

**Healthcare Associated Infections  
Advisory Committee**  
Final Meeting Minutes

November 6, 2013



*Present:* Jennifer Allis-Vasquez, Ray Andrews, Lauren Backman, Kristen Borgognone, Tracy Creatore, Louise-Marie Dembry, Jenna Enson, Wendy Furniss, Diana Kelly, Alessandra Litro, Richard Melchreit, Richard Rodriguez, Valerie Wyzykowski

*Phone Attendees:* Laurie Brentlinger, Jeannine Childree, Lisa Lamare, Cathy Ligi, Marie Sudsbury

*Next meeting:* Wednesday February 5, 2014 at the Connecticut Hospital Association, Wallingford, CT

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**Call to Order:** Richard Melchreit called the meeting to order at 9:02 am

**Review and approval of prior advisory Committee meeting minutes (09/18/13):** A motion was made to accept the minutes from the 09/18/13 meeting. The minutes were accepted as is.

**Update on Data Validation:** External validation will continue in 2013 and possibly 2014. The activities will include: CAUTI, CLABSI, SSI: COLO & HYST, CLABSI/CAUTI denominator data: device days and patient days, SSI denominator data: # procedures, surgeon, ASA, wound class, procedure duration, and validate location mapping. DPH has developed a protocol to review the data. Lauren Backman continues to review charts. There are 3 hospitals remaining to conduct chart reviews and those will continue within the coming months. The data is being compiled and reviewed. Preliminary data was shared with the committee and Lauren spoke about the challenges faced completing this amount of chart reviews. Once chart reviews are completed and data is reviewed, a formal presentation will be made to the Committee.

**NHSN Review of CAUTI Definitions and Protocol:** CDC identified a group of subject matter experts including microbiologists, infection preventionists, hospital epidemiologists and state health department staff to be part of a work group that reviewed the CAUTI definitions and protocols. Lauren Backman was part of the work group. The work group finished meeting and discussing the definitions and making recommendations. The changes to the CAUTI definition will be announced in January 2014.

**Education Activities:** Lauren Backman informed the Committee that trainings on the new CAUTI definitions will take place in the late spring/ early summer of 2014 after the new CAUTI definitions and protocols have been released.

**Committee Vacancy:** DPH staff was seeking additional recommendations to send to the Commissioner's office to fill the Committee vacancy. DPH staff sent all names and resumes to the Commissioner's office and the Committee is waiting for the final decision.

**Data Update:** The DPH summarized currently reported NHSN CLABSI, SSI, and CAUTI data in Connecticut. The slides from the presentation will be posted on the DPH website. The Committee was asked what their recommendation was to publicly report data by facility on the DPH website. The Committee recommended that the DPH post 2012 data on CLABSI, SSI, and CAUTI on the DPH website listed by hospital by name, once validation is completed (very likely by January 1, 2014.) 2013 data shouldn't be posted until it is validated. DPH will begin validation of LabID

MRSA bacteremia and CDI once the validation of 2012 CLABSI, SSI, and CAUTI are completed, after which those data will also be posted.

**New Committee Structure:** DPH staff presented a proposed new advisory structure that they propose to roll out for the beginning of 2014. It would be to have 4 committees that will each serve a different purpose; all would be subcommittees of a "Multidisciplinary Group." This proposal is generated by the need for the DPH HAI program to get wide ranging advice. In the past the HAI Advisory Committee membership has expressed the desire to keep more strictly to the Committee's role in advising DPH on what HAIs to make reportable, a role specified in the state HAI law. There was also discussion of the relationships between the HAI Committee and the other proposed groups (technical advisory, education, and reporting) and how they would interact as a whole. The Committee suggested that there be 3 groups, rather than the proposed 4 groups. The Committee agreed that the HAI Advisory Committee should give more comprehensive advice to the HAI Program, and felt that the law does include this scope in the charge to the Committee. Committee members proposed that the HAI Advisory Committee continue as before, but the new groups (technical advisory, education) would serve as active and clearly defined subcommittees. DPH staff will make the proposed committee structure changes and redistribute to the group for further comment.

**Antimicrobial Stewardship Letter:** Proposed changes to the draft letter discussed at the prior meeting have not yet been made. Changes will be made and sent out to the Committee for comments after this meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 11:02 am

The next HAI Advisory Committee Meeting will be held on February 5, 2014 from 9-11 am at Connecticut Hospital Association in Wallingford, CT.