

# Central Line Associated Bloodstream Infection Surveillance

Last updated 2019

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Basics of Infection Prevention  
Healthcare-Associated Infections Program  
Center for Health Care Quality  
California Department of Public Health



# Objectives

- Review CLABSI surveillance definitions
- Discuss importance of accurate data collection
- Demonstrate how to report CLABSI events summary data in NHSN
- Discuss NHSN data analysis and feedback to staff

# CLABSI Surveillance for Prevention

1. Perform surveillance for CLABSI using NHSN standardized definitions and methods
2. Compare SIR or rate over time to assess prevention progress
3. Monitor CLABSI incidence over time using the standardized infection ratio (SIR) metric

(See Introduction to NHSN slides)

# CLABSI Surveillance Key Terms

- Lab confirmed bloodstream infection (**LCBI**)
  - Blood culture positive for a pathogen
- **Commensal**
  - Organism not usually considered pathogenic
  - Include (but not limited to)
    - Diphtheroids
    - *Propionibacterium* spp.
    - coagulase-negative staphylococci
    - viridans group streptococci
    - *Aerococcus* spp.
    - *Micrococcus* spp.

See NHSN Patient Safety Manual: Chapter 4, pp 4-10, NHSN organism list  
[https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/pdfs/pscmanual/4psc\\_clabscurrent.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/pdfs/pscmanual/4psc_clabscurrent.pdf)

# CLABSI Surveillance

- For BSI to be considered a CLABSI, a **central line** must be
  - In place for >2 days on the date of the event (date device placed = day one)

**AND**

- Still in place on day of event -or- in place on the day prior to the event
- The CLABSI **event date** is defined as the day the first element used to meet the surveillance definition occurs within the seven-day window period

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# CLABSI Surveillance Definition

## LCBI 1

- Patient of any age
- has a recognized pathogen cultured from one or more blood cultures
  - and
  - Organism cultured from blood is not related to an infection at another site

## LCBI 2\*

- Patient of any age
- has common skin commensals cultured from 2 or more blood cultures drawn on separate occasions
  - and
  - has at least one of the following signs or symptoms
    - Fever ( $>38^{\circ}\text{C}$ ), chills, or hypotension
    - and
    - Signs and symptoms and (+) lab results are not related to an infection at another site

## LCBI 3\*

- Patient of  $\leq 1$  year of age
- has common skin commensals cultured from 2 or more blood cultures drawn on separate occasions
  - and
  - has at least one of the following signs or symptoms
    - Fever ( $>38^{\circ}\text{C}$ ), hypothermia ( $<36^{\circ}\text{C}$  core), apea, or bradycardia
    - and
    - Signs and symptoms and (+) lab results are not related to an infection at another site

\*All criteria occur within 7 day infection window period

## Mucosal Barrier Injury (MCBI) BSI

- More specific BSI definition for oncology patients
- BSI resulting when intestinal organisms from compromised intestinal wall mix into the bloodstream
- Occurs in post allogeneic hematopoietic transplant or severely neutropenic patients
- MCBI SIR is calculated separately from CLABSI SIR

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# CLABSI Infection Criteria- Acute Care Hospitals

## Diagnostic Test for Possible CLABSI

- Positive blood culture with a pathogen OR-
- 2 positive blood cultures with common commensals

## Localized Sign or Symptoms for Possible CLABSI (**ONLY used with 2 blood commensals**)

- Fever
- Chills
- Hypotension

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# CLABSI due to Common Commensal Organisms

- Two blood cultures have been collected on the same or consecutive days
  - One positive culture may be due to poor skin prep prior to lab draw (skin contaminant)
  - Two matching positive cultures of the same commensal, meeting criteria, are considered a true pathogen

Example: Blood cultures positive for common commensal organism (e.g., *S. epi*) collected on Mon-Tues meets LCBI 2; cultures collected on Mon-Wed are too far apart

## CLABSI Infection Window Period

- Defined as the 7-days during which all site-specific infection criteria must be met
- Includes the day the **first** positive blood culture was obtained, 3 calendar days before and 3 calendar days after

Infection Window Period:	3 days before first positive diagnostic test			FIRST POSITIVE DIAGNOSTIC TEST	3 days after first positive diagnostic test		
Example:	Mar 7	Mar 8	Mar 9	Mar 10	Mar 11	Mar 12	Mar 13

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## CLABSI Event Date

- The date of event is the date the first element is used to meet the definition for the first time
- May or may not be the positive blood culture date

## CLABSI Location Attribution

- A CLABSI is attributed to the location of the patient on the day of event
  - Defined as the date that the first element used to meet the LCBI criterion occurred
- If the date of event for a CLABSI is the day of transfer or discharge, or the next day, the infection is attributed to the transferring location
- Attribute CLABSI to correct location for accurate SIR calculations. Each location has different risk adjustments in NHSN

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# CLABSI Cannot Re-Occur in the Same Patient within a 14-Day Timeframe

- The date of the CLABSI event is considered day 1
- A new CLABSI is not reported until 14 days have elapsed
- If a new pathogen is identified in the blood within the 14 day timeframe, it should be added to the CLABSI already reported
  - Refer to the CLABSI protocol for more details

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## Secondary BSI Attribution

- The period in which a positive blood culture must be collected to be considered a secondary BSI to a primary site of infection
  - Includes the 7-day infection window combined with the 14-day repeat infection timeframe, or 14-17 days depending on the date of the event
  - A positive blood culture collected outside this 14-17 date range cannot be considered a secondary BSI to the primary infection
- A primary BSI (CLABSI) cannot have a secondary BSI

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## Secondary BSI Attribution -2

- A secondary BSI may be attributed to a primary site of infection if one of the following is true:
  1. The blood culture pathogen matches an organism also cultured in the primary infection site

**OR**

  2. A positive blood culture is an element used to meet the primary site infection
- See the Secondary BSI Guide (Table B1) of the CLABSI protocol for more details

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## Secondary BSI Attribution -3

- NHSN Infections that include a positive blood culture as an element in the primary site definition:
  - Bone-Osteomyelitis
  - Burn
  - Disc space infection
  - Endocarditis
  - GI tract infection
  - Intra-abdominal infection
  - Joint
  - Meningitis
  - Other infection-reproductive tract
  - Pneumonia
  - Spinal abscess
  - Omphalitis
  - Urinary System Infection

NHSN Patient Safety Module: Chapter 4, Secondary BSI Guide, pp 4-27, Table B1

[https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/pdfs/pscmanual/pcsmanual\\_current.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/pdfs/pscmanual/pcsmanual_current.pdf)



# Pathogen Assignment

- If a new blood pathogen is identified within the 14-day repeat infection timeframe, it should be added to the already reported CLABSI as an additional pathogen
- Do not report it as a new CLABSI
- Pathogens excluded from specific infection definitions (e.g. yeast for UTI and PNEU) are also excluded from being considered secondary bloodstream infections
  - Example: Yeast in the blood and urine would be reported as a CLABSI, as yeast is excluded from the UTI definition
- Refer to the NHSN protocol for more details on pathogen assignment and secondary BSI

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## Pathogens Associated with CLABSI



NHSN Antimicrobial Resistance Report: Distribution of all Pathogens Reported by HAI Type,  
Appendix to Table 4, 2011-2014

<https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/xls/reportdatatables/2014-appendix-pathogens.xlsx>

# How do I Apply the CLABSI Surveillance Definitions?

Let's look at some



# NHSN HAI and POA Worksheet Generator

Based on the information you provided:

Admit Date: Tue Jan 01 2019

The event is: HAI

Date of Event: Fri Jan 04 2019

Infection Window Period: Tue Jan 01 2019 - Mon Jan 07 2019

Repeat Infection Timeframe (RIT): Fri Jan 04 2019 - Thu Jan 17 2019

Event Type: BSI

Admit date: 1/1/2019

[www.cdc.gov/nhsn](http://www.cdc.gov/nhsn)

Hospital Day/Date	First Diagnostic Test	Infection Window Period (*)	Date of Event	Repeat Infection Timeframe (*)
1. - 1/1/2019 - Admit Date		<input type="checkbox"/>	-	
2. - 1/2/2019		<input type="checkbox"/>	-	
3. - 1/3/2019		<input type="checkbox"/>	-	
4. - 1/4/2019	✓	✓	- HAI	
5. - 1/5/2019		<input type="checkbox"/>	-	
6. - 1/6/2019		<input type="checkbox"/>	-	
7. - 1/7/2019		<input type="checkbox"/>	-	
8. - 1/8/2019			-	
9. - 1/9/2019			-	
10. - 1/10/2019			-	
11. - 1/11/2019			-	
12. - 1/12/2019			-	
13. - 1/13/2019			-	
14. - 1/14/2019			-	
15. - 1/15/2019			-	
16. - 1/16/2019			-	
17. - 1/17/2019			-	

- Enter 3 data points into Worksheet Generator:
  - Date of Admission
  - Date of first diagnostic test
  - Event type
- NHSN Generates a worksheet for you to enter additional data
- You must determine if the HAI definition is met

Start Over...

Back...

Print Friendly Window...

Generate Table...

# BSI Event Date

Hospital Day/Date	First Diagnostic Test	Infection Window Period (*)	Date of Event	Repeat Infection Timeframe (*)
12/30/2018		<input type="checkbox"/>	-	
12/31/2018		<input type="checkbox"/>	-	
1. - 1/1/2019 - Admit Date		<input type="checkbox"/>	-	
2. - 1/2/2019	✓	✓ BC + Staph aureus	- POA	
3. - 1/3/2019		<input type="checkbox"/>	-	
4. - 1/4/2019		<input type="checkbox"/>	-	
5. - 1/5/2019		<input type="checkbox"/>	-	
6. - 1/6/2019				
7. - 1/7/2019				
8. - 1/8/2019				
9. - 1/9/2019				
10. - 1/10/2019				
11. - 1/11/2019				
12. - 1/12/2019				
13. - 1/13/2019				
14. - 1/14/2019				
15. - 1/15/2019				

Automatically populates HAI or POA on date of event

BSI: POA  
Date of Event: date of the first diagnostic test  
Pathogen: Staph A

# CLABSI Event Date

Hospital Day/Date	First Diagnostic Test	Infection Window Period (*)	Date of Event	Repeat Infection Timeframe (*)	Secondary BSI Attribution Period (*)
1. - 1/1/2019 - Admit Date		<input type="checkbox"/> Central line inserted			
2. - 1/2/2019		<input type="checkbox"/>			
3. - 1/3/2019		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fever 38.8	- HAI		
4. - 1/4/2019	✓	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BC + Staph epi			
5. - 1/5/2019		<input type="checkbox"/> BC + Staph epi			
6. - 1/6/2019		<input type="checkbox"/>			
7. - 1/7/2019		<input type="checkbox"/>			
8. - 1/8/2019					
9. - 1/9/2019					
10. - 1/10/2019					
11. - 1/11/2019					
12. - 1/12/2019					
13. - 1/13/2019					
14. - 1/14/2019					
15. - 1/15/2019					
16. - 1/16/2019					

Remember:

The date of event is the date the first element is used to meet the definition for the first time

# Primary and Secondary Examples

Hospital Day/Date	First Diagnostic Test	Infection Window Period (*)	Date of Event	Repeat Infection Timeframe (*)	Secondary BSI Attribution Period (*)
1. - 1/1/2019 - Admit Date		<input type="checkbox"/>			
2. - 1/2/2019		<input type="checkbox"/>			
3. - 1/3/2019		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dysuria	HAI		
4. - 1/4/2019	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Urine culture >100,000cfu/ml E. faecalis			
5. - 1/5/2019		<input type="checkbox"/>			
6. - 1/6/2019		<input type="checkbox"/>			
7. - 1/7/2019		<input type="checkbox"/>			
8. - 1/8/2019					
9. - 1/9/2019					
10. - 1/10/2019					
11. - 1/11/2019		Blood culture E. faecalis/Yeast			Blood Culture E. faecalis/Yeast
12. - 1/12/2019					
13. - 1/13/2019					
14. - 1/14/2019					
15. - 1/15/2019					
16. - 1/16/2019					

UTI & Secondary BSI  
DOE= 1/3/19  
Pathogen: E. faecalis

Primary BSI  
DOE = 1/11/19  
Pathogen: Yeast

# Add Monthly CLABSI Summary Data to NHSN

**NHSN Home**

Alerts

Dashboard

Reporting Plan ▶

Patient ▶

Event ▶

Procedure ▶

**Summary Data ▶**

Import/Export

Surveys ▶

Analysis ▶

Users ▶

Facility ▶

Group ▶

Logout

**Denominators for Intensive Care Unit (ICU)/Other locations (not NICU or SCA)**

Mandatory fields marked with \*

Facility ID \*: California General Hospital (ID 15633) ▼

Location Code \*: .A7W.W1 - IUC-SURG/MED1

Month \*: July ▼

Year \*: 2017 ▼

**Add**

Find Report No Events

**Total Patient Days:** 100

**Central Line Days:** 50

Urinary Catheter Days: 120

Ventilator Days:

APRV Days:

Episodes of Mechanical Ventilation:

Mechanical Ventilation:

CLABSI:

CAUTI:

VAE:

PedVAP:

Custom Fields [Help](#)

- Enter monthly denominator data for each patient location
  - Patient days
  - Central line days



# Optional: Denominator Data Sampling

**How to sample:** Count the number of the location patient days and the number of central lines on a designated day each week. Not on Saturday or Sunday. Add those numbers for the month and enter here.

1. Enter Monthly patient days for this location based on daily collection

Denominator Data		
		Report No Events
Total Patient Days:	<input type="text" value="450"/>	
Central Line Days:	<input type="text" value="32"/>	CLABSI: <input type="checkbox"/>
Urinary Catheter Days:	<input type="text"/>	CAUTI: <input type="checkbox"/>
Ventilator Days:	<input type="text"/>	VAE: <input type="checkbox"/> PedVAP: <input type="checkbox"/>

5. NHSN will estimate the central line days for the month

Sample Values For Estimating Denominator Data		
		Check Box(es) if Sampling Used
Sample Patient Days *:	<input type="text" value="300"/>	
Sample Central Line Days *:	<input type="text" value="21"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sample Urinary Catheter Days:	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2. Check Box if sampling is used  
 3. Enter sampled total patient-days  
 4. Enter sampled total central line days

*Note: Sampling may not be used for NICU or specialty care areas/oncology*

# Add CLABSI Event to NHSN

<b>NHSN Home</b>
Alerts
Dashboard
Reporting Plan ▶
Patient ▶
<b>Event ▶</b>
Procedure ▶
Summary Data ▶
Import/Export
Surveys ▶
Analysis ▶
Users ▶
Facility ▶
Group ▶
Logout



## Add Event

Mandatory fields marked with \*  
Fields required for record completion  
Fields required when in Plan mode

- Add**
- Find
- Incomplete

- Add CLABSI Events as they occur
- Collect criteria data meeting definition to enter into NHSN
- NHSN has a worksheet available for data collection

[https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/forms/57.108\\_PrimaryBSI\\_BLANK.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/forms/57.108_PrimaryBSI_BLANK.pdf)

### Event Information

Event Type \*: BSI - Bloodstream Infection ▼

Post-procedure: N - No ▼

MDRO Infection Surveillance \*: No, this infection's pathogen/location are not in-plan for Infection Control

Location \*: 5 NORTH - MICU ▼

Date Admitted to Facility >:  4

### Risk Factors

Central line \*: Y - Yes ▼

Any hemodialysis catheter present: Y - Yes ▼

Location of Device Insertion: ED - EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT (ED) ▼

Date of Device Insertion:  4

### Event Details

Specific Event >: LCBI - Laboratory confirmed bloodstream infection ▼

# NHSN CLABSI Analysis Reports

<b>NHSN Home</b>
Alerts
Dashboard
Reporting Plan ▶
Patient ▶
<b>Event ▶</b>
Procedure ▶
Summary Data ▶
Import/Export
Surveys ▶
Analysis ▶
Users ▶
Facility ▶
Group ▶
Logout



## Add Event

Mandatory fields marked with \*  
Fields required for record completion  
Fields required when in Plan mode

- Add
- Find
- Incomplete

- Add CLABSI Events as they occur
- Collect criteria data meeting definition to enter into NHSN
- NHSN has a worksheet available for data collection

[https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/forms/57.108\\_PrimaryBSI\\_BLANK.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/forms/57.108_PrimaryBSI_BLANK.pdf)

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Location of Device Insertion: ED - EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT (ED) ▼

Date of Device Insertion:  4

### Event Details

Specific Event >: LCBI - Laboratory confirmed bloodstream infection ▼

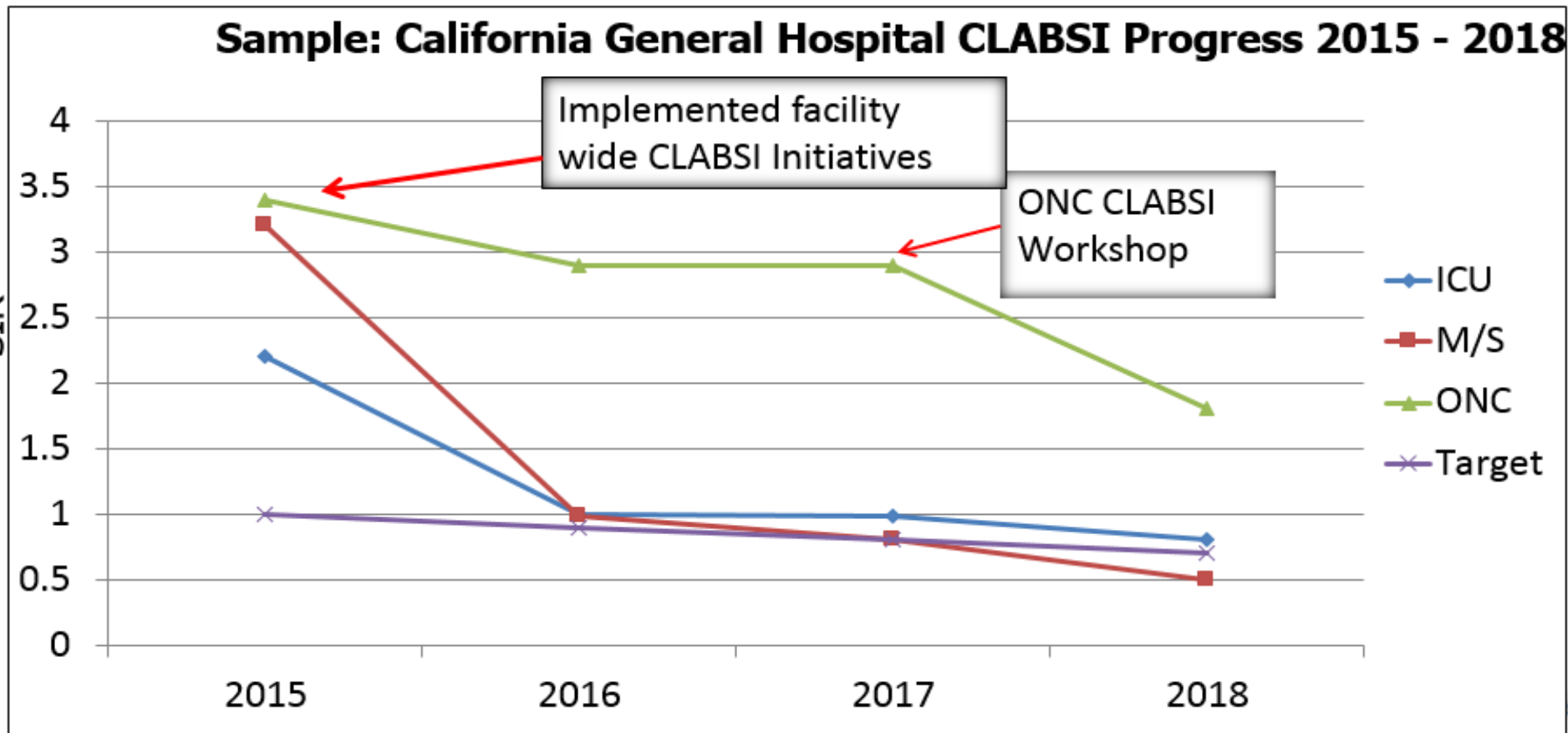
## NHSN TAP Report - CLABSI

Facility CAD	Location Rank	Location	CDC Location	Events	Central Line Days	DUR %	CAD	SIR	SIR Test
20.52	1	1 West	IN:ACUTE:WARD:M	14	2269	49	13.10	7.81	
	2	2 West	IN:ACUTE:WARD:M	4	1349	42	3.40	3.34	
	3	SICU	IN:ACUTE:CC:S	3	1062	9	2.58		
	4	5 West	IN:ACUTE:WARD:M	2	983	9	1.61		

- Identifies the **number of infections that needed to be prevented** to reach targeted goal (CAD)
  - Lists results high-to-low by location
  - Assists in deciding where to focus infection prevention resources

# Measure CLABSI Prevention Progress

- Feedback results to your staff and leadership
- Changes in CLABSI incidence should be visible over time
- In the example, we can see ONC needed additional interventions



## CLABSI Surveillance Summary

- Consistent use of standard surveillance methods and CLABSI definitions are essential for accurate case finding
- Capturing complete and accurate data is necessary for precise CLABSI SIR calculation
- Perform surveillance and feedback CLABSI SIR with adherence monitoring results to all units and leadership

# Questions?

For more information,  
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