REVISED Guidance for 2011 for New Jersey Acute Care Hospitals to Meet the Reporting Requirements of New Jersey’s MRSA Legislation

The New Jersey MRSA legislation (N.J.S.A. 26:2H-12.35 et seq.) has not been changed. However, the reporting elements required to meet this legislative mandate have been updated by the NJ Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) to begin in January 2011. This revised guide serves to provide all of the necessary information for New Jersey acute care facilities to fulfill the updated reporting requirements.

DHSS will evaluate data from the acute care facilities that are reported on a monthly basis for: (1) the number of MRSA bloodstream infections (BSIs) per 1,000 patient days, monitored facility-wide (i.e., MRSA LabID Event reporting), and (2) the percentage of eligible patients who are screened for MRSA upon admission to a hospital unit where AST for MRSA is being done (i.e., adherence to MRSA Admission AST).

Facilities must report the required MRSA BSI LabID Event and Admission AST adherence data to DHSS through the CDC National Healthcare Safety Network Multidrug-Resistant Organism and Clostridium difficile Infection (MDRO and CDI) module. At a minimum, each facility must be monitoring MRSA LabID Event BSIs at the facility-wide level, and conducting MRSA Admission AST to report the adherence rate in at least one high-risk patient care area (i.e., a patient care area where patients have an increased likelihood of acquiring MRSA and/or developing severe clinical outcomes resulting from a MRSA infection).

Facilities will be following two options within the MDRO and CDI module for data entry: (1) MRSA “Laboratory-Identified (LabID) Event Reporting” for blood specimens only and (2) MRSA “Prevention Process Measures – Monitoring Adherence to AST.” All of this specific reporting will be conducted “in-plan” according to the NHSN system, therefore, certain rules and definitions must be followed for this data entry, according to the specifications defined within the MDRO and CDI module protocol and training presentations. Entering the specified MRSA data through the two above stated options within the MDRO and CDI module will provide participating facilities with a number of metrics that will be helpful to track MRSA.

The following guidance with screen captures was created to help a facility: (A) add additional facility locations into NHSN if necessary, (B) confer the correct rights to DHSS, (C) enter a correct Monthly Reporting Plan, (D) enter correct numerator data for each identified MRSA BSI LabID event from all inpatient units/locations throughout a facility, (E) enter correct denominator data at the facility-wide inpatient level, and (F) enter correct numerator and denominator data for determining MRSA AST adherence in the unit(s) where AST is being performed. Following these steps will help your facility appropriately meet the updated reporting requirements to meet the NJ mandate for monitoring and reporting MRSA BSIs and MRSA Admission AST Adherence. For help at any time, click on the Help link in the upper right corner of the NHSN screens or the Help icon.
A. Adding Additional Locations into NHSN

This revised guidance for 2011 now requires reporting of MRSA-positive blood LabID Events from throughout a facility, and these events will be entered by the patient’s location when the blood specimen was collected. Therefore, facilities must define all unit(s)/location(s) within NHSN where MRSA blood specimens are collected from inpatients within a facility. Each facility can determine whether it is easier to define all of the facility’s inpatient locations before reporting begins in 2011, or to add locations only when a unit is identified as a location where a positive-MRSA blood LabID Event was collected and requires reporting.

1. In the navigation bar, select **Facility>Locations**.

2. Add “Your Code” and “Your Label” and match these to a “CDC Location Description.” The “Status: should be “Active” and you will need to enter a “Bed Size” for the unit.

3. Click “Add” to enter your new location.

4. If you wish to review or edit a previously entered location, you will again select **Facility>Locations**. You can use the “Find” button to enter specific location data for your search, or you can choose the location from the Location Table that will be available after clicking on “Find.” After a revision, you will click “Save,” to keep your updated information.

**Example Entry for Adding Locations into NHSN:**

![Example Entry for Adding Locations into NHSN](image_url)
B. Conferring Rights to the DHSS Group

The method for conferring rights to a group will change with the February 2011 release of NHSN. A template for conferring rights to share data will be used. The template will be set up by the group, not each facility. After the Confer Rights revision has been implemented in NHSN (February 2011), DHSS will then set up the template. Facilities will log in to NHSN, review the template specified by the group, choose specific locations when necessary, and accept it. There will be times that a group must leave the Location Type and Location choices very broad on the Confer Rights template, in order to allow for facility variation. In such cases, it will be the responsibility of the facility to indicate which locations they will be sharing with the group from their allowable location choices. The system will highlight the areas when these choices are necessary, and will provide the list of locations from which the facility can choose. Once a facility accepts the Confer Rights template set up by a group, all previous rights conferred by the facility to that group will be deleted. This change is being made to improve the ease and accuracy with which facilities confer rights to a group.

1. In the navigation bar, click on Group>Confer Rights.

2. Choose the “NJ State HAI Group” in the box, and click on the “Confer Rights” box. You will need to read and click “OK” on the notice that appears.

3. As you review and scroll down the template of data specified for sharing with the DHSS group, you will see highlighted boxes that require location selections to be made by your facility. For example, facilities will need to indicate from which locations they will be reporting and sharing AST Admission Adherence counts. Once the template for conferred rights is completed, the HAI Public Reporting mandate specifications will also be part of the Confer Rights screen, even though they are not shown on the included screenshot (areas shown within the superimposed purple box). You will also have to specify any required locations for this reporting.

October, 2010
4. After you have filled in the required information, click “Accept” at the bottom of the page, and the rights will be conferred. If you wish to review what you have saved, you will get to the screen following the same directions described above (#1-#2) for initial entry. If you wish to change any location selections, just click on the entries and “Accept” again.

**Example Entry for Required Confer Rights to the DHSS:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Patient Safety</th>
<th>Healthcare Personnel Safety</th>
<th>Biovigilance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Confer Rights—Patient Safety</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Please select the rights that group should have to facility ‘Pleasant Valley Hospital’</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NHSN Home**
- Reporting Plan
- Patient Event
- Procedure
- Summary Data
- Import/Export Analysis
- Users
- Facility Group
- Confer Rights
- Open
- Leave
- Submit
- Log Out

**Will Be Specific to HAI Mandate**

**NJ State HAI Group**

---

October, 2010
C. Creating a Monthly Reporting Plan

Because the data required by DHSS to meet this specific MRSA mandate will meet the minimum requirements for active participation in the MDRO and CDI module, you will be adding this reporting information to the Monthly Reporting Plan that you have been completing each month for the HAI Public Reporting mandate. The MRSA data will now be considered “in-plan” according to the NHSN system. The screen shot on the next page provides an example of the additional settings required to meet the revised MRSA mandate. However, please be aware that this same form must also include information to meet the requirements for the HAI Public Reporting mandate, which you have already been submitting. Therefore, when you add your new plan for January 2011, you will copy the HAI requirements from the previous month (use “Copy from Previous Month” buttons, as you have already been doing each month), then you will add new information for the revised MRSA requirements.

1. In the navigation bar, click on Reporting Plan>Add.

2. Choose January for Month and 2011 for Year.

3. For both the Device-Associated Module and Procedure-Associated Module sections, click on the Copy from Previous Month boxes.

4. For the Multi-Drug Resistant Organism Module section, choose FacWideIN under Locations and MRSA under Specific Organism Type, and click on the box for LabID Event Blood Specimens Only. [No AST settings required for FacWideIN]

5. Click on the Add Rows box.

6. On this new row, choose a specific location of your choice from the Locations drop-down box, where you are monitoring MRSA Admission AST Adherence. Choose MRSA under Specific Organism Type, choose ADM-Admission under AST-Timing, and choose either ALL-ALL or NHx-No History under AST-Eligible, based on whether you have chosen to collect active surveillance cultures from each patient admitted to that specific location regardless of their MRSA history (= ALL), or to only collect active surveillance cultures from the patients admitted to that specific location who have no documented positive MRSA infection or colonization during the previous 12 months (= NHx). [No LabID Event settings required for AST units]

7. If you are monitoring more than one specific location for MRSA Admission AST Adherence, then repeat steps #5-#6, until all specific locations have been entered.

8. After you have saved your Monthly Reporting Plan, you can review it and/or edit it by clicking Reporting Plan and Find. You will have to enter the Month and Year, and the system will show you the information you have entered. The Edit button is located at the bottom of the page. You should be able to copy your plan by section, for each month going forward, using the “Copy from Previous Month” buttons.
Example Entry for Required Monthly Reporting Plan Beginning January 2011:

Location(s) = Facility Choice

ALL or NHx = Facility Choice

Complete as in previous months for HAI Mandate
D. Entering an MRSA Blood Specimen LabID Event for the Required Reporting Component

When you identify a MRSA-positive blood specimen from a clinical laboratory culture (NOT active surveillance cultures) in any inpatient unit and there has not been a MRSA blood specimen reported from the laboratory or as a LabID Event for the patient in that location in the previous 14 days (i.e., requires a full 14-days with no positive MRSA blood specimen results for the patient in that location), you will enter this case into NHSN as a LabID Event for the patient in that location for that month. You can choose to enter cases as you identify them or to batch enter them at the end of a month. A facility must report any positive MRSA blood specimen that meets the criteria described above, regardless of when the patient was admitted to the facility and when the specimen was collected. This is required in order to accurately and correctly report into the NHSN MDRO/CDI module as an “in-plan” participant. This means that each facility is required to report both CO and HO MRSA blood specimens, in accordance with the module protocol. NHSN will categorize the entered LabID Event as a healthcare facility-onset (HO) LabID event if it was collected >3 days (i.e., on or after day 4) after patient admission to the facility or as a community-onset (CO) LabID Event if it was collected ≤ 3 days (i.e., on day 1, 2, or 3) of patient admission to the facility. The NHSN system is set up to make this determination for you during analysis, based on “Date Specimen Collected” and “Date Admitted to Facility.”

The system will guide you through your data entry, based on your answers to the questions as you proceed. When entering a MRSA blood specimen LabID Event, the data collected will follow the Laboratory-Identified MDRO or CDI Event form. This form can be downloaded from the NHSN website for your review, so you can anticipate what questions you will encounter. The “Event Type” you will always enter is “LabID.” The LabID Events are differentiated by your answers to the questions “Specimen Body Site/Source” and “Specimen Source,” and since the NJ MRSA mandate only requires facilities to report MRSA blood specimens, you will enter them as “CARD-cardiovascular/circulatory/lymphatics” and “BLDSPC-blood specimen.” The screen capture example below shows entry of a MRSA blood specimen LabID Event.

1. When you have a MRSA LabID Event to enter, you will log in to NHSN, choose your facility and the “Patient Safety” component.

2. In the left-side menu choose “Event” and then “Add.”

3. You will then enter data into the system, as shown on the screen capture below.

4. After you have saved an event, you can review it and/or edit it by clicking “Event” in the left-hand-side menu and then “Find.” You will just need to enter some patient data (e.g., Patient ID and specific dates) for the system to conduct the search and retrieve your entered event. Remember, the “Patient ID” should be a record number (e.g., MRN) that will always remain the same for the patient across all visits, admissions, and events at your facility.
Example Entry for an MRSA Blood Specimen LabID Event:

**Patient Information**
- Facility ID: Pleasant Valley Hospital (10312)
- Patient ID: D53506
- Social Security #: 
- Secondary ID: 
- Last Name: 
- First Name: 
- Middle Name: 
- Gender: F - Female
- Date of Birth: 05/16/1943

**Event Information**
- Event Type: LABID - Laboratory-identified MDRO or CDAD Event
- Date Specimen Collected: 01/14/2011
- Specific Organism Type: MRSA - MRSA
- Patient Status: Outpatient
- Specimen Body Site/Source: CARD - Cardiovascular/ Circulatory/ Lymphatics
- Specimen Source: BLDSPC - Blood specimen
- Date Admitted to Facility: 01/09/2011
- Location: INMEDCC - IN:ACUTE;ICU
- Date Admitted to Location: 01/09/2011

Documented prior evidence of previous infection or colonization with this specific organism type from a previously reported LabID Event?: N - No

Has patient been discharged from your facility in the past 3 months?: N - No

Comments:

[Edit] [Delete] [Back]
E. Entering Monthly Denominator Data for the Required MRSA LabID Event Reporting

At the end of each month, you must enter the denominator data for the facility-wide inpatient (FacWideIN) level, for which you are conducting the required MRSA blood specimen LabID Event reporting.

1. When you are ready to enter your monthly summary data, you will log in to NHSN, choose your facility and the “Patient Safety” component.

2. On the left-side menu, choose “Summary Data” and then “Add.”

3. Choose “MDRO and CDI Prevention Process and Outcomes Measures Monthly Monitoring” and click “Continue.”

4. Choose “FacWideIN” and the Month and Year for which you wish to report.

5. Since this reporting is now included in your Monthly Reporting Plan there will be two remaining fields required to meet the NJ mandate: “Total Patient Days” and “Total Admissions.” Enter the total number of patient days and admissions into these two fields for the entire facility for the month for which you are reporting. You will see that the MRSA box, as the MDRO you are following for this LabID Event (blood specimens only) reporting, has been auto-checked in accordance with your Monthly Reporting Plan (purple box). Click “Save.” [No AST information is required on Summary Data page for FacWideIN]

6. After you have saved your monthly data, you can review it and/or edit it by clicking “Summary Data” in the left-hand-side menu and then “Find.” You will need to enter some search criteria (i.e., “MDRO and CDI Prevention Process and Outcomes Measures Monthly Monitoring” for Summary Data Type, and FacWideIN, Month, or Year). The system will use these data to conduct the search and retrieve your entered summary data that match your specified criteria.

Example Entry for Monthly Patient Days and Admissions for LabID Event Reporting:
F. Entering Monthly Data for the Required MRSA Admission AST Adherence Reporting

At the end of each month, you must enter the numerator and denominator data for the unit(s) in which you have chosen to conduct MRSA Admission AST. According to the NJ mandate, facilities must conduct AST upon patient admission (=AST obtained ≤ 3 days after admission) to selected units among either (a) all patients admitted to the selected location regardless of history of MRSA infection or colonization (= ALL), or (b) only patients admitted to the selected location who have NO documented positive MRSA infection or colonization during the previous 12 months (= NHx). The data required for reporting includes the number of patients eligible (i.e., denominator) to receive MRSA Admission AST (choose either ALL or NHx) and the number of those patients who actually receive MRSA Admission AST (i.e., numerator) within the first three days of admission for the selected unit(s) each month. Reporting the aggregate numerator and denominator per selected location, as described above, is required at the end of each month. Reporting the individual laboratory result of each AST culture (i.e., MRSA-positive or MRSA-negative) per patient is not required.

1. When you are ready to enter your monthly summary data for a unit you have been monitoring, you will log in to NHSN, choose your facility and the “Patient Safety” component.

2. On the left-side menu, choose “Summary Data” and then “Add.”

3. Choose “MDRO and CDI Prevention Process and Outcomes Measures Monthly Monitoring” and click “Continue.”

4. Choose the Location from which you are reporting AST data and the Month and Year for which you wish to report.

5. This is the same type of data entry screen explained in the previous section for entering your FacWideIN denominator data (see Section E). But, for this Admission AST Adherence reporting you will be choosing a specific location from which to report these required data. Since this specific reporting is also now included in the Monthly Reporting Plan, there will be some fields that are auto-filled (purple box) and others required according to the completed monthly plan and the module protocol. The required fields will include the “Total Patient Days” and “Total Admissions” for the location in the month, the total number of patients admitted to the specific unit that month who were “Eligible” for Admission AST (either ALL or NHx), and the total number of patients admitted to the specific unit that month who had Admission AST “Performed.” When your data entry for this screen is complete, click “Save”. [No MRSA LabID Event data is required on the Summary Data page for individual units where AST is being reported]

6. If you are conducting MRSA Admission AST Adherence in more than one unit, and have entered each of the locations into your Monthly Reporting Plan, then you will need to repeat steps #2-#5 above, for each additional unit. Please note that these will be the same specific MRSA Admission AST Adherence locations that you identify within Confer Rights to share with the “NJ State HAI Group.”
7. After you have saved your monthly data, you can review it and/or edit it by clicking “Summary Data” in the left-hand-side menu and then “Find.” You will need to enter some search criteria (i.e., “MDRO and CDI Prevention Process and Outcomes Measures Monthly Monitoring” for Summary Data Type, and Location, Month, or Year). The system will use these data to conduct the search and retrieve your entered summary data that match your specified criteria.

**Example #1 Entry for the Required MRSA Admission AST (ALL) Adherence Reporting:**

![Image of the report form](image-url)

- **Auto-filled**
Example #2 Entry for the Required MRSA Admission AST (NHx) Adherence Reporting:

![NHIS Form with Details](image)

- **Facility ID**:
  - National Healthcare Safety Network (ID: 10512)
  - DSIVERT
  - Facility: Pleasant Valley Hospital
  - ID: 10512

- **Location Code**:
  - INSURGIC - IN/ACUTE/CCIS

- **Month**:
  - January

- **Year**:
  - 2011

- **Setting**:
  - Inpatient
  - Total Patient Days: 156
  - Total Admissions: 21

- **MDRO & CDAD Infection Surveillance or LabID Event Reporting**

- **Active Surveillance Testing (AST)**
  - Timing of AST: ADM - Admission
  - AST Eligible Patients: NHx - No History

- **Admission AST**
  - Performed: 15
  - Eligible: 17

- **Discharge/Transfer AST**

- **Outcome Measures**

- **Prevalent Cases**

- **Incident Cases**
  - AST/Clinical Positive

- **Note**: Auto-filled data points are indicated.

---

October, 2010