



OHIO NURSING HOME QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

National Nursing Home Quality Care Collaborative *Clostridium difficile* Initiative

Description

Clostridium difficile is a germ that causes major colon inflammation and deadly diarrhea. This is your opportunity to work with your QIN-QIO and other local and national experts on a QAPI initiative to prevent and reduce *C. difficile* in nursing homes.

The initiative will support nursing home submission of data into the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) databank, which will provide for analysis and creation of a national baseline for *C. difficile* infections in nursing homes, as well a follow-up measurement period. NHSN provides long-term care (LTC) facilities with a customized system to track infections in a streamlined and systematic way. When facilities track infections, they can identify problems and track progress toward stopping infections. While 50 states currently report hospital *C. difficile* data into NHSN, only 250 of the country's 15,700 nursing homes currently report *C. difficile* data into NHSN. The April 2013 "Health and Human Services (HHS) National Action Plan to Prevent Healthcare-Associated Infections (HAIs): Road Map to Elimination," chapter on LTC facilities identified *C. difficile* as a priority area for implementation of reporting to NHSN, evaluating variability in measure, and for obtaining consensus on a meaningful five-year goal. The establishment of a national baseline and subsequent identification of goals are essential for our individual and collective work to improve the quality of care and outcomes for our residents in this area.

How to Join

Please contact Jim Barnhart at 614-307-5475 or jbarnhart@hsag.com . An online registration portal will be available at www.hsag.com in 2016.

Brief Description of Required Activities

- Register for the project through a participation agreement signed by both the Administrator **and** the Director of Nursing;
- Identify a team sponsor and a day-to-day leader;
- Enroll the facility in NHSN and register users within the Secure Access Management Services (SAMS);
- Submit CDI data monthly through the NHSN program starting October 2016 and ending December 2018; and
- Participate in periodic educational/sharing calls.

Date(s) of Project Availability

- Registration for this project starts June 2016.
- Submission of CDI data will be **monthly** starting October 2016 and ending December 2018.
- The first 10 months of data collection will be used to develop a baseline of CDI levels in Ohio. For the remainder of the project CDI data will be used to measure facility and state progress.

Evidence of Participation in the Project*

**Expected evidence of participation in the project should be kept by the nursing home for use in state survey to demonstrate compliance with Sec. 3721.072 (B) which states that "Beginning July 1, 2013, each nursing home shall participate every two years in at least one of the quality improvement projects included on the list made available by the department of aging under the nursing home quality initiative established under section 173.60 of the Revised Code."*

1. Copy of a signed participation agreement
2. Copy of email confirmations from HSAG reflecting monthly data submissions

Relevant links

- Health Services Advisory Group (HSAG): www.hsag.com
- National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN): <http://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/>
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC): <http://www.cdc.gov/>

Contact:

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