

**Date:** November 17, 2014

**To:** California Acute Care Facilities

**From:** Erin Epton, MD, and Mary Nennig, IP  
California Department of Public Health (CDPH)  
Healthcare-Associated Infections (HAI) Program

**Subject:** Invitation to the Antimicrobial Stewardship Program (ASP) Collaborative

The CDPH HAI Program was awarded a 5-year grant by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to advance our ASP Initiative activities, including providing assistance to California healthcare facilities to implement and/or enhance ASPs. This past September, California Senate Bill 1311 was signed into law, specifying requirements for each California hospital to adopt and implement by July 1, 2015, an “antimicrobial stewardship policy in accordance with guidelines established by federal government and professional organizations, and to establish a physician-supervised multidisciplinary antimicrobial stewardship committee with at least on physician or pharmacist who has undergone specific training related to stewardship.”

To support California hospitals in implementing or enhancing ASPs, you are invited to participate in a new statewide Collaborative. The California ASP Collaborative will extend from January through December 2015. Hospital enrollment will take place in November and December 2014.

What participating hospitals can expect from the ASP Collaborative:

- **A brief assessment of the status of your current ASP** according to the elements of a 3-Tier ASP definition developed by the California HAI Advisory Committee <http://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/hai/Pages/AntimicrobialStewardshipProgramInitiative.aspx>. *This assessment will enable facilities to determine their strengths and identify ASP elements to be addressed during the Collaborative.*
- **Monthly webinars and conference calls** will address topic areas based on the CDC Checklist for Core Elements of Hospital ASP and the elements of the 3-Tier ASP definition; presentations will be made by experts in the field. Each of the 6 topic areas will be the subject of a Faculty presentation and learning session during a Collaborative webinar held every other month. Topic areas to be covered include: leadership commitment and support, program development, specific action items and interventions with examples, outcome tracking strategies, reporting responsibilities and educational activities. Each intervening month, there will be a follow-up conference call session to solicit feedback from hospital participants regarding implementation successes, challenges or tools/documents to share. These follow-up sessions will be divided into tracks based on the participating hospital characteristics, to ensure meaningful dialogue and communication among participating hospitals with similar characteristics. *Sessions will provide opportunities to educate diverse stakeholders (medical and pharmacy staff, infection preventionists, quality and safety staff) at your facility regarding ASP and to ensure a multidisciplinary effort.*

- **A “Toolkit” with examples of documents and tools/forms** to customize for your facility’s program. *Toolkit documents included will address some differences that might be found in California hospitals based on size and services provided.*
- **Opportunities to discuss and share** strategies, challenges and lessons learned regarding ASP implementation with peers.
- **HAI support staff** to help address challenges and direct specific concerns to appropriate faculty.

What the Collaborative expects of participating hospitals:

- Obtain appropriate leadership approvals and ASP committee endorsement to participate in the ASP Collaborative
- Participate in an assessment of the current status of your ASP
- Actively engage all ASP team members in each of the monthly webinars and conference calls
- Take specific actions to either create and/or enhance your ASP
- Complete a brief periodic checklist to document your ASP progress

**To Enroll:** *Please provide point of contact information, hospital characteristics and infectious disease staff available*

- Hospital
- Name
- Position
- Phone
- Email
  
- So that we can pair you to the appropriate follow-up session, please indicate your facility’s characteristics: bed size \_\_\_\_\_; type (indicate all that apply) Community, Critical Access, Long-term Acute Care, Rural, Teaching, Major Teaching
  
- Our facility has:
  - Infectious Disease Physician(s) Y / N
  - Infectious Disease Pharmacist(s) Y / N

By working in concert with other hospitals and expert faculty members, this initiative intends to realize degrees of successful ASP implementation not easily achieved by individual hospital efforts. Enrollment will help your facility address the requirements of SB 1311 referenced above. Participation is completely voluntary although strongly encouraged.

Please return enrollment information via email or fax by **December 19, 2014** to

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If you have any questions or need additional time to respond, please do not hesitate to contact us.