

Healthcare Acquired Infections
February 16, 2007
CT Hospital Association
9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Minutes

Attendees: Jon Olson, Hari Chanda, Julie Petrillis, Louise Dembry, Richard Garibaldi, Bonnie Capasso, Harry Mazadoorian, David Neville, Lynn Sosa, Karen Buckley-Bates, Wendy Furniss, Eva Golebiewski, Jim Hadler, Brenda Grant, Chuey Kwak, Jennifer Martin, Diane Dumigan, Joseph Garner, Ray Andrews, Douglas Waite, Joanne Chapin, Jackie Blake, Kevin Lembo, Pat Monahan, Jean Rexford, Harinath Chandra, Jennifer Barrows.

The meeting was called to order at 9:35 a.m. by Karen Buckley-Bates.

The minutes of the January 19, 2006 meeting were approved.

Sharon Roberson from CMS in Boston was connected to the meeting via telephone.

After several meetings of information gathering on systems used in other states, the group centered their discussion on whether Connecticut should participate in the NHSN system or develop one of their own.

Points in favor of using the NHSN system include:

- The NHSN system is still new and CDC has the time and willingness to work with us in meeting Connecticut's needs.
- Building our own infrastructure would require the expense of assembling a team to design, implement and maintain the system. The NHSN system would be hosted by CDC therefore they would be responsible for updates and upgrades.
- Using NHSN would require less FTE's at DPH.
- NHSN appears to be a better use of Connecticut's limited resources.

The group discussed whether Connecticut should be reporting on all infections but only focusing on a few, or reporting on one at a time and adding on, one infection at a time.

Public education is key and should be addressed first. Data needs to be explained. Raw numbers do not tell the full story and the public needs to be enlightened before information is released.

Items of general consensus were:

- NHSN is the best option for Connecticut
- Focusing on one module (Central >Line infections in ICUs) at a time is the most effective way to proceed
- Explore adding in a process measure with NHSN

The next meeting will address the education component. A draft report will be ready for the March 16th meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 11:25a.m.

The next meeting will take place on **February 23, 2007 at 9:30 a.m. at CHA.**