

**“Healthcare-Associated Infections in California Hospitals Annual Report, 2014” and  
“Influenza Vaccination among Health Care Personnel in California Hospitals, 2014-2015”**

**February 10, 2016**

***Summary Brief / Talking Points***

- California general acute care hospitals must report to CDPH all cases of
  - central line-associated bloodstream infections (CLABSI),
  - methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) bloodstream infections,
  - vancomycin-resistant *Enterococci* (VRE) bloodstream infections,
  - *Clostridium difficile* diarrheal infections (CDI),
  - surgical site infections (SSIs) following 29 procedures types, and
  - healthcare provider (HCP) influenza vaccination
- CDPH must post hospital-reported infection incidence and HCP influenza vaccination data on a public website on an annual basis. *Health and Safety Code section 1288.55, 1288.8*
- This is the sixth year of reporting and publishing hospital-associated infection (HAI) data, and the fifth report using HAI data reported by hospitals via the web-based National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN).
- This is the seventh published report on HCP influenza vaccination in California hospitals, and the third report using vaccination data submitted online by hospitals to NHSN. As in past years, hospitals also reported on activities to promote influenza vaccination among HCP.
- Eight (2%) hospitals failed to report complete HAI data for 2014 and three (1%) hospitals failed to report HCP influenza vaccination data for 2014-2015. CDPH cites for deficiencies hospitals that do not completely report all required HAI data.

**HAI Report**

- Despite progress, HAI continue to be a significant public health problem in California. In 2014, 419 acute care hospitals reported 19,200 HAI to CDPH.
- As in past years, CDPH will publish 2014 California hospital HAI data via a web page that includes a summary report of key findings and public health actions, 95 data tables, an interactive map designed to help the public interpret hospital-specific findings, and technical reports for each infection type, which include detailed information on statistical analysis methods and risk adjustment.
  - For the first time, 2014 HAI data tables report hospital findings sorted alphabetically by county.
  - The HAI interactive map was re-designed to include a tab that allows all infection findings from each hospital to be displayed on a single page view.
  - 2014 HAI data will also be available via the California Department of Health and Human Service’s Open Data Portal.
- In 2013, CDPH began a three-year validation plan to help hospitals improve the accuracy and consistency of reported data. In 2014, CDPH validation efforts helped hospitals assess and improve case-finding and evaluate completeness in identifying and reporting CDI, CLABSI, MRSA BSI, VRE BSI, and colon SSI.
- With the exception of CDI and SSI following some surgeries, reported data show that overall California hospitals have demonstrated progress in the prevention of HAI as compared to national baseline data.

**Table. Numbers of Healthcare-Associated Infections (HAI) Reported by California Hospitals and Comparisons of Statewide HAI Incidence to National Baselines, 2014**

	No. of HAI Reported by California Hospitals in 2014	2014 California HAI Data Compared with National Baselines*
<b>CDI</b>	10,588	↑ 9% since 2011
<b>CLABSI</b>	2809	↓ 49% since 2008
<b>MRSA BSI</b>	705	↓ 24% since 2011
<b>VRE BSI</b>	782	No national baseline
<b>SSI – All Surgeries</b>	4,316	↓ 40% since 2008
<b>SSI – Colon Surgery</b>	911	No difference from 2008
<b>SSI – Abdom. Hysterectomy</b>	168	↓ 20% since 2008

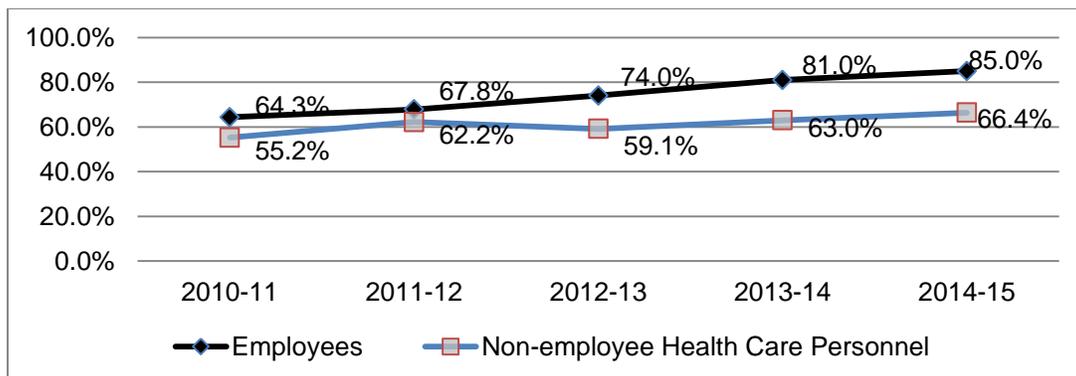
\*National baselines are based on surveillance data reported by U.S. hospitals to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Healthcare Safety Network.

- This year's report highlights 34 hospitals that demonstrated significant reductions in HAI from 2013 to 2014. While many California hospitals continue to demonstrate low HAI incidence or decreasing infection incidence, improvement is not occurring uniformly across all hospitals. The statewide incidence of CDI is increasing, requiring concerted efforts to turn the tide on this urgent infection threat.
- In response to this annual report, CDPH is performing outreach to hospitals with high infection incidence to ensure they are responding to the need for improvement, and providing assistance and support to hospitals for local implementation of prevention action plans. From these 2014 reported data, CDPH identified 128 hospitals with high HAI incidence and targeted them for consultations; 56 hospitals were also on the data for action list in 2013.
- CDPH recommends that hospitals review these data and implement infection prevention strategies specific to their local needs, i.e., infection types with the highest rates. CDPH recommends the public review the infection information presented for their local hospital and asks their healthcare providers questions about the reported data and how the hospital is protecting against HAI.

### **HCP Influenza Vaccination Report**

- Results show hospitals are continuing to make incremental progress in their HCP vaccination coverage. Influenza vaccination rates continue to be higher among employees (85%) compared to non-employee HCP (66%).

**Figure. Influenza Vaccination Percentage by Healthcare Personnel Category in California Hospitals, 2010-2015**



- In the 2014-15 influenza season, 88 (23%) hospitals reached the Healthy People 2020 target of 90% for employee influenza vaccination, compared to 72 (18%) hospitals reported last year.

- Local public health policy may be influencing vaccination coverage in California hospitals. This report includes the vaccination percentage for HCP by county with or without policies to require unvaccinated HCP to wear a surgical mask.
  - For the 2014-2015 influenza season, 31 counties required hospitals to implement and enforce policies requiring HCP who decline vaccination to wear surgical masks during influenza season, eight more counties than in 2013-2014.
  - The statewide hospital HCP vaccination rate was 82% for the 31 counties that require a mask and 78% for 24 counties that do not require a mask.
  - We excluded three counties because they do not have reporting hospitals.
- Members of the public can take action by asking their HCPs if they have been vaccinated. Such discussions reinforce expectations of patient safety and emphasize professional responsibility to protect patients through annual influenza vaccination.
- Comments or questions can be sent to [HAIProgram@cdph.ca.gov](mailto:HAIProgram@cdph.ca.gov).