



**Infection Control Assessment
and Promotion Program**

CDI Audit and Feedback Processes in Infection Prevention

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Learning Objectives



Understand CDI infection prevention best practices



Discuss auditing *Clostridioides difficile* (C. diff) infection (CDI) and reporting practices in hospital



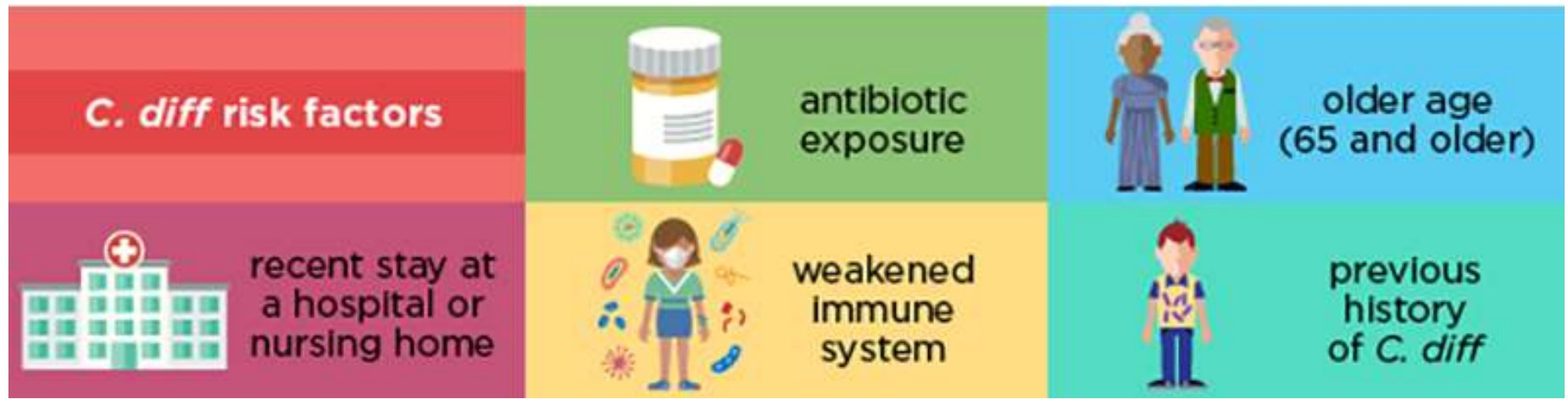
Analyze staff education and feedback regarding CDI practices

Germs and How Infections Spread

- Germs are a part of everyday life and are found in our air, soil, water, and in and on our bodies. Some germs are helpful, others are harmful. Many germs live in and on our bodies without causing harm and some even help us to stay healthy. Only a small portion of germs are known to cause infection.
- An infection occurs when germs enter the body, increase in number, and cause a reaction of the body.
- Three things are necessary for an infection to occur:
 - **Source:** Places where infectious agents (germs) live
 - **Susceptible Person** with a way for germs to enter the body
 - **Transmission:** a way germs are moved to the susceptible person



Susceptible Person – At Increased Risk



- The microbiome is the neighborhood of good and bad germs that live in or on the body.
- A healthy microbiome helps protect people from infection, but antibiotics disrupt the microbiome, wiping out both the good and the bad bacteria.
- The effect of antibiotics can last as long as several months. If a person comes in contact with *C. diff* germs during this time, they can get sick.

Transmission

– How It Spreads



C. diff spreads when people touch surfaces that are contaminated with poop from an infected person.

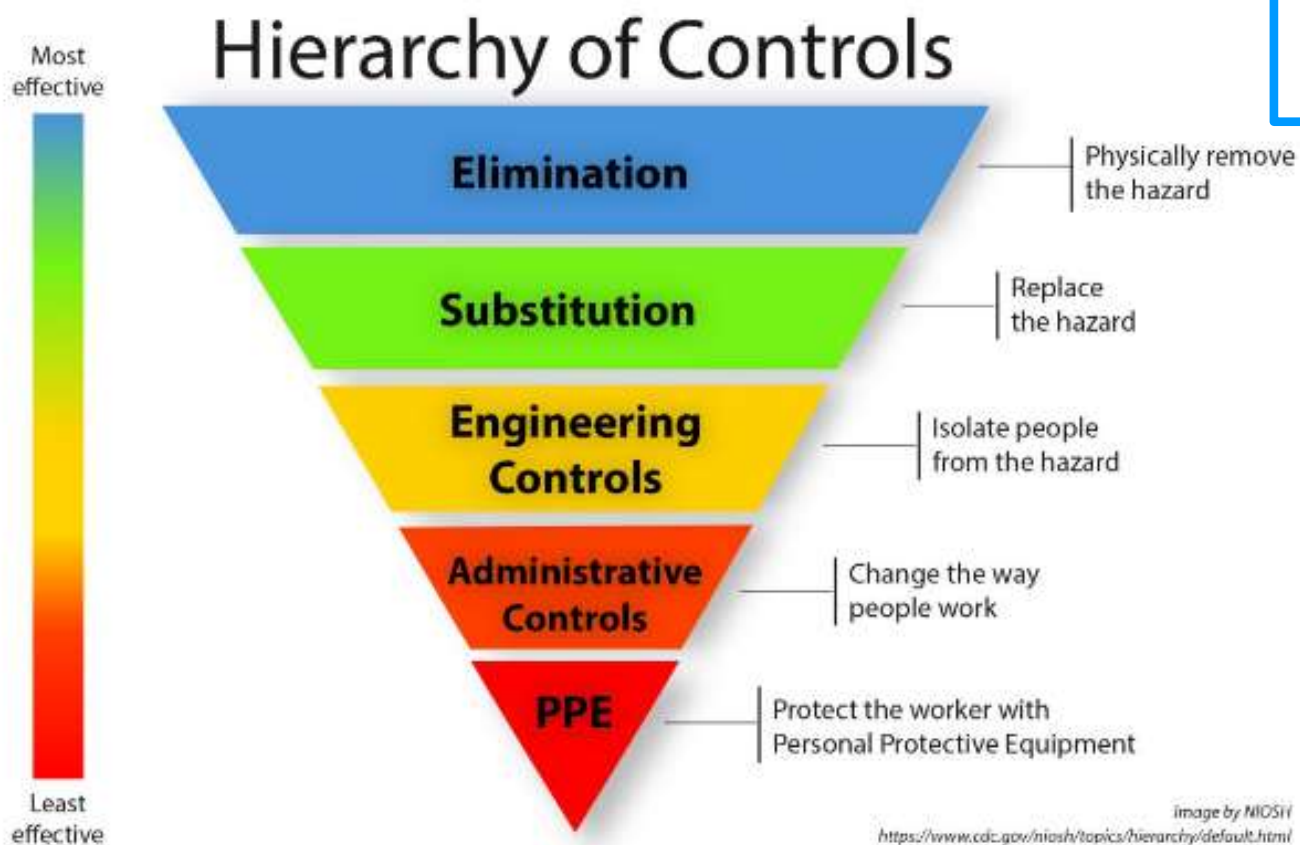


Or when people don't wash their hands with soap and water.



It can also happen when one healthcare facility fails to notify another when it transfers a patient with *C. diff*.

Prevent and Control CDI



Eliminate - Antimicrobial Stewardship – Prescribe Only When Needed

Replace – Antimicrobial Stewardship – ABX with Less Risk

Contact Isolation – Private Room – Dedicated Equipment

Administrative – Hand Wash & Sporicidal Disinfectant

PPE – Use Gloves & Gowns

Hierarchy of Controls

Prevention and Control of CDI

– Best Practices

**Antimicrobial
Stewardship**

**Educate Patients,
Families, & Visitors**

**Diagnostic
Stewardship**

**Early Identification
& Isolation &
Informing of
Others**

**Contact
Precautions**

**Adequately Clean
& Disinfect**

**Healthcare
Personnel
Education &
Training**

**Audit (Monitor &
Document)
Compliance**

**Feedback (Analyze
and Report
Compliance and
Data)**

SHEA/IDSA/APIC Strategies to Prevent *Clostridioides difficile* Infections in Acute-Care Hospitals



10 Essential Practices

5 Additional Approaches

8 Unresolved Issues

- This expert guidance document is sponsored by the Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America (SHEA) and is the product of a collaborative effort led by SHEA, the Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA), the Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (APIC), the American Hospital Association (AHA), and The Joint Commission.
- Highlights practical recommendations designed to assist acute-care hospitals to implement and prioritize their *C. difficile* infection prevention efforts.

[Strategies to Prevent CDI in Hospitals: 2022 Update](#)

[5.24.23 NE ICAP Acute and OP Webinar - Prevention of CDI](#)



Antimicrobial Stewardship for CDI Prevention Resources



Antimicrobial Stewardship

C. Difficile Best Practices: Testing to Containment to Treatment

Webinar Series

Session #4 – High Risk CDI Medications

October 31, 2023, 12:00 - 1:00 PM CT

Objectives:

Discuss antibiotic therapy risk stratification for CDI.

Assess antimicrobial stewardship interventions related to decreasing C. diff.

Evaluate gastric acid suppression and implications for CDI risk.


Speakers: Jenna Preusker, PharmD, BCPS, BCIDP (ASAP Pharmacist)

Educational Resources for CDI Prevention for Patients & Families


Educate Patients, Families, & Visitors

- Provide education so that patients can be aware of antibiotics and know that antibiotics are not always the answer.
- Patients need to know what antibiotics they are receiving and for what reason(s).
- They should also be educated about adverse effects and signs and symptoms that they should share with providers.
- CDC's Be Antibiotics Aware campaign has lots of developed educational resources to print or order for free.

ANTIBIOTICS AREN'T ALWAYS THE ANSWER.



Antibiotics save lives. Improving the way healthcare professionals prescribe antibiotics, and the way we take antibiotics, helps keep us healthy now, helps fight antibiotic resistance, and ensures that these life-saving drugs will be available for future generations.



The Facts:

When a patient needs antibiotics, the benefits outweigh the risks of side effects or antibiotic resistance.

When antibiotics aren't needed, they won't help you, and the side effects could still hurt you.

Common side effects of antibiotics can include rash, dizziness, nausea, diarrhea, or yeast infections. More serious side effects include *Clostridioides difficile* infection (also called *C. difficile* or *C. diff*), which causes diarrhea that can lead to severe colon damage and death. People can also have severe and life-threatening allergic reactions.

Antibiotics do not work on viruses, such as colds and flu, or runny noses, even if the mucus is thick, yellow, or green.

Antibiotics are only needed for treating certain infections caused by bacteria. Antibiotics also won't help for some common bacterial infections including most cases of bronchitis, many sinus infections, and some ear infections.

Taking antibiotics creates resistant bacteria. Antibiotic resistance occurs when bacteria no longer respond to the drugs designed to kill them.

More than **2.8 million** antibiotic-resistant infections occur in the United States each year, and more than **35,000 people** die as a result.

If you need antibiotics, take them exactly as prescribed. Talk with your doctor if you have any questions about your antibiotics, or if you develop any side effects, especially diarrhea, since that could be a *C. difficile* (*C. diff*) infection which needs to be treated.

Reactions from antibiotics cause **1 out of 5** medication-related visits to the emergency department. In children, reactions from antibiotics are the most common cause of medication-related emergency department visits.

[CDC Be Antibiotics Aware](#)
[Print Materials](#)



Diagnostic Stewardship for CDI Prevention Resources



Diagnostic Stewardship

C. Difficile Best Practices: Testing to Containment to Treatment

Webinar Series

Session #1 – CDI Testing

September 26, 2023, 12:00 - 1:00 PM CT

Objectives:

- Identify different testing strategies – advantages and disadvantages.
- Analyze signs and symptoms of CDI.
- Understand patient risk factors for CDI and exposure.

Speakers: Dr. Van Schooneveld/Dr. Teran (ASAP/ICAP Medical Directors)

Containment of *C. difficile* – I x 3

Early Identification &
Isolation & Informing
of Others

Contact Precautions

Identify patients that have symptoms consistent with *C. difficile*.

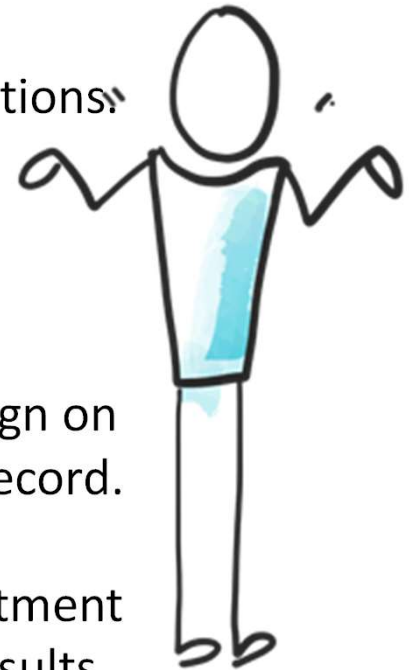
Isolate those patients by placing them in contact precautions.

Inform others with the isolation sign, electronic medical record, and patient care including transfer communication.



Why Proactive Contact Precautions?

- **Identify** patients with new-onset, unexplained diarrhea or CDI symptoms.
- **Isolate** using contact precautions/isolation proactively because this is the period of greatest *C. difficile* shedding and contamination.
 - Start using gloves and gowns in addition to standard precautions.
 - Dedicate equipment or ensure equipment is cleaned and disinfected.
 - A private or cohorted room while testing is pending is ideal.
- **Inform** others of the contact precautions by posting the isolation sign on the outside of the patient door and within the electronic medical record. Within your patient care communication, consider using testing algorithms to help make informed decisions about testing and treatment if needed. Lab based alerts are also helpful to inform HCP of lab results and the need for isolation. Clear policies and procedures help inform HCP.
 - If testing is negative, and another infectious etiology that requires contact precautions is not suspected, contact precautions can be discontinued based on test type and clinical suspicion for CDI.



Contact (or Enteric) Precautions



STOP CONTACT PRECAUTIONS STOP

EVERYONE MUST:

-  Clean their hands, including before entering and when leaving the room.

PROVIDERS AND STAFF MUST ALSO:

-  Put on gloves before room entry. Discard gloves before room exit.
-  Put on gown before room entry. Discard gown before room exit.
Do not wear the same gown and gloves for the care of more than one person.
-  Use dedicated or disposable equipment. Clean and disinfect reusable equipment before use on another person.

 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

- Appropriate patient placement
 - Single-person room is preferred but cohorting is acceptable if single rooms are unavailable.
- Prioritize cleaning & disinfection
 - Room is cleaned and disinfected at least daily focusing on high-touch surfaces and equipment near the patient.
- Limit transport and movement of patient outside the room.
 - *See next slide for details*

[CDC - Transmission Based Precautions](#)

[CDC - Contact Sign](#)



Contact / Enteric Precautions Transport & Other Considerations

- Limit patient transport to medically necessary purposes or use control measures.
 - Notify the receiving department of the contact precautions.
 - Cover or contain potentially infectious body fluids before transport.
 - Transporter should discard contaminated PPE before transport.
 - Don clean PPE to handle the patient at the destination.

- Considerations
 - For needed hallway ambulation, consider control measures of patient hand washes upon exit, wearing clean gloves if needed, and disinfecting touched railings.
 - Use a sporicidal disinfectant.
 - Encourage hand washing upon exit of the room but don't restrict alcohol-based hand rub.
 - Consider specific isolation signs.


UCSF Health

STANDARD PRECAUTIONS+

ENTERIC CONTACT ISOLATION

Prior to entering the room*:

*Visitors – see Nurse before entering



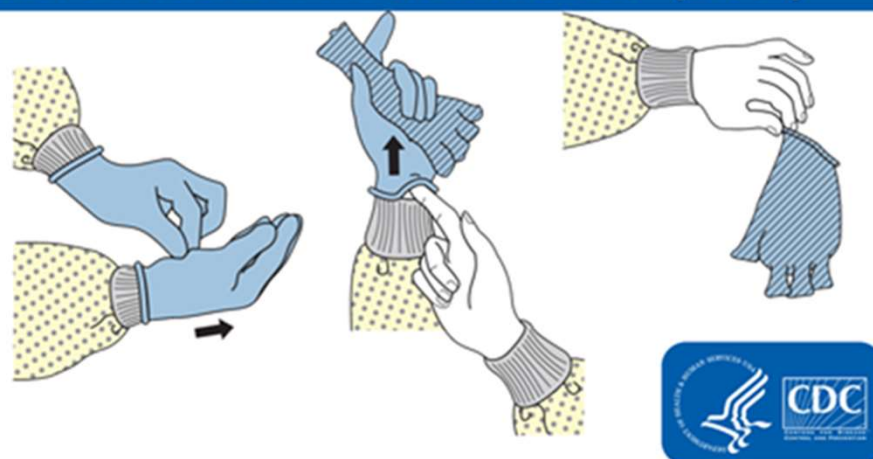
CLEAN HANDS GOWN GLOVES CLEAN HANDS WITH SOAP + WATER ON EXIT

Ensure Appropriate Glove Use to Reduce Hand & Environmental Contamination

- When considering a CDI-specific hand hygiene measure, the priority should be ensuring gloves are worn with proper doffing technique to minimize self-contamination risk.
- Educate HCP about potential for environmental and self-contamination with glove use.
- Educate and confirm that HCP doff gloves in a manner that avoids contamination.
- Clean hands immediately following glove removal. If handwashing is indicated and sinks are not immediately available, use ABHR then wash hands as soon as possible.

HOW TO SAFELY REMOVE PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

- Outside of gloves are contaminated!
- If your hands get contaminated during glove removal, immediately wash your hands or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer
- Using a gloved hand, grasp the palm area of the other gloved hand and peel off first glove
- Hold removed glove in gloved hand
- Slide fingers of ungloved hand under remaining glove at wrist and peel off second glove over first glove
- Discard gloves in a waste container
- Wash your hands thoroughly



Washing Hands With Soap & Water

- As the preferred method, perform hand hygiene with soap and water following patient care or interacting with the healthcare environment of a patient with CDI.
 - Ensure proper hand washing technique.
 - Don't restrict access to alcohol-based hand rub (ABHR).
 - Educate that ABHR does not kill *C. difficile*.
 - Be aware that hand hygiene adherence may decrease when soap and water is the preferred method.



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[Rationale for Hand Hygiene – SHEA](#)

[Strategies to Prevent CDI in Acute-Care Hospitals: 2022 Update](#)



Educate Patients, Families, & Visitors on CDI Contact Precautions

Educate Patients, Families, & Visitors



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- Education may help to alleviate patient and family fears regarding being placed on contact precautions.
- Include information about anticipated questions:
 - general information about CDI
 - colonization versus infection
 - components of and rationale for contact precautions
 - risk of transmission to family and visitors while in the hospital and after discharge
 - importance of hand hygiene by staff, patients, and visitors

[Prevent the Spread of C. diff - CDC](#)

[Help Prevent Infections - For Patients and Visitors](#)

[Strategies to Prevent CDI in Acute-Care Hospitals: 2022 Update](#)



Adequately Clean & Disinfect – Dedicate Equipment When Able

- Adequately clean and disinfect equipment and the patient environment.
 - *C. difficile* spores contaminate the environment in which patients are cared for and the equipment used to care for them.
 - Contaminated surfaces and equipment are potential reservoirs for transmission of *C. difficile*.
 - Dedicate noncritical patient care items, such as blood pressure cuffs, stethoscopes, and thermometers, to a single patient with *C. difficile*.
- Develop and implement protocols for disinfection of equipment and the environment.



**Use dedicated or disposable equipment.
Clean and disinfect reusable equipment
before use on another person.**



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Environmental Cleaning for CDI Prevention Resources



**Adequately Clean
& Disinfect**

C. Difficile Best Practices: Testing to Containment to Treatment

Webinar Series

Session #3 – Strategies to Improve Environmental Cleaning

October 24, 2023, 12:00 - 1:00 PM CT

Objectives:

- Understand appropriate cleaning products for CDI infections.
- Address high-touch surfaces cleaning.
- Discuss terminal cleaning practices.
- Identify cleaning audit tools.

Speakers: Jody Scebold/Kate Tyner (ICAP Infection Preventionists)



HCP Training, Auditing, and Feedback for Prevention and Control of CDI

Healthcare
Personnel
Education &
Training

Audit (Monitor &
Document)
Compliance

Feedback (Analyze
and Report
Compliance and
Data)



Competency-Based Training & Auditing – CMS QSO-22-20-Hospitals (7/6/22 excerpts)

Interpretive Guidelines §482.42(c)(2)(iv)

The hospital's infection preventionist(s) and/or infection control professional(s) must take an active role in the competency-based training and education of hospital personnel and staff, including medical staff, and, as applicable, personnel providing contracted services in the hospital. This training and education must include the practical applications of infection prevention and control guidelines, policies, and procedures.

Interpretive Guidelines §482.42(c)(2)(v)

The hospital's infection preventionist(s) and/or infection control professional(s) are responsible for preventing and controlling healthcare acquired infections, and transmission of pathogens, including auditing of adherence to infection prevention and control policies and procedures by hospital personnel.

- CMS - SOM - **Appendix A** - Survey Protocol, Regulations and Interpretive Guidelines for **Hospitals**
 - **42 CFR §482.42** Conditions of Participation (CoP): **Infection prevention and control and antibiotic stewardship programs.**
- CMS - SOM - **Appendix W** - Survey Protocol, Regulations and Interpretive Guidelines for **Critical Access Hospitals**
 - **42 CFR §485.640** Conditions of Participation (CoP): **Infection prevention and control and antibiotic stewardship programs.**
- CMS QSO-22-20-Hospitals



CDC's Core IPC Practices for Safe Healthcare



- CDC's Core Infection Prevention and Control Practices for Safe Healthcare Delivery in All Settings represent fundamental standards of care that are not expected to change based on emerging evidence or to be regularly altered by changes in technology or practices and are applicable across the continuum of healthcare settings.
 - There are 8 core practice categories:
 - Leadership Support
 - Patient, Family and Caregiver Education
 - Education and Training of Healthcare Personnel on Infection Prevention
 - Performance Monitoring and Feedback
 - Standard Precautions
 - Includes hand hygiene, environmental cleaning and disinfection, injection and medication safety, risk assessment with use of personal protective equipment (PPE), minimizing potential exposures, and reprocessing of reusable medical equipment.
 - Transmission-Based Precautions
 - Temporary Invasive Medical Devices for Clinical Management
 - Occupational Health



Education & Competency-Based Training (CBT) of HCP on IPC Practices

- Provide written IPC policies and procedures that are available, current, and based on evidence-based guidelines (e.g., CDC/ HICPAC, etc.).
- Provide job-specific, infection prevention education and competency-based training (CBT) to all HCP adapted for their tasks and needs, the facility type, and reflective of the diverse workforce.
 - Require training before HCP are allowed to perform their duties, at least annually, to address new equipment or protocols, and in response to recognized lapses in adherence.
- Develop processes to ensure that all HCP demonstrate the proven ability to apply essential knowledge, skills, and abilities (competency) to adhere to IPC requirements as they perform their roles and responsibilities.



HCP Education & Training for Prevention and Control of CDI

Healthcare Personnel Education & Training

- HCP need to know the signs and symptoms of *C. difficile*
 - Episodes of watery diarrhea, fever, stomach tenderness or pain, loss of appetite, or nausea
- HCP need to know risk factors, transmission routes, patient outcomes, and treatment.
- HCP need to know about IPC measures they can implement.
- HCP need to know the tools available for them and their testing algorithms and sequences.

CLOSTRIDIODES DIFFICILE (formerly known as *Clostridium difficile*)

Clostridioides difficile (also known as *C. diff*) is a bacterium that causes diarrhea and colitis (an inflammation of the colon). *C. diff* infection can be life-threatening.

IMPACT

- C. diff* infection is estimated to cause almost half a million illnesses in the United States each year, and an estimated 29,300 deaths.¹
- About **1 in 6 patients** who get *C. diff* infection will get it again in the subsequent 2–8 weeks.¹
- One in 11 people over 65 diagnosed with a healthcare-associated *C. diff* infection die within a month.²

RISK

- People are 7 to 10 times more likely to get *C. diff* infection while taking an antibiotic and during the month after.³
- Extended stays in healthcare settings, such as hospitals and nursing homes, also increase their risk.
- More than 80% of *C. diff* deaths occur in people 65 and older.

SPREAD

- C. diff* spreads when people touch surfaces that are contaminated with poop from an infected person.
- Or when people don't wash their hands with soap and water.
- It can also happen when one healthcare facility fails to notify another when it transfers a patient with *C. diff*.

Healthcare professionals can help **PREVENT** *C. diff* by:

- BE ANTIBIOTICS AWARE** (Antibiotic Stewardship) Optimizing the way they prescribe antibiotics.
- Using the tests that give the most accurate results.
- Rapidly identifying and isolating patients with *C. diff*.
- Wearing gloves and gowns when treating patients with *C. diff*—and remembering that hand sanitizer doesn't kill *C. diff*.
- Cleaning surfaces in rooms where *C. diff* patients are treated with EPA-approved, spore-killing disinfectant (see list K).

cdc.gov/cdiff

¹Salz AT, Ma Y, Wootton IG, et al. *N Engl J Med* 2016;382:1320–33. DOI: 10.1056/NEJMa15191211
²Leung FC, Ma Y, Sandberg WM, et al. *N Engl J Med* 2015;372:825–34. DOI: 10.1056/NEJMa1408913
³Wongonsi WPM, Gorbunov A, Denkers OM, Nijssen EJ. *J Antimicrob Chemother* 2011. DOI: 10.1093/ac/ckr108

CDC U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

CDC - C.diff Fact Sheet

Strategies to Prevent CDI in Acute-Care Hospitals: 2022 Update



HCP Can Help Prevent CDI



Optimizing the way they prescribe antibiotics.



Rapidly identifying and isolating patients with *C. diff*.



Using the tests that give the most accurate results.



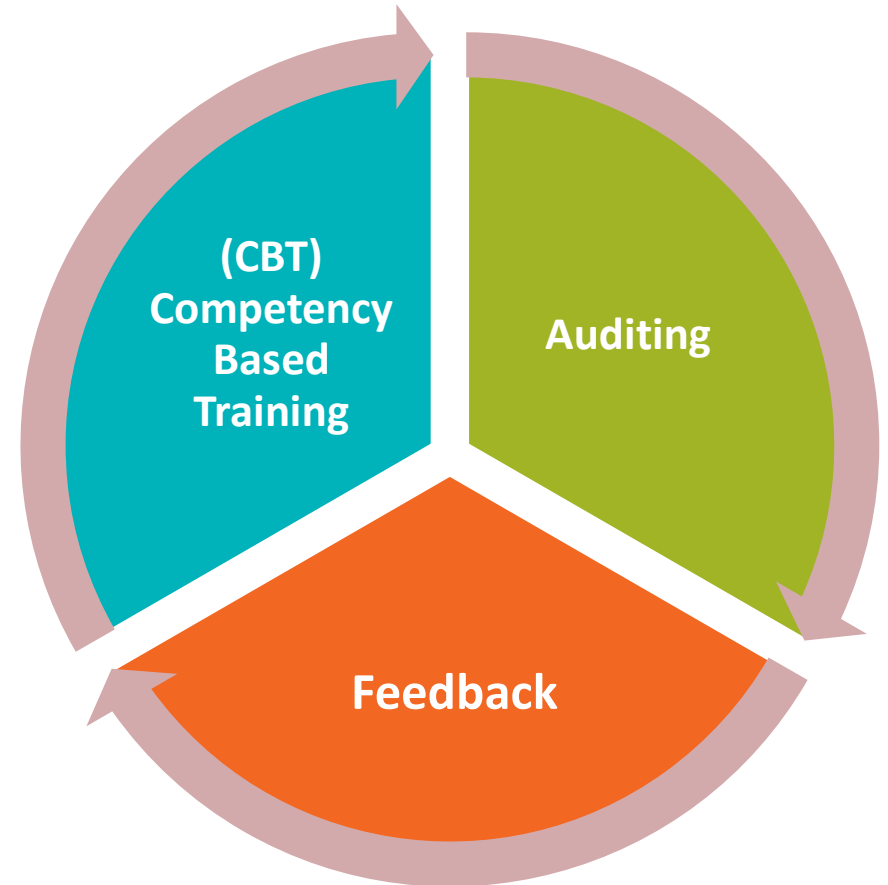
Cleaning surfaces in rooms where *C. diff* patients are treated with EPA-approved, spore-killing disinfectant (see list K).



Wearing gloves and gowns when treating patients with *C. diff*—and remembering that hand sanitizer doesn't kill *C. diff*.

Auditing CDI Prevention and Control Practices

Audit (Monitor & Document) Compliance



Auditing Basics



- In healthcare, audits measure HCP adherence with standards and processes designed to improve patient care
- Effectively implemented audits can provide valuable information for improvement as they can help identify strengths and gaps in practices.
 - Develop an auditing plan
 - What do you want to assess?
 - What do you have the resources to assess?
 - Is a tool used and how is it used (paper, spreadsheet, electronic application, etc.)
 - Is the tool based on current guidance or other evidenced based practices?
 - How frequent will audits be performed?
 - How many audits are completed in relation to applicable patient census or volume?

CDI Auditing - Daily Rounding Observation Ideas When Applicable

- Hand hygiene
 - Compliance upon entry and exit of patient room
 - WHO 5 moments for hand hygiene
 - Soap and water handwashing per policy
 - Attention to hand hygiene after glove use
- PPE
 - Availability and use of gloves
 - Availability and use of tied gown
 - Doffing PPE in the room
 - Doffing to avoid self contamination
- Contact Precautions / Isolation
 - Isolation sign posted for suspect or confirmed CDI
 - Isolation noted in the electronic medical record
 - Patient and visitor compliance
- Sporidical disinfectant availability and use



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PPE Audit Tool for Contact Precautions

Item	Compliance		
Setup			
1. Precaution signage visible before entering the room or bedspace	Y	N	Not observed
2. PPE supplies available immediately outside room or bedspace	Y	N	Not observed
Putting On PPE			
3. Hand hygiene is performed immediately prior to putting on PPE	Y	N	Not observed
4. New single use PPE applied prior to entering room/space	Y	N	Not observed
5. PPE applied in appropriate sequence: A. Gown B. Gloves	Y	N	Not observed
6. Gown worn as indicated by Contact Precautions	Y	N	Not observed
7. Appropriate type of gown is worn (i.e., yellow isolation gown)	Y	N	Not observed
8. Gown securely tied at the neck and then waist	Y	N	Not observed
9. Gloves worn as indicated by Contact Precautions	Y	N	Not observed
Use of PPE			
10. PPE is only worn inside the isolation room/space	Y	N	Not observed
Taking Off PPE			
11. PPE is removed within the isolation room	Y	N	Not observed
12. PPE is removed in a manner to prevent contamination	Y	N	Not observed
13. PPE is removed in appropriate sequence: A. Gloves and gown removed	Y	N	Not observed
B. Hand hygiene performed immediately after removal of PPE	Y	N	Not observed

Example - Use of PPE for Contact Precautions Audit Tool



CDI Auditing Process Measures

– Ideas Continued



- Diagnostic Stewardship for current stool sample orders
 - Is the patient having formed stools now? What is typical for them?
 - Was (is) the patient taking laxatives, stool softeners, or tube feedings?
 - Did they already have a test in the past 7 days?
 - Talk the nursing staff to assess and explore order discontinuation if appropriate
- Isolation
 - Are patients being screened for symptoms daily
 - Was isolation implemented timely
 - Are results being looked at to de-escalate isolation timely when appropriate
- Hand hygiene technique
- Think about what you are already doing and what might be useful without adding much more work. Explore what can be delegated or electronically automated.
- Additionally, when an CDI HAI is noted, do a full review including the multidisciplinary team to help guide prevention efforts and share data

Process Measures Compliance

– Ideas for Auditing and Reporting

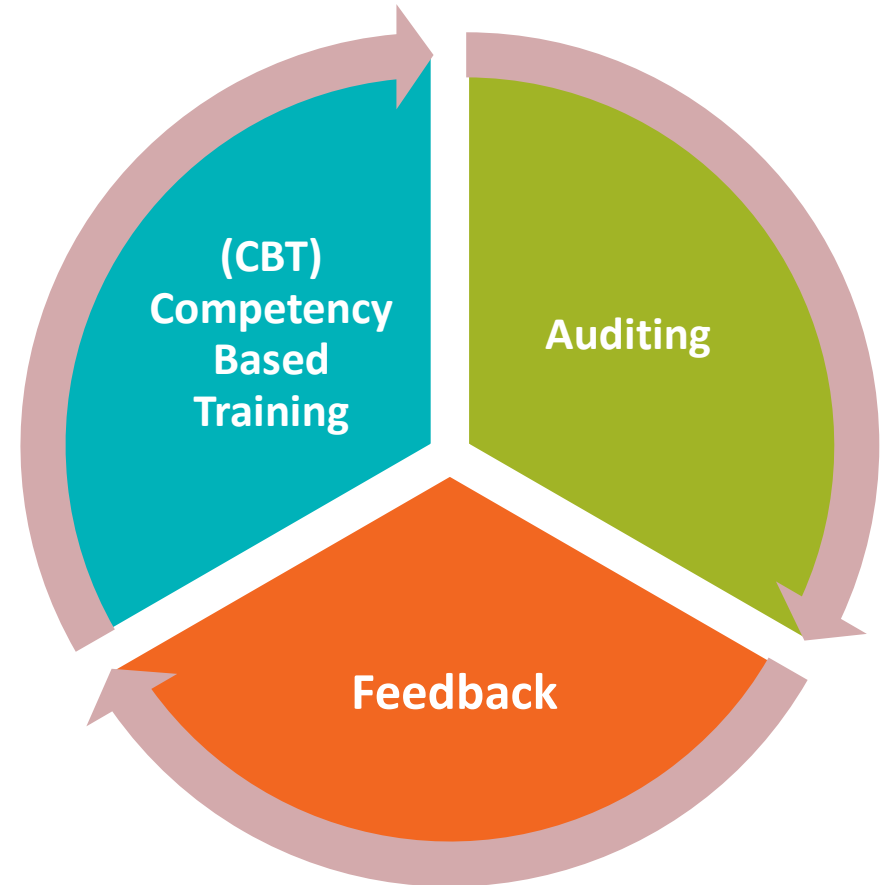
Process Measures ^a	
<p>Compliance with hand hygiene guidelines: <i>If hand hygiene with soap and water is the preferred method of hand hygiene when caring for patients with CDI, also assess proper hand washing technique with the same formula.</i></p>	<p>(No. of observed proper hand hygiene episodes performed by HCP ÷ total no. of observed opportunities for hand hygiene) × 100 = % compliance with hand hygiene compliance</p>
<p>Compliance with contact precautions</p>	<p>(No. of observed patient care episodes in which contact precautions are appropriately implemented ÷ the no. of observed patient care episodes in which contact precautions are indicated) × 100 = % compliance with contact precautions</p>
<p>Compliance with environmental cleaning and disinfection</p>	<p>One specific measure of compliance for use in all hospitals cannot be recommended. However, many hospitals use checklists, environmental rounds, fluorescent markers, and/or ATP bioluminescence to assess the cleaning and disinfection process and cleanliness of equipment and the environment (see Section 4: Essential practices, part 5).</p>

Strategies to Prevent CDI in Acute-Care Hospitals: 2022 Update



Feedback on CDI Prevention and Control Practices and Data

Feedback (Analyze and Report Compliance and Data)



Analyzing & Reporting Compliance

- What process measures are audited (monitored and documented) then analyzed? It should be scaled and tailored based on CDI incidence, resources, and risk analysis.
 - Use information collected through surveillance to detect transmission of infectious agents in the facility.
 - Monitor the incidence of infections that may be related to care provided at the facility and act on the data.
 - Audit adherence to CDI IPC practices.
 - Train performance monitoring personnel and use standardized tools and definitions.
 - Provide prompt, regular feedback on adherence and related outcomes to HCP and facility leadership.



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[CDC's Core IPC Practices for Safe Healthcare Delivery in All Settings](#)

[CDC - STRIVE - CBT Audits and Feedback](#)



CDI Prevention Feedback



- Feedback for C. diff infection (CDI) prevention and control activities is important. Feedback is defined as, “a summary of audit findings that is used to target performance improvement.”
- Feedback supports performance improvement, especially for complex tasks. When directed towards the task, it strengthens task performance.
- Feedback to individuals should be constructive and non-punitive.
- Provide prompt, regular feedback on adherence and related outcomes to healthcare personnel and facility leadership.
- There are various ways for provide feedback.
 - Immediate feedback to HCP
 - Planned feedback
 - Directly to managers and front-line personnel
 - Infection Prevention and Control Committee
 - Sharing NHSN CDI data with leadership
 - Posting data and trends in various formats for viewing or distribution
 - CDI HAI investigation feedback

Tips for Auditing & Feedback

- Be proactive, introduce yourself and explain your role especially to new faces
 - Be clear that the mission is education and performance improvement, not to “catch people doing something wrong”
 - Consider leadership and management introducing you at forums and meetings to reinforce your role
- Be familiar with the audit tools and rationale behind the IPC practice
 - Be familiar with how you will respond to anticipated observations
- Try to avoid peak times such as shift change to observe
 - Avoid slowing down their workflow
- Always be respectful and professional
 - Be mindful to privacy especially when providing feedback
 - Have empathy and focus on the process not the person
 - Ask if they have any questions and be helpful, show them the way
- Let them know you are interested in ideas to improve the process and follow-up to do your part to address barriers
- Keep communication open and remember to point out the positives

Scripts Prior to Audits

- Introduce yourself and be clear and kind with HCP about your mission:
 - “I am doing my daily/weekly IP rounding,”
 - Do you have any questions?
 - “I have a question, I am trying to learn more about...”
 - “This is a friendly infection prevention visit”
- Be clear if you are there to observe or intervene
 - Simply observe:
 - “I am here to watch the process today, and I need to learn more about it before I offer feedback”
 - Intervene:
 - “I’ll be glad to tell you what is going well and what could be better”



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Feedback Scripts

- Direct observation - No hand hygiene after doffing gloves
 - “You did great with hand hygiene on the way into the room, but I didn’t see it after you removed your gloves. That is often what some people miss so just a friendly reminder. Did you know that dirty hands easily contaminate clean gloves as we put them on?”
- Knowledge deficit – Stool sample order but no isolation sign or isolation in the EMR.
 - “I notice there was a stool sample order in the EMR but the patient isn’t in isolation yet, is that order still active? Can I show you where to find that policy for proactive isolation or where the isolation signs are or how to put it into the EMR?” (feedback based on their response)
- Privacy needed –
 - “You did a good job. Can you step aside with me so I can tell you about it?”
- Provide education – Isolation removed when PCR positive toxin negative but symptomatic.
 - “I notice that isolation was removed for that patient, I know that for colonization sometimes there are questions why the patient remains in isolation, do you know if that is why they were removed from isolation? Let’s walk through finding that protocol together, there is a helpful algorithm.”

Feedback vs. Coaching

You are
here

Feedback

- Discuss observation
- Assess for knowledge deficit
- Provide education
- Fill a gap in training
- Learn about practical barriers

Coaching & Next Steps

- Address willful non-compliance
 - Provide an objective report to manager, provide documentation and specifics as much as possible (in person or by phone, as much as possible)
- Mitigate defiant or disrespectful attitude
 - Pause. Environmental scan for situational factors. Report to manager, or move to safety concern
- Call out a disregard for safety
 - “I am concerned that you are not safe.”
- Deal with repeated educational intervention without improvement
 - Talk to the education team. Be prepared to describe the issue and the education that you have provided. Best to meet in-person. Plan for collaboration.

Surveillance & Reporting

- Conduct CDI surveillance, analyze and report data.
 - At a minimum, calculate healthcare facility–onset CDI rates at the organizational level and consider specifically calculating CDI rates by unit or ward.
 - Provide CDI rates and CDI prevention process measures to key stakeholders including senior leadership, physicians, nursing staff, and other clinicians.
 - Provide the process and outcome measures to appropriate hospital staff and administrators on a regular basis



CDI Reports

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HAI/AR Infection Preventionist and
NHSN Coordination Lead,
NE DHHS



Infection Control Assessment
and Promotion Program

NHSN Reporting

CDI LabID Event Reporting is based strictly on the number of hospital days between the specimen collection date and the date the patient is admitted to the facility. Facility admission date is considered Day 1. There is no consideration for clinical presentation.

- ≤ 3 days = community-onset (CO)
- ≤ 3 days but patient had prior discharge from the reporting facility in the previous 4 weeks = community-onset healthcare facility-associated (CO-HCFA)
- ≥ 4 days = healthcare facility-onset (HO)
- GI-CDI HAI surveillance is based on specific infection criteria that are met within the HAI timeframe:

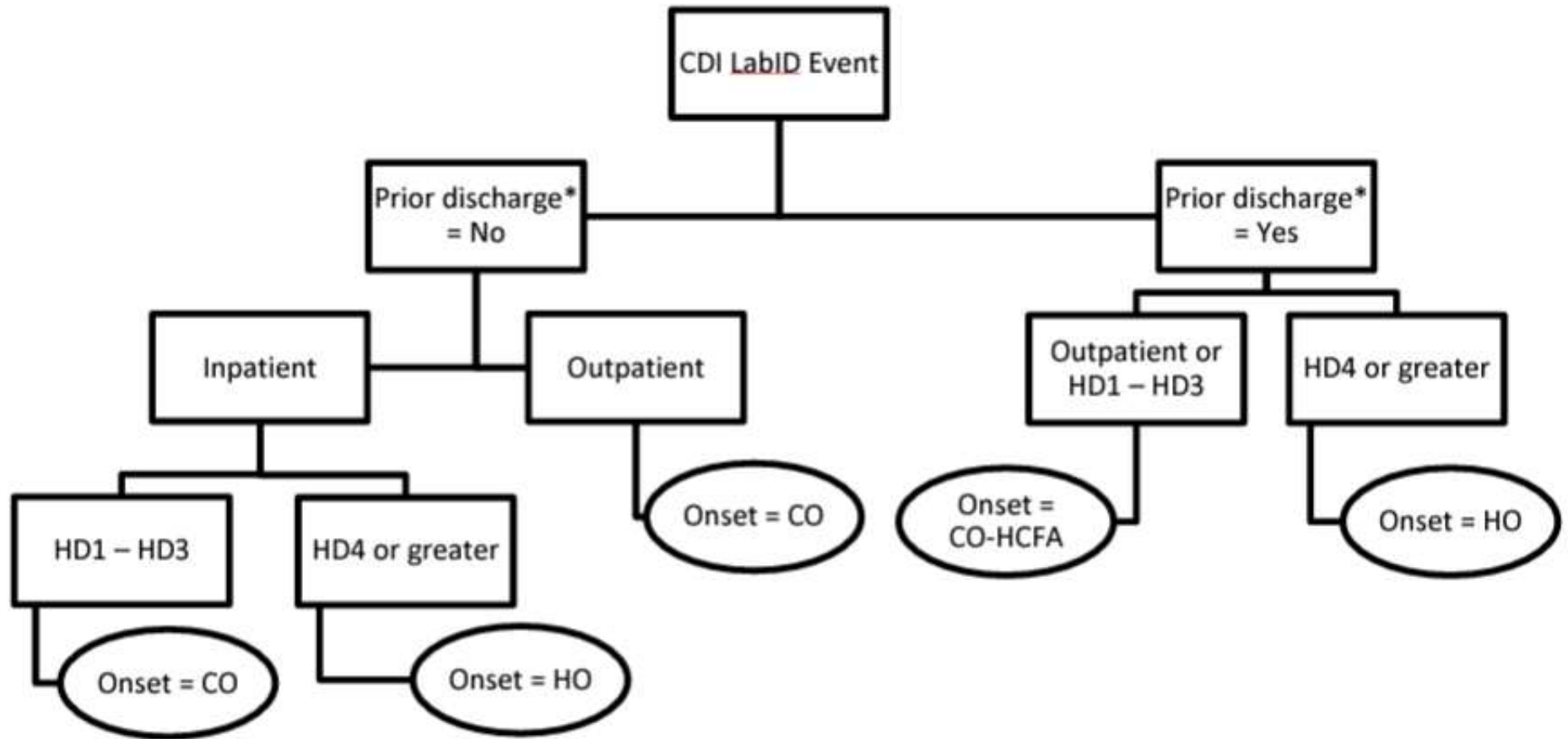
Day of admission or the day after = present on admission (POA) Hospital day 3 or greater = HAI

Hospital Day	HAI GI-CDI Surveillance	CDI LabID Event Reporting
-2	POA	Does not apply
-1	POA	Does not apply
Day 1 (Admission)	POA	CO
Day 2	POA	CO
Day 3	HAI	CO
Day 4	HAI	HO

Each method requires a positive test for toxin-producing *C. difficile* on an unformed stool specimen.

Note: Although diarrhea is not a specific element for a GI-CDI event, it must be checked when entering the GI-CDI event to validate that testing was performed on the appropriate specimen type.

Outcome Measures & Reporting



CDI Incidence Rates

- **C. difficile Infection Incidence Rate** = Number of HAI CDI cases / Number of patient days x 10,000
 - Example: Facility had 3 HAI CDI cases and 1800 patient days.
(3 HAI CDI Cases/1800) x 10,000 =16.67 CDI Incidence Rate

Other Incidence Rates

- **Inpatient Location CDI Incidence Rate** =
 - *Number of Incident CDI LabID Events* per month identified more than 3 days after admission to the location / Number of patient days for the location x **10,000**
 - *Note:* See “CDIF_incRate” in the NHSN Rate Tables. This rate is only available for locationspecific CDI surveillance.
- **Inpatient Facility CDI Healthcare Facility-Onset Incidence Rate** =
 - Number of all Incident HO CDI LabID Events per month in the facility / Number of patient days for the facility x **10,000**
 - *Note:* See “CDIF_HOIncRate” in the NHSN Rate Tables. (This calculation is only available for FacWideIN reporting.)

Analysis Reports

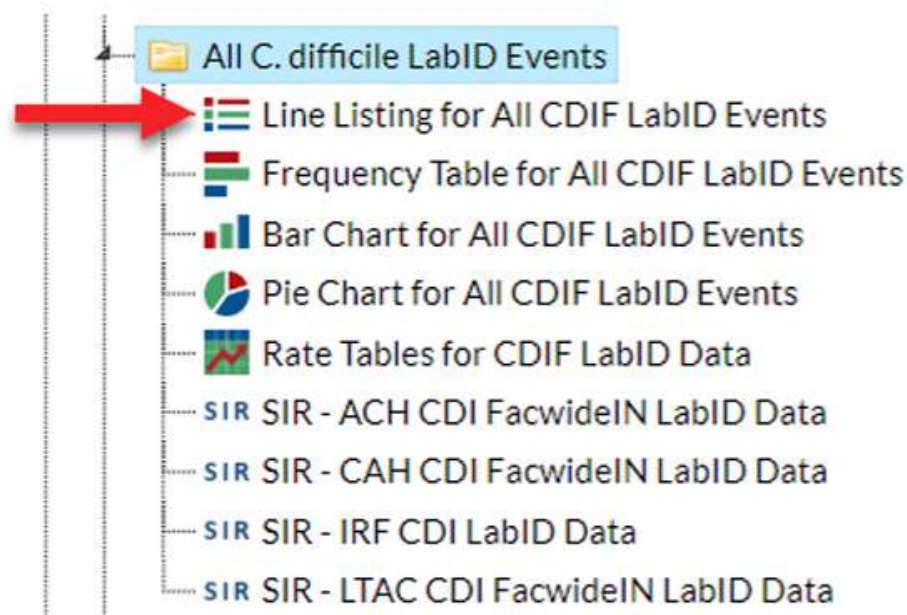
Analysis Reports

Expand All Collapse All Search

- Device-Associated (DA) Module
- Procedure-Associated (PA) Module
- HAI Antimicrobial Resistance (DA+PA Modules)
- Antimicrobial Use and Resistance Module
- MDRO/CDI Module - LABID Event Reporting**
- MDRO/CDI Module - Infection Surveillance
- MDRO/CDI Module - Process Measures
- MDRO/CDI Module - Outcome Measures
- COVID-19 Module
- CMS Reports
- TAP Reports
- Baseline Set 1
- Baseline Set 2
- Advanced

- MDRO/CDI Module - LABID Event Reporting
 - All LabID Events
 - All MRSA LabID Events
 - All MSSA LabID Events
 - All C. difficile LabID Events
 - All VRE LabID Events
 - All CephR-Klebsiella LabID Events
 - All CRE LabID Events
 - All CRE-Klebsiella LabID Events
 - All CRE-Ecoli LabID Events
 - All CRE-Enterobacter LabID Events
 - All Acinetobacter LabID Events

Line Listings

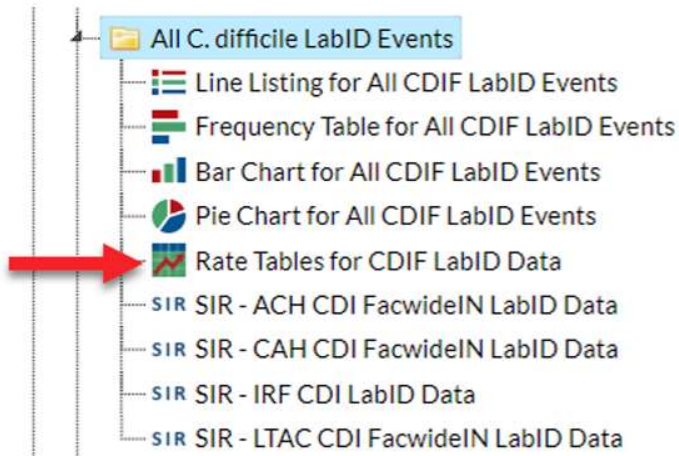


- Provides event level information
- Contains all the LabID events reported
- Used to review NHSN even categorizations
 - Healthcare associated versus community acquired
- Identify which events are counted in the SIR
- Easy to modify and customize

Example:

patID	eventID	spcOrgType	location	onset	cdiAssay	admitDate	locationAdmitDate	specimenDate	FWCDIF_facIncHOCCount	FWCDIF_admPrevCOCCount
2323	110902	CDIF	ICU	CO	INCIDENT	03/03/2022	03/03/2022	03/04/2022	0	1
3425	110903	CDIF	MED	CO	INCIDENT	03/07/2022	03/07/2022	03/08/2022	0	1
870	110900	CDIF	ICU	HO	INCIDENT	03/13/2022	03/13/2022	03/16/2022	1	0
8787	110901	CDIF	MED	CO	INCIDENT	03/30/2022	03/30/2022	03/30/2022	0	1

Rate Tables

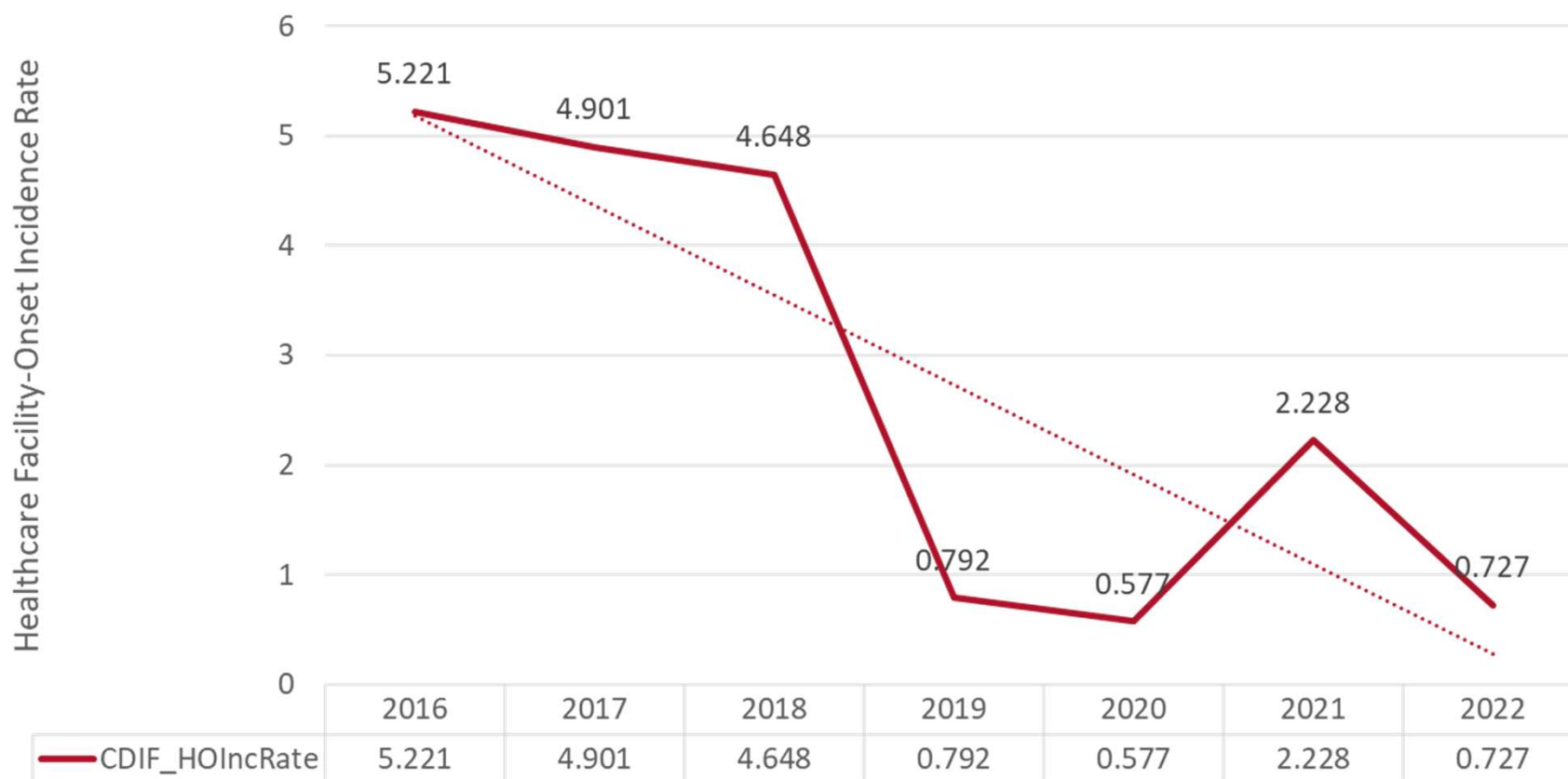


- Review healthcare onset cases and community onset cases.
- Location Specific rates can be calculated
*only if location-specific denominator records are entered
- Rates can be calculated by month, quarter, half-year or year.

Example:

Rate Table - All CDIF LabID Events by Location						
CDI Incidence - Inpatient Facility CDIF Healthcare Facility-Onset Incidence Rate						
As of: October 2023 at 5:15 PM						
Date Range: BS2_LABID_RATESCDIF summaryYr 2015 to 2022						
orgID=xxxxx locCDC=' ' ccn=000000 facType=HOSP-GEN medType=M state=NE						
summaryYr	months	location	CDIF_facIncHOCCount	numpatdays	CDIF_HOIncRate	
2016	12	FACWIDEIN	33	63212	5.221	
2017	12	FACWIDEIN	33	67339	4.901	
2018	12	FACWIDEIN	36	77458	4.648	
2019	12	FACWIDEIN	6	75745	0.792	
2020	12	FACWIDEIN	4	69331	0.577	
2021	12	FACWIDEIN	18	80808	2.228	
2022	12	FACWIDEIN	6	82541	0.727	

Example Graph: Healthcare Facility Onset Incidence Rate by Year



Example Chart: Healthcare Facility Onset Incidence Rate by Department

Hospital A Healthcare-Onset CDI Rates 2023			
location	HO-CDI Cases	Patient Days	CDI Rate
2ICU	3	5549	5.41
3PCU	1	3587	2.79
4Rehab	0	2548	0.00
5ORTHO	1	4879	2.05
6Surgical	2	7894	2.53
7Medical	4	8997	4.45
8Peds	1	2546	3.93

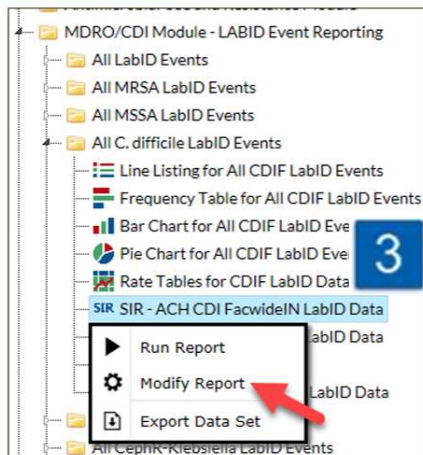
Standardized Infection Ratio (SIR)

- An equation is used to determine the predicted number of hospital-onset CDI cases for a hospital based on the hospital characteristics, type of C. difficile testing done, and number of people admitted with community-onset CDI.
 - SIR > 1.0 = more HAIs were observed than predicted
 - SIR < 1.0 = fewer HAIs were observed than predicted

$$SIR = \frac{\# \text{ observed HO LabID Events}}{\# \text{ predicted HO LabID Events}}$$



Generate a CDI SIR Report



- Select Analysis on the NHSN home screen
- ALWAYS Generate Data Sets before running any reports.
- Then select “Reports” from the dropdown menu that opens.
- Expand the “MDRO/CDI Module-LABID Even Reporting folder” folder.
- Select the “SIR-ACH CDI FacewideIN LabID Data” Report
- Modify Report

SIRs are only available for FacWideIN surveillance of MRSA bacteremia and C. difficile. Unit-specific SIRs are not available.

Generate a CDI SIR Report continued

1

Title/Format Time Period Filters Display Options

Title:
SIR for CDI FacwideIN LabID in Acute Care Hospital (2015 baseline)

2

Title/Format Time Period Filters Display Options

Time Period:

Date Variable	Beginning	Ending	
summaryYQ	2015Q1	2015Q2	Clear Time Period

Enter Date variable/Time period at the time you click the Run button

3

Title/Format Time Period Filters Display Options

Additional Filters: Show Clear

AND OR Add group Add rule Delete

4

Title/Format Time Period Filters Display Options

SIR Options:

Group by: summaryYQ

Example of a CDI SIR Report

National Healthcare Safety Network

SIR for CDI FacwideIN LabID in Acute Care Hospital (2015 baseline)

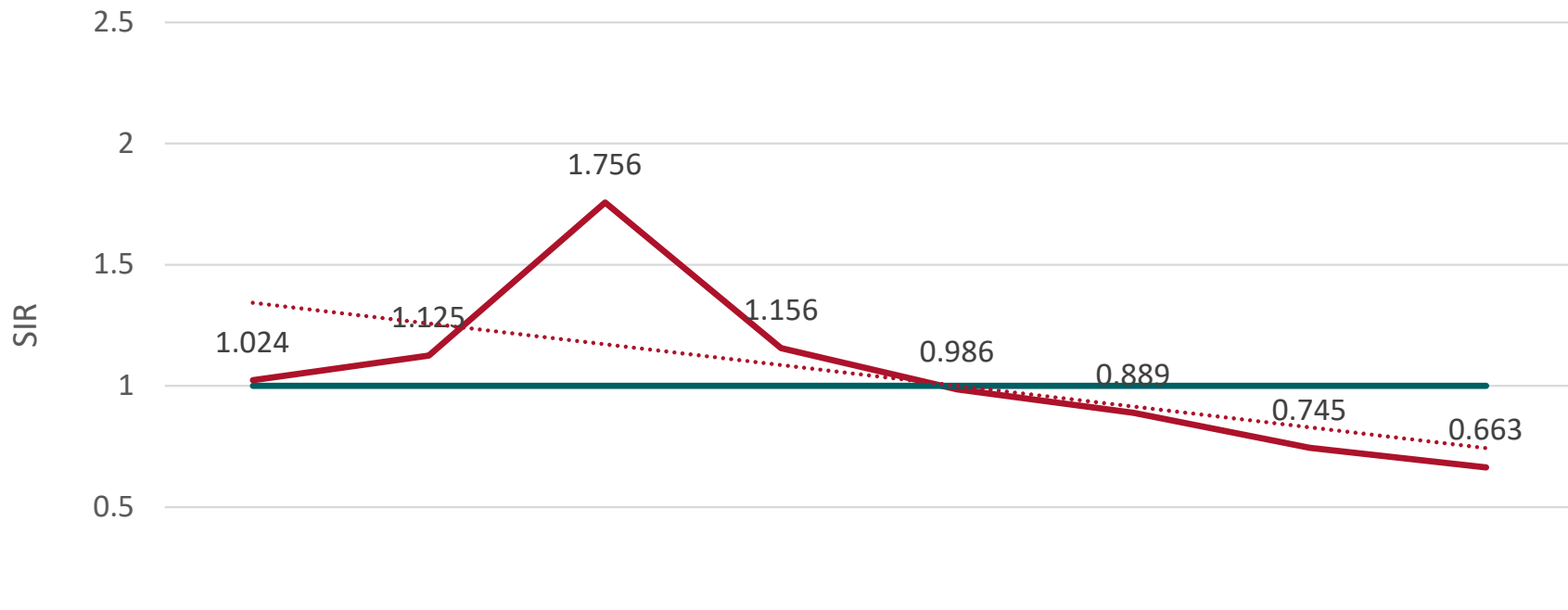
As of: November 30, 2016 at 9:26 AM

Date Range: BS2_LABID_RATESCDIF summaryYQ 2015Q1 to 2015Q2

Facility Org ID= [REDACTED] CMS Certification Number= [REDACTED]

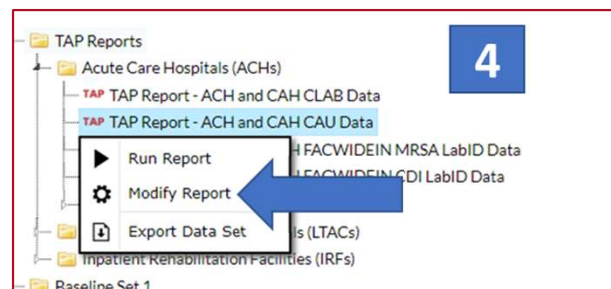
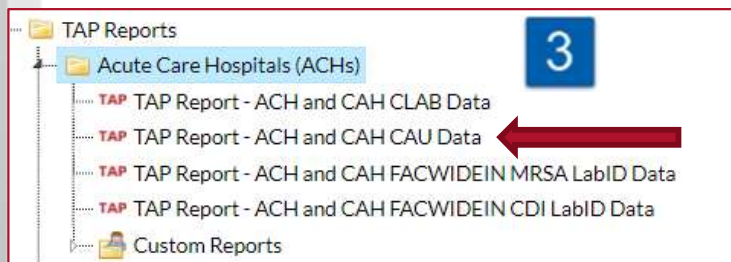
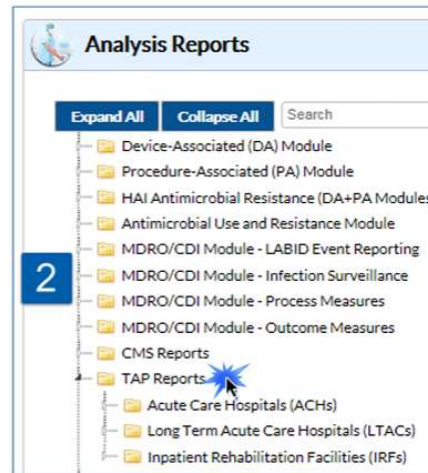
Location	Summary Yr/Qtr	Months	CDIF Facility Incident HO LabID Event Count	Number Predicted	Patient Days	SIR	SIR p-value	95% Confidence Interval
FACWIDEIN	2015Q1	3	4	6.627	10621	0.604	0.3132	0.192, 1.456
FACWIDEIN	2015Q2	3	0	4.331	10520	0.000	0.0132	, 0.692

Example Graph: CDI SIR by Year



	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
— SIR	1.024	1.125	1.756	1.156	0.986	0.889	0.745	0.663
— Goal	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

Generate a TAP Report



- Select Analysis on the NHSN home screen
- ALWAYS Generate Data Sets before running any reports.
- Then select “Reports” from the dropdown menu that opens.
- Expand the “TAP Reports” folder. The TAP reports are organized by facility type. Expand the folder for the facility type relevant to your analysis to see the available TAP Report options.
- Modify Report

https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/pdfs/ps-analysis-resources/ref-guide/tap-reports_facility_cauti.pdf



Generate a TAP Report continued

Modify "TAP Report - ACH and CAH CAU Data"

Show descriptive variable names ([Print List](#)) Analysis Data

Title/Format | Time Period | Filters | Display Options

Title:
TAP Report for CAUTI Data for Acute Care and Critical Access Hospitals (2015 Baseline)

Format:

- Select format for the report

- Excel (xls)
- Html
- PDF

Modify "TAP Report - ACH and CAH CAU Data"

Show descriptive variable names ([Print List](#)) Analysis Data Set: bs2_t

Title/Format | **Time Period** | Filters | Display Options

Time Period:

Date Variable	Beginning	Ending	
summaryYM ▼	01/2023		<input type="button" value="Clear Time Period"/>

Enter Date variable/Time period at the time you click the Run button

- Edit desired timeframe for report.
 - Example: calendar year, fiscal year, etc.

Example of a CDI TAP Report

CAD=the number of infections that need to be prevented to reach a target, or SIR goal

National Healthcare Safety Network

TAP Report for FACWIDE IN CDI LabID data for Acute Care and Critical Access Hospitals (2015 Baseline)

Facilities Ranked by CAD 'Cumulative Attributable Difference'

SIR Goal: HHS Goal = 0.7

As of February 16, 2017 at 2:00 PM

Date Range: BS2_CDI_TAP summaryYr2016 to 2016

Facility Org ID	Facility Name	State	Type of Facility	Type of Affiliation	Number of Beds	Patient Days	COHCFA Prevalence	CDIF Facility Incident HO LabID Event Count	CDIF Facility Incident HO LabID Number Expected	Facility CAD	SIR	SIR Test
10000	DHQP Memorial Hospital	GA	HOSP-GEN	M	354	60059	0.14	61	55.034	22.48	1.108	

SIR is set to '.' when expected number of events is <1.0.

Facility Rank = Priority ranking for Targeted Assessment of Prevention by CAD in descending order

COHCFA PREVALENCE RATE = Community-onset healthcare facility-associated CDI prevalence rate per 100 admissions

CAD = Observed - Expected*SELECTED CAD MULTIPLIER

SIR TEST = 'SIG' means SIR > SIR Goal significantly

Data contained in this report were last generated on February 16, 2017 at 12:22 PM.

Additional Educational Resources



**Infection Control Assessment
and Promotion Program**

CDI Specific CDC STRIVE Training

C. difficile Infection (CDI)

- [CDI 101: Overview of CDI](#) [PDF – 42 pages]
Provides background information on the impact *difficile* has on patients, the pathogenesis of *C. difficile* infection and Tier 1 strategies to prevent CDI.
- [CDI 102: Antibiotic and Lab Testing Stewardship to Prevent CDI](#) [PDF – 69 pages]
Overview of Tier 1 strategies, aspects of antibiotic stewardship and lab testing stewardship and how they play a crucial role in preventing CDI.
- [CDI 103: CDI: Preventing Transmission](#) [PDF – 46 pages]
Outlines how *difficile* transmission occurs and how health care staff can work together to prevent transmission using Tier 1 strategies. It also reviews common barriers and offers strategies to effectively overcome challenges.
- [CDI 104: Monitoring for Compliance and Improvement](#) [PDF – 63 pages]
Reviews ways hospitals can use the Tier 1 process and outcomes data to
 - identify gaps in practice,
 - monitor compliance with evidence-based practices,
 - communicate with key stakeholders and
 - turn data into actionable information to drive improvement.
- [CDI 201: Using the Guide to Patient Safety \(GPS\) and Targeted Assessment for Prevention \(TAP\) to Assess CDI Prevention Efforts](#) [PDF – 49 pages]
Discusses use of the CDI GPS and the TAP to establish focused goals and evaluate possible barriers to implementation of CDI prevention strategies. Introduction to Tier 2 CDI prevention strategies.
- [CDI 202: CDI Tier 2 Interventions](#) [PDF – 66 pages]
Outlines Tier 2 CDI prevention strategies and how to implement them. Strategies include
 - initiating Contact Precautions when CDI results are pending and extending them until discharge,
 - implementing environmental cleaning process tools and using an EPA –registered sporicidal agent, and,
 - implementing hand hygiene with soap and water as the preferred method at room exit with enhanced staff training and monitoring.

Supplemental Material

- [CDI Guide to Patient Safety \(GPS\)](#)
- [TAP CDI Implementation Guide](#)

CDC STRIVE - CDI

