Healthcare-Associated Infections Advisory Committee  
Meeting Summary  
May 9, 2019  
Richmond, CA

Voting Members Present  
Roy Boukidjian, Keith Bradkowski, Theresa Caughlin, John Culver, Jeremiah Darnell, Sarah Doernberg, Silvia Gnass, Marisa Holubar, Patricia Kassab, Cristine Lacerna, Erica Pan, Arianna Sampson

Voting Members Absent  
Tim Clark, Kim Erlich, Marian Hollingsworth, Tashia Orr, Michele Ramos, Dawn Terashita (Chair), Matt Zahn

Liaison Members Present  
HSAG/ Howard Pitluk, IDAC/Jeffrey Silvers, CA-APIC/Mary Virgallito (Phone)

Liaison Members Absent  
CMA/Michael Butera, CHA/ BJ Bartleson, CAN/Kathy Dennis,

Department Staff Present  
Lynn Janssen, Erin Epson, Vicki Keller, Janice Kim, Lanette Corona, Naveen Makhdum, Valerie Sandles

Call to order, introductions, and review meeting requirements  
Lynn Janssen called the meeting to order at 10:11 AM.

Item 1. Approve February 14, 2019 meeting summary  
Meeting summary approved.

Item 2. CDPH HAI Program Updates – Lynn Janssen, CDPH
Thanked members for their work and input on Title 22 regulations revision process. Announced soon to be released All Facilities Letters (AFL), including reporting requirements for outbreaks and unusual infectious disease occurrences and Enhanced Standard Precautions for SNF, 2019,

Reviewed accomplishments during 5-year HAI prevention funding from CDC (2015-2019)
- >200 HAI and AR/high concern pathogen investigations with 34 LPH departments
- Established 159-member CA Lab-Epi Alliance (nee’ Network)
- Convened 6 regional CDI/AR prevention collaboratives in 16 LPH jurisdictions, involving 61 hospitals, 6 LTACs, 97 SNF, 36 outpatient clinics
- Onsite assessments and assistance to 45% of California’s outpatient dialysis clinics, 40% SNF outside of LA county, 100% LTAC hospitals, multiple visits, hospitals with high HAI incidence, 54 in 2017, 65 in 2018
- Provided >300 HAI/AR prevention educational offerings reaching 18,114 learners

New CDC 5-year cooperative agreement to begin. For 2019-20, proposed 16 staff for specific activities:
- Onsite infection control assessments during and after HAI and AR/high concern pathogen investigations
- AR/CDI and ASP targeted prevention interventions
  - 44 vSNF in Southern CA
  - 40 hospitals with highest MRSA BSI in 13 counties
  - 43 facilities (hospitals, SNF, outpatient clinics) in Kern County ASP Consortium

New CDC 5-year cooperative agreement to begin. For 2019-20, proposed 16 staff for specific activities:

New CDC 5-year cooperative agreement to begin. For 2019-20, proposed 16 staff for specific activities:
- Improve antibiotic use in 2 large binational border provider groups serving >100K enrollees
- Include 35 clinics in current Imperial County collaborative

Will report on funding received at August 8, 2019, HAI Advisory Committee meeting (details at Nov meeting)

2019 CLABSI & MRSA BSI validation selected based on
- Concerns from hospital IPs under pressure to reduce HAI incidence
- 20-hospital CLABSI workshop IPs requested onsite data validation as a means to reinforce NHSN protocol and definition requirements
- Chart review project to characterize underlying cause of MRSA BSI in 10 hospitals identified 25% of labID MRSA BSI attributed to CLABSI had not been reported as CLABSI

Will select hospitals for external onsite validation based on criteria intended to capture hospitals that may be under-reporting; remaining hospitals to do same validation using a self-directed workbook. Committee approved the plan.

Future HAI Program update topics
Aug 2019: Annual HAI report findings and data for action strategy, 2018
Nov 2019: 1) Interim 2019 external validation findings, 2) CDC-funded 2019-20 activities, 3) AR/High Concern Pathogen Containment Plan (DRAFT)
Feb 2020: CPO and C. auris colonization testing decision tree (DRAFT)
May 2020: Data for action strategy for the 2020-21 program year

Committee discussion:
Education committee very pleased with update on website and will wait to give their report until after seeing what is posted. Suggested “honor roll” in the annual report for those hospitals that do well in validation and have low rates. Would like to know after CLABSI validation what “best practices” brought incidence down if indeed there was no under reporting

Item 3. Environmental Cleaning in Healthcare Subcommittee – Jeremiah Darnell, Chair
Shared updated literature review to support the need for education, training, and credentialing of environmental services leadership to ensure successful environmental services programs.

Motion #1 – Proposed by Jeremiah Darnell
Recommend CDPH require at least one Environmental Services leadership staff member with direct oversight of each acute care hospital’s environmental cleaning program to obtain and maintain an advanced certification in environmental cleaning
- requiring a minimum of 20 hours of initial certification training as documentation of competency;
- verified every three years as part of the scope of the CDPH licensing and patient safety survey.

Voted in favor: Roy Boukidjian, Keith Bradkowski, Theresa Caughlin, John Culver, Jeremiah Darnell, Sarah Doernberg, Silvia Gnass, Marisa Holubar, Patricia Kassab, Cristine Lacerna, Erica Pan, Arianna Sampson
Opposed: None
Abstained: None

Motion Passed
**Motion #2 – Proposed by Jeremiah Darnell** (Second, Christine Lacerna)
Recommend CDPH announce the advanced certification and established competency requirement and ensure distribution to all appropriate facilities in 2019, with requirements to take effect for EVS leadership staff by September 2020.

**Voted in favor:** Roy Boukidjian, Keith Bradkowski, Theresa Caughlin, John Culver, Jeremiah Darnell, Sarah Doernberg, Silvia Gnass, Marisa Holubar, Patricia Kassab, Cristine Lacerna, Erica Pan, Arianna Sampson

**Opposed:** None

**Abstained:** None

Motion Passed

**Motion #3 – Proposed by Jeremiah Darnell** (Second, Sylvia Gnass)
Recommend CDPH require new hires into EVS leadership roles (having direct oversight of hospital environmental cleaning program) be required to obtain an advanced certification (as documentation of competency) through a nationally recognized certifying body (e.g. AHA, AHE) within 18 months of date of hire.

**Voted in favor:** Roy Boukidjian, Keith Bradkowski, Theresa Caughlin, John Culver, Jeremiah Darnell, Sarah Doernberg, Silvia Gnass(2nd), Marisa Holubar, Patricia Kassab, Cristine Lacerna, Erica Pan, Arianna Sampson

**Opposed:** None

**Abstained:** None

Motion Passed

**Item 4. Public Reporting and Education Subcommittee – Patricia Kassab, Chair**
Thanked CDPH for doing a great job reviewing the website. The Subcommittee will take the list of new webpages, review them and provide feedback. Proposed replacing the second image on the Sepsis Awareness webpage with a smaller image and adding a little verbiage.

**Item 5. Antimicrobial Resistance/Stewardship Subcommittee – Marisa Holubar, Chair**

**Motion #1 – Proposed by Marisa Holubar** (Second, Jeremiah Darnell)
Recommend the State Dental Office develop a longitudinal plan to incorporate antimicrobial stewardship in dental practices and share a draft of this plan with the committee by the end of May 2020.

**Committee discussion:**
Discussed the type of guidance that would be helpful for dentists and the possibility of integrating public health and antimicrobial stewardship expert guidance at large dental provider meetings.

**Voted in favor:** Roy Boukidjian, Keith Bradkowski, Theresa Caughlin, John Culver, Jeremiah Darnell, Sarah Doernberg, Silvia Gnass, Marisa Holubar, Patricia Kassab, Cristine Lacerna, Erica Pan, Arianna Sampson
Motion #2 – Marisa Holubar
Recommend the AS/AR subcommittee develop a ASP toolkit for dental practices in conjunction with the California Dental Association and the California State Dental Office.

Committee discussion:
Discussed and decided to withdraw the motion at this time.

Motion #3 – Marisa Holubar
Recommend CDPH review the proposed content for the ASP monitoring tool and determine next steps or implementation.

Voted in favor: Roy Boukidjian, Keith Bradkowski, Theresa Caughlin, John Culver, Jeremiah Darnell, Sarah Doernberg, Silvia Gnass, Marisa Holubar, Patricia Kassab, Cristine Lacerna, Erica Pan, Arianna Sampson

Opposed: None
Abstained: None

Motion Passed

Item 6. HAI AC Liaison members updates
Reviewed the revised “Liaison Member Report Form”

Committee discussion:
Discussed liaison member engagement in Committee meetings. Even though three liaison members representing organizations present today, Committee members do not know what the liaison takes back to their organizations or their positions on issues. Committee would like each organization submit a report (2 min update) if they do not participate. Noted frustration that Liaison members are non-voting and attendance is lacking. Not all agree. Recommendation that 2-minute Liaison member presentations to be included on the agenda after subcommittee report.

Item 7. Travel history screening discussion
Recent outbreaks of measles in the U.S. and California have led to exposures and transmission in healthcare settings. Routine travel screening in healthcare settings during triage should prompt immediate implementation of isolation precautions and reduce risk of exposure to others. Challenges and suggested approaches of a successful travel screening program were discussed.

Committee discussion:
Best practice is to integrate travel screening integrated into the EHR. CDC travel website does not meet the need for screening returning travelers with signs of infection. Most helpful to frontline providers if link accessed via the EHR travel screen with country-specific transmissible infections are of concern within past 21 days. Highlight infections needing immediate infection control action and public health response, such as Ebola, MERS, SARS, measles. Incorporate travel screening into medical student and post graduate training education.
Item 8. Revising the State HAI Prevention Plan
As condition of funding, CDC wants state-based HAI Advisory boards to advise on objectives for HAI prevention. Asked to submit State HAI Plan by July 2020. No specific template or outline. Committee to discuss at next meeting, August 2019.

Item 9. Public comments on matters not on the agenda
None.

Item 10. Action items and proposed agenda topics for future meetings
Discuss State HAI Plan, AR and binational projects, CDC funding award, and review findings from annual report. Invite Heidi Steinecker to next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 2:51 PM