National Action Plan to Prevent Health Care-Associated Infections:
ROAD MAP TO ELIMINATION

2013
National Action Plan to Prevent Health Care-Associated Infections: Road Map to Elimination

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  Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
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    Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation
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KEY ACRONYMS

ACO: Accountable care organization
AO: Accreditation Organization
ASCs: Ambulatory Surgical Centers
CAUTI: Catheter-associated urinary tract infection
CDI: Clostridium difficile infections
CLABSI: Central-line associated bloodstream infections
CfC: Conditions for Coverage
CoP: Condition of Participation
CUSP: Comprehensive Unit-based Safety Program
EHR: Electronic health record
ESRD: End-Stage Renal Disease
FHISE: Federal Health Information Sharing Environment
HAC-POA: Hospital-Acquired Conditions-Present on Admission
HAI: Health care-associated infections
HCP: Health Care Personnel
HICPAC: Health Care Infection Control Practices Advisory Committee
HITECH: Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health
HVBP: Hospital Value-based Purchasing (also VBP)
ICU: Intensive care unit
ICWS: Infection Control Worksheet
IPPS: Inpatient Prospective Payment System
IT: Information Technology
LTCFs: Long-term care facilities
MDR: Multi-drug resistant
MRSA: Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus
NHSN: National Healthcare Safety Network
NwHIN: Nationwide Health Information Network
PSO: Patient Safety Organization
QIO: Quality Improvement Organization
SCIP: Surgical Care Improvement Project
SSA: State Survey Agencies
SSI: Surgical site infections
UTI: Urinary tract infection
VAE: Ventilator-associated event
VAP: Ventilator-associated pneumonia
VBP: Value-based purchasing

Acronyms for Federal Departments and Agencies

AHRQ: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality
ACL: Administration for Community Living
CDC: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CMS: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
DOD: U.S. Department of Defense
FDA: Food and Drug Administration
GAO: Government Accountability Office
HHS: U.S. Department of Health & Human Services
HRSA: Health Resources and Services Administration
IHS: Indian Health Service
NIH: National Institutes of Health
OS: HHS Office of the Secretary
ASPE: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation
OASH: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health
NVPO: National Vaccine Program Office
ODPHP: Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion
ONC: Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology
VA: U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
I am pleased to share the National Action Plan to Prevent Health Care-Associated Infections: Road Map to Elimination (HAI Action Plan). Health care-associated infections (HAI) are a serious national health issue. At any given time, one in 20 hospitalized patients has an HAI, and more than one million HAIs occur every year, costing the U.S. health care system billions of dollars. The Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) encourages HAI reductions by engaging public and private sector stakeholders.

The HAI Action Plan reflects a significant update and expansion from the initial version issued in 2009. It includes new sections specific to infection reduction in ambulatory surgical centers, end-stage renal disease facilities, and long-term care facilities, as well as a section on increasing influenza vaccination of health care personnel. The HAI Action Plan reflects the work of many offices across HHS and the Departments of Defense and Veterans Affairs. The plan also reflects input from national experts and stakeholder organizations.

Achieving the highest quality health care at an affordable cost is a complex endeavor. It requires providers, health care organizations, governments, the public health community, patients, and their loved ones to collaborate and support each other’s actions to realize our shared mission of being the healthiest society we can be. Patients across the nation depend on our efforts to prevent and eventually eliminate HAIs.

The HAI Action Plan is critical to our overall mission to strengthen health systems by improving health-care quality and patient safety. Recently, we have seen significant investments in the essential strategies and infrastructure needed to reduce the HAI burden. My vision is to contribute to an even stronger, healthier, and more prosperous America for years to come. The National Action Plan to Prevent Health Care-Associated Infections: Road Map to Elimination will help to achieve that vision.

Sincerely,

/Kathleen Sebelius/

Kathleen Sebelius