“Progress Toward Eliminating Healthcare-Associated Infections” – May, 2012
Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ)

**Clostridium difficile Infections**

- **Data source:** AHRQ’s Healthcare Cost and Utilization Product (HCUP), State Inpatient Databases (SID)
- **Definition:** All hospitalizations with ICD-9-CM diagnosis code 008.45, intestinal infection due to *C. difficile*
- **5-Year (2013) National Prevention Target:** 30% reduction in hospitalizations with *C. difficile* per 1,000 discharges
- **Metric:** Rate of *C. difficile* per 1,000 non-maternal, adult discharges compared to baseline year
  - The numerator identifies all hospitalizations with *C. difficile* in any diagnosis field (Dx1-Dx15).
  - Denominator is all discharges, excluding maternal, children, and transfers.
  - No risk adjustment applied.
- **Baseline period:** 2008
- **Baseline data:** *C. difficile* hospitalizations identified in 2008 from all acute care, non-rehabilitation community hospitals in 42 states
  - 2008: 42 states participate in the HCUP project; 4,300 hospitals with ~ 35 million hospitalizations
  - 2009: 44 states participate in the HCUP project; 4,400 hospitals with ~ 35 million hospitalizations
  - 2010: 46 states participate in the HCUP project; 4,800 hospitals with ~ 38 million hospitalizations
- **2011 and 2012 data:**
  - Using all SID States, calculate actual quarterly outcome statistics for *C. Difficile* for each stratum over the historical period 2001-2010.
  - Utilize quarterly 2011 inpatient data from “early” States to impute full-SID estimates of outcomes.
  - Generate projections using the SAS Time Series Forecasting System.
  - Calculate weighted estimates and rates for all years of data.

### Clostridium difficile

(Rate per 1,000 Hospitalizations)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>QTR1</th>
<th>QTR2</th>
<th>QTR3</th>
<th>QTR4</th>
<th>Average</th>
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<td>12.5</td>
<td>11.3</td>
<td>11.1</td>
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<td>11.5</td>
<td>10.7</td>
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