Current Issues in Ambulatory Infection Surveillance for Surgical Site Infections (SSIs)

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Project Director
The Joint Commission

Objective

Objectives—Address:

1. History of NHSN and the recent change in surgical site infection (SSI) implant monitoring
2. Removal of implant monitoring requirements
3. NHSN requirements for ambulatory SSI monitoring
4. Revision to National Patient Safety Goal (NPSG)
5. Resources from The Joint Commission Enterprise
6. Questions
CDC’s National Healthcare Safety Network

- The National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) is the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) healthcare-associated infection tracking system:
  - Provides facilities, states, regions, and the nation with data needed to identify problem areas
  - Measure progress of prevention efforts
  - Focuses on eliminating healthcare-associated infections (HAIs)

CDC’s National Healthcare Safety Network

- NHSN provides medical facilities, states, regions, and the nation with data collection and reporting capabilities needed to:
  - Identify infection prevention problems by facility, state, or specific quality improvement project
  - Benchmark progress of infection prevention efforts
  - Comply with state and federal public reporting mandates and ultimately,
  - Drive national progress toward elimination of HAIs

NHSN’s Decision to Remove Implants from SSI Surveillance

- Healthcare Infection Control Practices Advisory Committee (HICPAC) working group reviewed all aspects of SSI surveillance definitions and methods to:
  - Reduce subjectivity
  - Enhance clinical credibility
  - Reduce data collection burden and
  - Make amenable to electronic data capture

Ryan Fagan, MD
Surveillance Branch
CDC
### NHSN’s Decision to Remove Implants from SSI Surveillance

- Removed the requirement to indicate whether an implant was placed during an NHSN operative procedure:
  - Deleted the implant definition
  - Removed implant phrase from deep incisional and organ/space SSI definitions
  - Replaced 1 year follow-up period with 90-day period for certain procedures

Ryan Fagan, MD  
Surveillance Branch  
CDC

### Ambulatory Reporting Requirements for NHSN

**Settings**: Surveillance of surgical patients will occur in any inpatient and/or outpatient setting where the selected NHSN operative procedure(s) are performed.

**Requirements**: Perform surveillance for SSIs following at least one NHSN operative procedure category.

- Collect SSI (numerator) and operative procedure category (denominator) data on procedures included in the selected procedure categories for at least one month to meet NHSN requirements, or as otherwise specified by state or federal reporting requirements.
- A procedure must meet the NHSN definition of an operative procedure in order to be included in the surveillance.

**Ambulatory Reporting Requirements for NHSN**

- NHSN will no longer collect information on “implants” used during operative procedures as part of SSI infection surveillance.
- Superficial incisional SSIs are followed for a 30-day period for all procedure types.
- For Deep Incisional SSIs and Organ/Space SSIs, the duration of SSI surveillance will no longer be determined by presence of surgical implant, but instead will be determined by the NHSN Procedure Category only.
- 30-day or 90-day surveillance will be required.

NHSN Surveillance Changes for January 2013  

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### Ambulatory 30-Day Reporting Requirements for NHSN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Operative Procedure</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AAA</td>
<td>Abdominal aortic aneurysm repair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMP</td>
<td>Liver resection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APPY</td>
<td>Appendix surgery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BRST</td>
<td>Breast surgery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CARD</td>
<td>Cardiac surgery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CBGB</td>
<td>Coronary artery bypass graft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CBGC</td>
<td>Coronary artery bypass graft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRAN</td>
<td>Craniotomy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FUSN</td>
<td>Spinal fusion</td>
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<tr>
<td>FX</td>
<td>Open reduction of fracture</td>
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<tr>
<td>HER</td>
<td>Herniorrhaphy</td>
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<td>HPRO</td>
<td>Hip prosthesis</td>
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<tr>
<td>KPRO</td>
<td>Knee prosthesis</td>
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<tr>
<td>PACE</td>
<td>Pacemaker surgery</td>
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<tr>
<td>PVBY</td>
<td>Peripheral vascular bypass surgery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RFUSN</td>
<td>Refusion of spine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SFN</td>
<td>Spinal fusion</td>
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### Ambulatory 90-Day Reporting Requirements for NHSN

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<th>Code</th>
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<td>BBB</td>
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<td>CSM</td>
<td>Coronary artery bypass graft</td>
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<td>TOF</td>
<td>Transthoracic aortic surgery</td>
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<td>TOAA</td>
<td>Transvenous aortic surgery</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOSS</td>
<td>Thoracic surgery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOSS</td>
<td>Thoracic surgery</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### The Joint Commission's National Patient Safety Goal (NPSG).07.05.01: Implement Evidence-Based Practices for Preventing SSI

- Implement evidence-based practices for preventing Surgical Site Infections (SSI) within 30 days of any invasive procedure requiring general anesthesia or requiring either regional, spinal, or epidural anesthesia. This includes, but is not limited to, procedures involving incision of the skin or mucous membrane;
- Implement evidence-based practices for preventing SSI within 90 days of any invasive procedure requiring general anesthesia or requiring regional, spinal, or epidural anesthesia.
The Joint Commission’s NPSG.07.05.01: SSI Prevention

• NPSG.07.05.01 was revised in April, 2013 to reflect the NHSN revisions.
• Element of Performance (EP) 5 states:
  o Measure surgical site infection rates for the first 30 or 90 days following surgical procedures based on National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) procedural codes. The organization’s measurement strategies follow evidence-based guidelines.

The Joint Commission’s NPSG.07.05.01: SSI Prevention

• Note 1: Surveillance may be targeted to certain procedures based on the organization’s risk assessment.
• Note 2: The NHSN is the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s health care-associated infection tracking system. NHSN provides facilities, states, regions, and the nation with data needed to identify problem areas, measure progress of prevention efforts, and ultimately eliminate health care-associated infections. For more information on NHSN procedural codes, see //www.cdc.gov/nhsn/CPTcodes/ssi-cpt.html

Questions from the SSI Surveillance Survey

• I work for a private practice board certified plastic surgeon with his own “on-site” OR. We monitor our infection sites; we haven’t had any.
• Are there any good resources for operating room staff (as far as education) available online?
• We are EHR and connected to our Surgeons clinics, the MA’s should fill out a sheet and give it to the ASC. There are times when the Surgeon himself will let us know. I also can go into our EHR and find any infections reported. We are an Ophthalmic ASC, I would like to hear more on SSI surveillance. The question would be: “how long to monitor ophthalmic infections?”
• How do facilities track the implant patients for CPT specific 30 and/or 90 days? What process is used? We are still tracking every implant case and MD’s are to report to us for a year. Overkill is better than underkill!
• How specific must documentation be when querying surgeons? i.e. can they make a blanket statement that says no infections in past 30 days? Or must the documentation include patient name and procedure and they mark yes or no, etc. Not sure how specific it should be.
Resources on eSupport

Operations/Infection Control/Infection Prevention & Investigation

The Joint Commission: Enterprise Resources

1. Joint Commission Center for Transforming Healthcare: Surgical Site Infection Project
   Hand Hygiene Project

2. The Joint Commission: HAI Portal
   http://www.jointcommission.org/hai.aspx

3. The Joint Commission: Measuring Hand Hygiene Adherence: Overcoming the Challenges
   http://www.jointcommission.org/topics/monographs_and_white_papers.aspx

4. The Joint Commission: The SSI Implementation Guide:
   http://www.jointcommission.org/implementaJon_guide_for_npsg070501_ssi_change_project/

5. Joint Commission Resources: Ambulatory
   http://www.jcrinc.com/search/?Keyword=infecJon#keyword=infecJon&guid=bb136652d273461bb9be03b5f30b58f5&sg=Ambulatory-Care

Questions?

Email us: info@pss4asc.com
Mark your calendars!

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- Privileging
- Reappointments
- Peer Review

**Monday July 21, 2014**
11am PT/2pm ET
Debra Stinchcomb, RN, BSN, CASC
Progressive Surgical Solutions