

**Illinois reporting per NHSN
Coronary artery bypass graft surgery and total knee replacement surgery**

December 16, 2009

Dear Chief Executive Officer:

The Hospital Report Card Act (Illinois Public Act 93-563) requires Illinois hospitals to report surgical procedure outcome measures that include surgical site infection (SSI) data. The Public Act also requires that all general acute care hospitals in Illinois submit SSI data using methodology based on a scientifically valid national reporting system. In July 2008, the Department selected the National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for reporting of central line-associated bloodstream infections. This same reporting system will be used to collect SSI data using a SSI data collection module.

As of April 1, 2010, the Department (IDPH) will require hospitals performing coronary artery bypass graft surgery (ICD-9-CM codes 36.10-36.17, 36.19, 36.2) and total knee replacement surgery (ICD-9-CM codes 00.80 – 00.84, 81.54, 81.55) to report data on all cases performed as well as surgical site infections resulting from those procedures. Those hospitals not currently enrolled in NHSN must be enrolled by March 1, 2010.

According to the Illinois Hospital Discharge Dataset, during the first half of calendar year 2009, <Hospital Name> performed <#> coronary artery bypass graft surgeries (ICD-9-CM codes 36.10-36.17, 36.19, 36.2) and <#> total knee replacement surgeries (ICD-9-CM codes 00.80 – 00.84, 81.54, 81.55).

Please read the memo from Mary Driscoll, including its attachments, and distribute to the appropriate hospital personnel. The Department looks forward to working with you and your organization to continue to provide safe and quality patient care. If you have any questions concerning this communication, please contact Mary Driscoll, Chief of the IDPH Division of Patient Safety and Quality, at 312-793-2051 or mary.driscoll@illinois.gov.

Sincerely, Damon T. Arnold, M.D., M.P.H.
Director

MEMORANDUM

DATE: December 16, 2009

TO: Hospital CEOs

FROM: Mary Driscoll, R.N., M.P.H.
Chief, Division of Patient Safety and Quality
Illinois Department of Public Health

RE: Mandated use of the National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) to comply with reporting of surgical site infections as required by the Hospital Report Card Act (Public Act 93-563)

Please review and share this document with all persons in your facility responsible for hospital information management, surgical operations, and infection prevention and control activities.

Distribution List: Surgery Administrators
Infection Control Committee Chairs
NHSN Facility Administrator
Infection Preventionists
Quality Directors
Risk Management Directors
Information Management Director

Authority: Illinois Public Act 93-563

Background:

Illinois Public Act 93-563 requires that surgical site infection (SSI) rates for specific operative procedures be collected and reported to the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH). The Public Act also requires that all general acute care hospitals in Illinois submit SSI data using methodology based on a scientifically valid national reporting system. In July 2008, the Department selected the National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for reporting of central line-associated bloodstream infections. This same reporting system will be used to collect SSI data using a SSI data collection module. (http://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/psc_pa.html)

Mandated Action:

All hospitals must begin reporting SSI data for coronary artery bypass graft surgery (ICD-9-CM codes 36.10-36.17, 36.19, 36.2) and total knee replacement surgery (ICD-9-CM codes 00.80-00.84, 81.54, 81.55) using NHSN no later than April 1, 2010. Those hospitals not currently enrolled in NHSN must be enrolled by March 1, 2010.

Successful implementation of the SSI reporting module in your hospital requires the following:

- 1) An infection preventionist must be assigned to identify SSIs and enter this information into the NHSN reporting system. IDPH, in collaboration with Illinois Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology, Inc. (APIC) Chapters, will provide NHSN SSI module training prior to April 1, 2010 at no cost to the facility.
- 2). Information Management support is needed to develop and reliably provide denominator data. Denominator data includes individual patient records for each targeted surgical procedure, including: patient name; individual hospital identifier, usually the medical record number; patient date of birth; date of surgery; procedure by ICD-9-CM code; whether the case was emergent, endoscopic, involved an implant, and involved general anesthesia; duration of surgery; wound classification; and American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA) score.

Depending on your hospital's current data management systems, sources of data may be fragmented but will need to be modified to include all data elements required for NHSN participation. The NHSN will allow the importation of procedure data in an ASCII comma delimited text file format. The import files can be generated from different external sources, such as databases or hospital information systems. Specific details about creating the import files can be found at: http://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/PDFs/ImportingProcedureData_current.pdf If these data cannot be imported electronically, an SSI denominator case finding protocol must be developed and additional administrative support may be needed for manual data entry into the NHSN system Reporting through NHSN will provide quality, accurate, timely data.

Your hospital and IDPH can use this data to make appropriate changes to ensure better patient care. We look forward to working with you through the enrollment and implementation phases. IDPH and CDC will be available to assist you; however, the considerable support of your hospital's Administration, Information Management, Surgery, Anesthesiology, and Medical Records departments will be needed to ensure implementation by April 1, 2010.

If you have questions about reporting SSI data using NHSN, please contact Mary Driscoll at mary.driscoll@illinois.gov or 312-793-2051.

cc: Damon T. Arnold, M.D., M.P.H., Director, IDPH
David Carvalho, Deputy Director, OPSS, IDPH
Craig Conover, M.D., M.P.H., Medical Director, OHP, IDPH
Rich Forshee, Section Chief, Discharge Data, IDPH
Illinois Hospital Association
Metropolitan Chicago Healthcare Council
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IDPH Division of Health Care Facilities and Programs
Illinois Hospital Report Card Advisory Committee
Judith Conway, R.N., B.S., C.I.C., Div. of Infectious Diseases, IDPH
