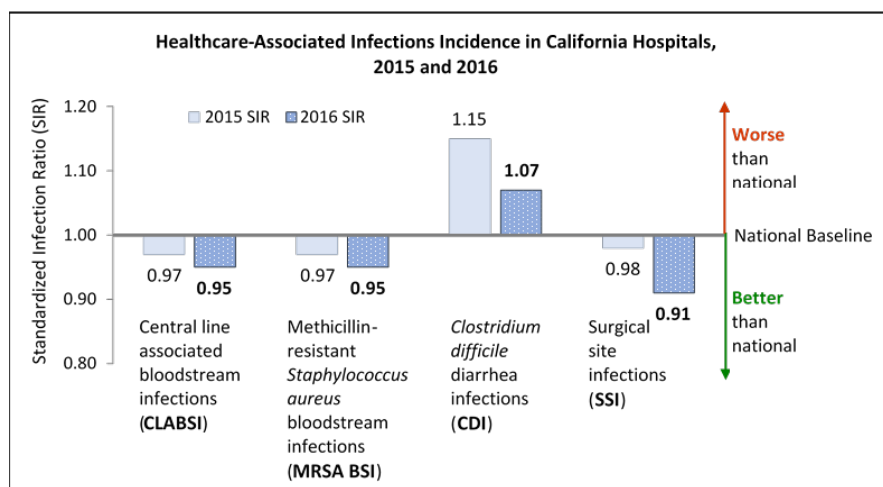


California Department of Public Health
Healthcare-Associated Infections in California Hospitals Annual Report
January to December 2016

Executive Summary

Hospitals can prevent infections that occur during the course of hospital care by increasing adherence to evidence-based care practices. California acute care hospitals are required to report specific types of healthcare-associated infections (HAI) to the California Department of Public Health (CDPH). CDPH must publish hospital HAI data annually (Health and Safety Code section 1288.55).

This report presents HAI data for calendar year 2016, with comparisons to 2015. Overall, California hospitals are better than the national standard populations (baselines) for three types of infections and worse than the national baseline for one infection type (figure).



In 2016, the lowest statewide HAI incidence is among infections that occur as a result of contamination during surgery (ratio of reported and predicted infections, 0.91). The highest statewide HAI incidence (ratio 1.07) is for a type of diarrhea that occurs when a patient is treated with antibiotics and inadvertently ingests the organism, *C. difficile*, a common pathogen in health care facilities.

The CDPH HAI Advisory Committee recommended HAI reduction goals of 30% or 50% (depending on infection type) by 2020. In 2016, California hospitals reported 18,924 HAI to CDPH. They will need to report approximately 6,700 fewer HAI annually to achieve the 2020 HAI target goals.

Many California hospitals are making HAI prevention progress. Ninety-two (28%) hospitals have significantly low incidence for at least one HAI type. Twelve hospitals with high HAI incidence in a previous CDPH annual report (2013-2015) have significantly lower HAI incidence in 2016. Four hospitals have already reached 2020 HAI goals for all infection types.

In 2016, 133 (40%) hospitals have significantly high incidence for 1 or more HAI types, and 38 of those previously had the same HAI with high incidence during one or more years between 2013 and 2015. The CDPH HAI Program actively works with hospitals with high infection rates to help identify areas for improvement. The CDPH Licensing and Certification (L&C) Program considers high HAI rates when prioritizing hospitals for surveys.

CDPH recommends that all hospitals review with clinical staff evidence-based infection prevention practice recommendations and monitor adherence to those practices. Members of the public should review the infection information presented for their local hospitals and talk with their health care providers about ways to prevent HAI.

To view the full report, please visit the [CDPH website](https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCQ/HAI/Pages/AnnualHAIReports.aspx):

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCQ/HAI/Pages/AnnualHAIReports.aspx>.

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