare Personnel Safety' under the heading of "Components Followed". Following this, the facility should go the Healthcare Personnel Safety Component, click on "Group" on the navigation bar, highlight MDCH_SHARP in the box, and then click on "Confer Rights". When the new screen opens showing the conferred rights, the facility can simply click on the "Accept" button at the bottom of the screen.
- **Reminder to Keep Hospital Contact Info Updated in NHSN**
Judy again reminded facilities to keep their contact information updated within NHSN. This is important as CDC uses this information when sending out updates and newsletters on NHSN. To check this information, go to "Facility" on the navigation bar, click on "Facility Information", and scroll down to the heading "Contact Information". Please make sure that all persons listed have accurate information provided. "Edit" or "Re-Assign" as appropriate and then click on "Update" at the bottom of the screen.
- **HICPAC Concerns regarding Standardization of NHSN Case Definitions**
The Healthcare Infection Control Practices Advisory Committee (HICPAC) has expressed concern about how HAI rates are used to rank a HCF's quality of patient care, especially now as HAI rates from NHSN data are posted to the Hospital Compare website and are also available to the public. They are concerned about the consistency and accuracy of the data reported and how this might influence the public to use one hospital versus another for services. Some of the HICPAC concerns include the following:

- NHSN definitions can be subjective.
- Ease or not of IPs accessing information to apply to the NHSN definitions.
- Variability in determining an HAI or event between IPs.
- Concerns about whether clinicians have been trained on surveillance definitions versus clinical diagnosis.
- Temptation to exclude data/infections to make facility data look better.
- Increasing pressure for IPs and NHSN users to exclude an event when there are financial and public consequences.

The article entitled “Public Reporting of Health Care-Associated Surveillance Data: Recommendations from the Healthcare Infection Control Practices Advisory Committee” lists multiple standards of practice for the use of HAI surveillance data for internal and external performance measures. This document is attached to the meeting room and the recommendations are listed at the end of the document. The HICPAC recommendations are worth reading through and should be used for internal and external validation of a facility’s NHSN data.

- **MRSA & *C. difficile* LabID Event data now on Hospital Compare**
 Judy mentioned that the 1st quarter 2013 MRSA bacteremia LabID and *C. difficile* LabID data have now been included on Hospital Compare. Some hospitals do not yet have sufficient data to include them on Hospital Compare but they will be included as they get more data.

Validation Plans

Jennie mentioned that the SHARP Unit is planning to conduct a pilot validation of 2012 CLABSI data by enlisting the help of several acute care hospitals. Invitations to participate have been sent to 5 hospitals along with a Validation Agreement that they can sign if interested in participating. SHARP staff will conduct validation using the CDC 2012 CLABSI Validation Toolkit and hope to gain remote access to hospital data. To date, one hospital has signed and returned the Agreement, two hospitals are pending, one has declined participation, and another has not responded to the invitation. The SHARP Unit is planning to begin validation activities in January. Other hospitals that may be interested in participating in this pilot should contact Jennie or Judy.

Recruitment of LTC Facilities

Noreen mentioned that the SHARP Unit has started to recruit long-term care facilities to participate in surveillance and prevention activities with our office. The SHARP Unit hopes to recruit additional long-term care facilities to participate in Gail Denkins’ MRSA/CDI Prevention Initiative and then encourage them to begin using NHSN to share their data with us. We encourage hospitals to provide us with the names of any long-term care facilities who may be interested in doing this.

Update on NHSN Reports

Allie presented a powerpoint that provided an overview on the MI 2013 Quarter 1 HAI Surveillance Report, the MI 2012 Annual HAI Surveillance Report, and comparative

CDC data. The 2013 Q1 Report will be posted to the www.michigan.gov/hai website on Friday, December 20 as well as mailed out via NHSN to participating hospitals. The 2013 Q1 section of the overview powerpoint will also be available at this time. The 2012 Annual Report will be available in early 2014 along with the CDC data. Once all reports have been published, the entire powerpoint overview will also be available to the public. Allie received a few questions asking for copies of the presentation, but unfortunately, this cannot be released until all national data are published.

Acute Care Hospital & Inpatient Rehab Facility Survey

Because of a lack of time, we were not able to get to this item on the agenda. Allie will report on this survey during our January conference call.

Staff Changes for 2014

Jennie mentioned that Bryan Buckley is leaving the SHARP Office and has taken a position with the Michigan Health and Hospital Association where he will be working with their Patient Safety Organization. Jennie also mentioned that Judy will be transitioning to half time in 2014. Judy mentioned that she will be working full time until January 21 and then she will be off on medical leave for 4-6 weeks. She is expected to be on medical leave through the month of February. When she returns, she will be working half time. Allie and Jennie will continue to be available to answer questions about NHSN during this time.

Questions and Answers

Several questions were asked about Allie's data during her presentation but there was no time at the end of this call for additional questions.

Next Meeting

The next NHSN conference call is scheduled for Wednesday, January 22, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. Please join the call if you can.