Healthcare-associated Infections HAI Elimination

Toward Elimination

Newsletter for State Partners in HAI Prevention

Volume 12, January 2011

CDC Launches New Healthcare-Associated Infections Website

On December 1, CDC's Division of Healthcare Quality Promotion (DHQP) launched a new healthcare-associated infections (HAIs) website at www.cdc.gov/hai. This new site provides a wealth of HAI information including burden, economics, organisms, prevention resources, surveillance information and links, and recent HAI research reports. A second phase of the site will be released soon, adding even more information.

Your states can benefit from this new website in a number of ways including a soon-to-be-available syndicated content feature. Using syndication, content on the CDC HAI website can be directly shown on your website. When CDC content is updated, the connected content is automatically updated on your site too.

We hope this new website and the opportunity to share syndicated content will valuable to your state HAI prevention program efforts. For more information, please contact your PHA or DHQP's Office of Communications at dhqpwebrequest@cdc.gov.

State Highlight: Utah

The Utah Department of Health (UDOH) is making great strides toward a strong statewide HAI prevention program. Activities to date include:

- Developing and distributing an infection control (IC) needs assessment to acute care facilities, and is currently developing one for long-term care facilities (LTCFs). The results will help guide Utah state HAI surveillance and prevention efforts.
- Partnering with nursing representatives to create a state LTCF IC resource, to cover key issues such as isolation, environmental hygiene, surveillance and reporting, and outbreak control.
- Working with stakeholders to develop a statewide inter-facility patient transfer form, focusing on preventing multidrug-resistant organism transmission between LTCFs and acute care facilities.
- Revising the Utah HAI Administrative Rule for central line-associated bloodstream infection (CLABSI) and healthcare worker influenza vaccination surveillance, with plans to expand to include *Clostridium difficile* infection. The updated rule will also reflect new CMS reporting requirements.

In addition, through HHS Regional HAI Project funding, UDOH was able to train 61 state infection preventionists, nursing administrators and quality managers from 35 acute care facilities. The all-day training focused on a comprehensive introduction to HAI prevention, surveillance, and NHSN.

Congratulations Utah on your HAI prevention program successes to date! For more information, please visit http://health.utah.gov/epi/.

Participants from Utah's HAI prevention, surveillance and NHSN training

Reminder: Regional HAI Trainings

Regional train-the-trainer workshops are available for all HAI Coordinators and up to two state health department staff from each state. The trainings will assist state health departments in meeting objectives identified in HAI Plans for providing evidence-based prevention materials to their partners. The three-day workshops will provide participants with materials and related training about implementation methods to address the HHS priority prevention targets to eliminate healthcare-associated infections (HAIs).

There will be a total of 10 regional training workshops starting in late February 2011. Additional information is available from your PHA and on the Epi-X HAI Forum, which has a listing of the proposed training schedules.

Although DHQP will not be sponsoring travel for the workshops, registration and training materials costs for all participants will be covered.

ELC/EIP Grantee Calls

CAUTI Infection-Specific Call:
January 27, 1PM–2 PM ET

LTC Discussion:
January 31, 1PM–2 PM ET

Your PHAs will send the bridge line, password, and Webinar URL information for these calls.