



# Toward Elimination

Newsletter for State Partners in HAI Prevention

February 2010

## Coming Up...

### 4th Prevention Collaborative Call/ Webinar

February 04, 2010 from  
2:30 PM-3:30 PM ET  
Bridgeline: 888-469-0565  
Participant passcode: 4490174

#### Webinar Information:

URL: <https://www.mymeetings.com/nc/join/>

Conference number: PW1203100

Audience passcode: 4490174

Participants can join the event directly at:

[https://www.mymeetings.com/nc/join.php?](https://www.mymeetings.com/nc/join.php?i=PW1203100&p=4490174&t=c)

[i=PW1203100&p=4490174&t=c](https://www.mymeetings.com/nc/join.php?i=PW1203100&p=4490174&t=c)

### February State Users of NHSN Call

February 10, 2010. Agenda and call-in information forthcoming.

### The Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE) Annual Conference

Where: Portland, Oregon

When: June 6-10, 2010

The conference attracts more than 1,000 public health epidemiologists and will include workshops, plenary sessions with leaders in the field of public health, oral breakout sessions, roundtable discussions and poster presentations.

CDC's Division of Healthcare Quality Promotion will offer an HAI training workshop on Sunday, June 6th.

Open registration for this meeting starts on February 1st. Additional information about the registration process, logistics, and the workshop's format can be found on: <http://www.cste.org/conference/>

## First Quarter In The Books

Happy 2010! We have just completed our first full quarter under the Recovery Act-funded healthcare-associated infection (HAI) prevention cooperative agreements. The progress to date has been very exciting.

Several states have already held their HAI advisory committee meetings. In addition, 100% of states/territories have submitted their state HAI plans and have hired or designated HAI coordinators.

In the near future, we will be conducting a needs assessment which will guide us as we strive to provide you with essential training, resource support, and technical assistance.

Again, we wish you all the best for 2010 and look forward to continuing to work with you to eliminate HAIs!

## Policy Corner

### Healthcare Reform

The Senate passed healthcare reform legislation at the close of 2009, signaling that healthcare reform is moving forward. The House and the Senate are now tasked with reconciling both healthcare reform bills to create final healthcare reform legislation that can be passed. While both bills include language on healthcare-associated infections, the House and Senate legislation differ on specific strategies to prevent HAIs.

### NCSL Webinar

The National Conference of State Legislators hosted a webinar titled *Healthcare Associated Infections: States Tracking Data, Taking Action* on January 12, 2010. The webinar provided overviews of Recovery Act

## State Highlight

### WASHINGTON STATE

Washington state recently launched its healthcare-associated infection (HAI) Web site. The site allows the general public to see and compare HAI rates for hospitals across the state. To date, the site has exceeded 8,000 hits! The site features hospital infection rates based on NHSN data on central line bloodstream infections and ventilator-associated pneumonia. More information is on the Health Care Associated Infections Program Web site [http://www.doh.wa.gov/EHSPHL/HAI/HAI\\_Default.htm](http://www.doh.wa.gov/EHSPHL/HAI/HAI_Default.htm).

activities with states regarding HAIs, the utility of NHSN, and provided a state perspective of monitoring and tracking HAIs using NHSN. Marion Kainer (Tennessee Department of Health), Wendy Vance (CDC), and Cathy Rebmann (CDC) presented. An archive of the webinar can be found at <http://www.ncsl.org>.

## Web Update

The CDC Recovery Act Web site is continuously updated to make it easy for you to find the resources you need to implement successful HAI prevention programs. Coming changes include a dedicated collaboratives section . [www.cdc.gov/hai/recoveryact](http://www.cdc.gov/hai/recoveryact)

