


## Guidance for New Jersey Hospitals to Meet the Reporting Requirements of New Jersey's MRSA Legislation

*N.J.S.A. 26:2H-12.35 et seq.* requires a general hospital to "...report to the Department of Health and Senior Services [DHSS], in a manner and according to a schedule prescribed by the Commissioner of Health and Senior Services, the number of cases of hospital-acquired MRSA that occur in its facility." To this end, all acute care facilities must report to DHSS on a monthly basis beginning in January 2009: 1) the number of hospital-onset (HO) MRSA bloodstream infections (BSIs) per 1,000 patient days, monitored within a hospital unit where active surveillance testing (AST) for MRSA is being performed; and 2) the percentage of eligible patients who are screened for MRSA upon admission to a hospital unit where AST for MRSA is being done (i.e., adherence to MRSA Admission AST).

Facilities must report the required MRSA BSI and Admission AST adherence data to DHSS through the CDC National Healthcare Safety Network Multidrug-Resistant Organism and *Clostridium difficile*-Associated Disease (MDRO and CDAD) Module. At a minimum, each facility must be conducting MRSA Admission AST to report the adherence rate and be monitoring HO-MRSA BSIs in at least one high-risk patient care area (i.e., a patient care area where patients have an increased likelihood of acquiring MRSA and/or developing severe clinical outcomes resulting from a MRSA infection).

Facilities will be following two components of the MDRO and CDAD Module for data entry: 1) MRSA "Laboratory-Identified (LabID) Event Reporting" and 2) MRSA "Prevention Process Measures – Monitoring Adherence to AST". Although this specific reporting will not be considered "in-plan" by the NHSN system, certain rules and definitions must be followed for this data entry, according to the specifications defined within the MDRO and CDAD Module protocol and training presentations.

Entering the specified MRSA data through the two above stated components of the MDRO and CDAD Module will provide participating facilities with two main metrics that will be calculated at the unit level. These are: 1) Hospital-Onset MRSA BSI Incidence Based on Clinical Cultures and 2) MRSA Admission AST Percent Adherence.

There are many steps required of a facility to become an active participant in the National Healthcare Safety Network, and NJ facilities will meet the active participant requirements through the NJ mandate for healthcare-associated infections (HAI) reporting (not covered in this guide). Before you begin these steps, your facility must be enrolled in NHSN (according to the instructions found in the NHSN Facility Administrator Enrollment Guide at [http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dhqp/pdf/nhsn/NHSNFacilityAdminEnrollmentGuide06\\_2008.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dhqp/pdf/nhsn/NHSNFacilityAdminEnrollmentGuide06_2008.pdf)) and must add unit(s)/location(s) for your facility. To add these locations to your facility select **Facility>Locations** on the left of the screen. For help click on the **Help** link in the upper right corner of the NHSN screens or the  icon.

The following guidance with screen captures was created to help a facility: (1) confer the correct rights to DHSS, (2) enter the correct numerator data for each identified HO-MRSA BSI LabID event in the monitoring unit(s), (3) enter correct denominator data for unit(s) identified

for LabID Event monitoring, and (4) enter the correct numerator and denominator data for determining MRSA AST adherence in the unit(s) where AST is being performed. Following these steps will help your facility appropriately meet the requirements of the NJ mandate for monitoring and reporting HO-MRSA BSIs and MRSA Admission AST Adherence.

## A. Creating a Monthly Reporting Plan

Because the data required by NJ to meet this specific mandate do not meet the minimum requirements for active participation in the MDRO and CDAD Module, you will not be creating a Monthly Reporting Plan specifically for this data entry. This data entry will be considered “out-of-plan” according to the NHSN system.

## B. Conferring Rights to the DHSS

Before you can confer rights you must join the DHSS group. DHSS should provide you with their group ID number and their group joining password. If you have other groups to join, you will have to join each group and confer rights to them separately. You will only have to set up your “Confer Rights” once for a group and it will continue until the end date you specify or until you manually change the rights conferred.

1. In the navigation bar, click on **Group>Join**.
2. Enter the Group ID and Group Joining Password that were provided by your Group.
3. After clicking “Join Group” you will be brought to the “Confer Rights” screen, with a message at the top indicating that you have successfully joined the group.

The screenshot displays the NHSN interface for the Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The user is logged in as CSR9 at NHSN Test Medical Clinic2. The main heading is "Memberships".

The left navigation menu includes: Reporting Plan, Patient, Event, Procedure, Summary Data, Analysis, Surveys, Users, Facility, Group, Confer Rights, Join, Leave, Nominate, and Log Out. The "Join" option under the "Group" section is circled in red.

The main content area shows "Groups that have access to this facility's data" with a list box and buttons for "Confer Rights" and "Leave Group(s)". Below this is the "Enter ID and Password for this facility to join a new group" section, which includes input fields for "Group ID:" and "Group Joining Password:", and a "Join Group" button. A "Back" button is located at the bottom.

Red annotations highlight key elements: a box labeled "Select" points to the list box for existing groups; a box labeled "Enter Group ID and Joining Password" points to the input fields; and a box labeled "Confer Rights" points to the "Confer Rights" button in the navigation menu.

4. From the “Confer Rights” screen, click on “the **NJ State HAI Group** that is listed in the box” and then on “Confer Rights”. You will need to read and click “OK” on the notice that appears.

5. When the “Confer Rights – Patient Safety” screen appears, the “Patient Safety” tab will be highlighted in dark blue at the top. Click to add check marks to “Patient”, “Without Identifiers”, and “Data Analysis”. This means you are granting access to the state health department: to view the individual patient data that you enter each month – without identifying information such as name, etc., and to conduct data analysis on this data. In addition, you will check the box for “Monthly Reporting Plan”, so DHSS can review your “in plan” designations that will meet the requirements for the HAI reporting mandate. Although the HAI mandate specifications are not shown on the included screenshot, you will also enter these required designations on this Confer Rights screen, under the areas shown within the superimposed box. Please refer to the [NJ HAI Reporting: Implementation Guide \(Version 2.0\)](#) for details regarding the HAI reporting mandate.

6. Next, go to the “Surveys” section and enter “2008” in the beginning Year box, leave the “to” Year box blank, and under Survey Type select “Facility Survey Data”. This will allow DHSS access to your Annual Facility Survey from 2008 and forward.

7. Next, scroll down the page to the “MDRO/CDAD Events” section, choose “Both” under Plan, the number of the “Month” and number of the “Year” you are required to begin reporting, leave the “to” Month and Year blank, choose the “Location Type” of the location you intend to monitor, and the specific “Location” that it is.

8. Click to add a check mark in the MRSA box and choose Event Type as “LABIDBld – Laboratory-identified MDRO or CDAD Event – Blood Specimen Only”. This is conferring rights to DHSS for all MRSA Blood Specimen LabID Events (under the LabID Event reporting piece) that you enter from the identified unit beginning on the required start date and indefinitely from that point forward each month.

9. Next, under the “MDRO/CDAD Summary Data” section you will again choose “Both” under Plan, and choose the same Month, Year, Location Type, and Location entries as described in #7 above. In addition you will add check marks under “Summary”, to both the “Admissions” and “Patient Days” boxes. This grants the same time frame and unit rights and gives DHSS access to your monthly denominator data. Under the “AST Process and Outcome Measures”, you will also need to add check marks to “MRSA” and “ASTA”. This grants the same time frame and unit rights and gives DHSS access to your monthly MRSA Admission AST Adherence data (numerator and denominator).

10. If you will be monitoring more than one unit each month, you will need to click on “Add Row” for each of the sections and repeat steps #7-#9 above, as appropriate. This is necessary because each row is directing the system to share the specified data from only one specific unit at a time.

11. When you have completed this set-up, click “Save”. If you wish to review what you have saved, you will get to the screen following the same directions described above (#4) for initial entry. If you wish to change anything, just re-enter or click on an entry and “Save” again.

Make sure your “Conferred Rights” look similar to the example shown below, except you would enter 1/2009 (instead of 11/2008) and the location type and location name of the unit(s) that you have identified for monitoring. If you have conferred any additional rights to DHSS to meet other NJ reporting mandates (i.e., HAI reporting), they will also show up on this screen.

**Example Entry for Required Conferring Rights to the DHSS:**

**Department of Health and Human Services  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**

NNSN - National Healthcare Safety Network (ISD-CLFT-NNSN1)

Logged into Pleasant Valley Hospital (ID 10312) as DSIEVERT.  
Facility Pleasant Valley Hospital (ID 10312) is following the PS component.

### Confer Rights-Patient Safety

Please select the rights that group 'A1 Test Group' should have to facility 'Pleasant Valley Hospital'

**Patient Safety**

**General**

General	View Options
Patient	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> With Identifiers <input type="checkbox"/> Without Identifiers
Monthly Reporting Plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Data Analysis	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
AUR Microbiology Laboratory Data	<input type="checkbox"/>
AUR Pharmacy Data	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Surveys**

Year	Year	Survey Type
2008	to	Facility Survey Data

**Infections and other Events (Not specific to MDRO/CDAD)**

Plan	Month	Year	Month	Year	Event
(All)					ALL SSI and PPP

**Summary Data for Events**

Plan	Month	Year	Month	Year	Location Type	Location

**Denominator Data for Events**

Plan	Month	Year	Month	Year	Procedure	Setting
(All)					(ALL)	Both

**Summary Data for Vaccinations**

Plan	Month	Year	Month	Year	Vaccination Type

**MDRO/CDAD Events**

Plan	Month	Year	Month	Year	Location Type	Location
Both	11	2008	to		CC	INMEDCC - IN-ACUTE:CC.M

Specific Organism Type:  ACINE  CDIF  KLEB  MRSA  MRSA  VRE

Event Type: LABIDBld - Laboratory-identified MDRO or CDAD Event - Blood Specimen Only

**MDRO/CDAD Summary Data**

Plan	Month	Year	Month	Year	Location Type	Location
Both	11	2008	to		CC	INMEDCC - IN-ACUTE:CC.M

Summary:  Admissions  Patient Days  HH  GC  Encounters

Organism:  MRSA  VRE

AST Process & Outcome Measures:  ASTA  AST D/T  AST Inc  AST Prev

Save Back

For HAI Events


### **C. Entering an MRSA Blood Specimen LabID Event for the Required Reporting Component**

When you identify a MRSA blood specimen clinical laboratory culture (not surveillance cultures) in the unit(s) that you have chosen to monitor, and it is the first of the month or a unique blood source for this patient (please see the module protocol for detailed explanation), you will enter this case into NHSN as a LabID Event for the month it was identified. You can choose to enter cases as you identify them or to batch enter them at the end of a month. According to the NJ mandate, only HO-MRSA blood specimen events from your reporting unit(s) are required to be reported. To match the NHSN definition, a healthcare facility-onset (HO) LabID event attributed to the unit you are monitoring would be from a clinical culture collected >3 days (i.e., on or after day 4) after patient admission to the monitoring unit. If you wish to take the extra time to make this determination before data entry, you may do so and only enter these defined events. However, the NHSN system is set up to make this determination for you during analysis, based on Date Specimen Collected, Date Admitted to Facility, Date Admitted to Location, and the answer to the question regarding “Documented prior evidence of previous infection or colonization...”. Therefore, you could also choose to enter all MRSA blood specimen clinical laboratory cultures that are the first of the month or a unique blood source for a patient, regardless of whether they are healthcare facility-onset in any unit or community-onset, and let the system make the determination for each event entered.

The system will guide you through your data entry, based on your answers to the questions as you proceed. When entering a MRSA blood specimen LabID Event, the data collected will follow the Laboratory-Identified MDRO or CDAD Event form. This form can be downloaded from the NHSN website for your review, so you can anticipate what questions you will encounter. The “Event Type” you will always enter is “LabID”. The LabID Events are differentiated by your answer to the question “Specimen Source” and for the NJ mandate you are only required to enter “blood specimens”. However, the system will not stop you if you wish to monitor all MRSA events in addition to just blood specimens. The way you will set up your “Confer Rights” (see B above), you will still only be sharing the LabID events that are from blood specimens with DHSS. The screen capture example below shows entry of a MRSA blood specimen LabID Event.

1. When you have a MRSA LabID Event to enter, you will log in to NHSN, choose your facility and the “Patient Safety” component.
2. In the left-side menu choose “Event” and then “Add”.
3. You will then enter data into the system, as shown on the screen capture below.
4. After you have saved an event, you can review it and/or edit it by clicking “Event” in the left-hand-side menu and then “Find”. You will just need to enter some patient data (i.e., Patient ID and specific date) for the system to conduct the search and retrieve your entered event. Remember, the “Patient ID” should be a record number (i.e., MRN) that will always remain the same for the patient across all visits, admissions, and events.

## Example Entry for an MRSA Blood Specimen LabID Event:



Department of Health and Human Services  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

NHSN - National Healthcare Safety Network (ISD-CLFT-NHSN1) | [NHSN Home](#) | [My Info](#) | [Contact us](#) | [Help](#) | [Log Out](#)

Logged into Pleasant Valley Hospital (ID 10312) as DSIEVERT.  
Facility Pleasant Valley Hospital (ID 10312) is following the PS component.

### View Event

[Print PDF Form](#)

Mandatory fields marked with \*  
Fields required for record completion marked with \*\*  
Fields required when in Plan marked with >

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#### Patient Information [HELP](#)

Facility ID*	Pleasant Valley Hospital (10312)	Event #:	13479
Patient ID*	DS3690		
Social Security #:		Secondary ID:	
Last Name:		First Name:	
Middle Name:			
Gender*	F - Female	Date of Birth*	02/19/1947
Ethnicity:			
Race:	<input type="checkbox"/> American Indian/Alaska Native	<input type="checkbox"/> Asian	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Black or African American	<input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	
	<input type="checkbox"/> White		

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#### Event Information [HELP](#)

Event Type\*: LABID - Laboratory-identified MDRO or CDAD Event

Date Specimen Collected\*: 11/14/2008  
Specific Organism Type\*: MRSA - MRSA  
Outpatient>: N - No  
Specimen Source\*: BLDSPC - Blood specimen  
Date Admitted to Facility\*: 11/09/2008  
Location\*: INMEDCC - IN:ACUTE:CC:M  
Date Admitted to Location\*: 11/09/2008

Documented prior evidence of previous infection or colonization with this specific organism type?: N - No  
Has patient been discharged from your facility in the past 3 months?: N - No

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#### Custom Fields [HELP](#)

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#### Comments [HELP](#)

## **D. Entering Monthly Denominator Data for the Required MRSA LabID Event Reporting**

At the end of each month, you must enter the denominator data for the unit(s) in which you have chosen to conduct the required MRSA blood specimen LabID Event reporting.

1. When you are ready to enter your monthly summary data for the unit you have been monitoring, you will log in to NHSN, choose your facility and the “Patient Safety” component.
2. On the left-side menu, choose “Summary Data” and then “Add”.
3. Choose “MDRO and CDAD Prevention Process and Outcomes Measures Monthly Monitoring” and click “Continue”.
4. Choose a specific Location you are monitoring and the Month and Year from which you wish to report.
5. Since this reporting is not included in a Monthly Reporting Plan there will be no required fields according to the NHSN system. However, the two fields required to meet the NJ mandate are “Inpatient Patient Days” and “Admissions”. Enter the total number of inpatient patient days and admissions into these two fields for the unit and month for which you are reporting. You will also check the MRSA box as the MDRO you are following for this LabID Event reporting, and then click “Save”.
6. Variables will only be starred and required on this data entry page for a specific month and unit if you have indicated any “in-plan” reporting in a Monthly Reporting Plan. Therefore, you need to be sure to fill in the above fields you are required by the State to complete, in the absence of a prompt.
7. If you are conducting MRSA LabID Event reporting in more than one unit, you will need to repeat steps #2-#5 above, for each additional unit.
8. After you have saved your monthly data, you can review it and/or edit it by clicking “Summary Data” in the left-hand-side menu and then “Find”. You will need to enter some search criteria (i.e., “MDRO and CDAD Prevention Process and Outcomes Measures Monthly Monitoring” for Summary Data Type, and Location, Month, or Year). The system will use this data to conduct the search and retrieve your entered summary data that match your specified criteria.

**Example Entry for Monthly Patient Days and Admissions for LabID Event Reporting:**

**NHSN Home** | Logged into Pleasant Valley Hospital (ID 10312) as DSIEVERT.  
Facility Pleasant Valley Hospital (ID 10312) is following the PS component.

## MDRO and CDAD Prevention Process and Outcome Measures Monthly Monitoring

[HELP](#) | [Print PDF Form](#)

Mandatory fields marked with \*

**Facility ID\***: 10312 (Pleasant Valley Hospital)  
**Location Code\***: INMEDCC - IN:ACUTE.CC:M  
**Month\***: November  
**Year\***: 2008

**General**  
Setting: Inpatient Patient Days\*: 533 Admissions\*: 24  
Setting: Outpatient (or Emergency Room) Encounters:

**MDRO & CDAD Infection Surveillance**

Specific Organism Type	MDR-Acinetobacter	C. difficile	MDR-Klebsiella	MRSA	VRE
Infections being monitored	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	* <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Process Measures**

## **E. Entering Monthly Data for the Required MRSA Admission AST Adherence Reporting**

At the end of each month, you must enter the numerator and denominator data for the unit(s) in which you have chosen to conduct MRSA Admission AST. According to the State mandate, facilities must conduct AST upon patient admission (=AST obtained  $\leq$  3 days after admission) to selected units among all patients “who have NO documented positive MRSA infection or colonization during the current hospital admission” (i.e., = definition of no history as defined by DHSS and not the NHSN definition). The data required for reporting includes the number of patients eligible (i.e., denominator) to receive MRSA Admission AST (i.e., ADM and NHx) and the number of those patients who actually receive MRSA Admission AST (i.e., numerator) within the first three days of admission for the selected unit(s) each month. Reporting the results of AST is not required.

1. When you are ready to enter your monthly summary data for a unit you have been monitoring, you will log in to NHSN, choose your facility and the “Patient Safety” component.
2. On the left-side menu, choose “Summary Data” and then “Add”.
3. Choose “MDRO and CDAD Prevention Process and Outcomes Measures Monthly Monitoring” and click “Continue”.
4. Choose the Location you are monitoring and the Month and Year from which you wish to report.
5. This is the same data entry screen that you entered data into in the previous section (see Section D). You could enter this data at the same time if you choose. Since this specific reporting is not included in a Monthly Reporting Plan there will be no required fields according to the NHSN system. However, the fields required to meet the NJ state mandate include, the box that shows you are conducting “MRSA” AST, “ADM-Admission” for Timing of AST, “NHx – No History” for AST Eligible Patients, the total number of patients admitted to the specified unit that month who were “Eligible” for Admission AST, and the total number of patients admitted to the specified unit that month who had Admission AST “Performed”. When your data entry for this screen is complete, then click “Save”.
6. Variables will only be required on this data entry page for a specific month and unit if you have indicated any “in-plan” reporting in a Monthly Reporting Plan. Therefore, you need to be sure to fill in the above fields you are required to complete by state mandate, in the absence of a prompt.
7. If you are conducting MRSA Admission AST Adherence in more than one unit, you will need to repeat steps #2-#5 above, for each additional unit.
8. After you have saved your monthly data, you can review it and/or edit it by clicking “Summary Data” in the left-hand-side menu and then “Find”. You will need to enter some search criteria (i.e., “MDRO and CDAD Prevention Process and Outcomes Measures Monthly Monitoring” for Summary Data Type, and Location, Month, or Year). The system will use this

data to conduct the search and retrieve your entered summary data that match your specified criteria.

**Example Entry for the Required MRSA Admission AST Adherence Reporting:**

Department of Health and Human Services  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

NHSN - National Healthcare Safety Network (ISD-CLFT-NHSN1) | NHSN Home | My Info | Contact us | Help | Log Out

Logged into Pleasant Valley Hospital (ID 10312) as DSIEVERT.  
Facility Pleasant Valley Hospital (ID 10312) is following the PS component.

### MDRO and CDAD Prevention Process and Outcome Measures Monthly Monitoring

Save of Summary Data successful. Note that data has been provided that is not required as part of the Facility's current plan for this month and year. Please consider expanding the current plan.

Mandatory fields marked with \*

Facility ID\*: 10312 (Pleasant Valley Hospital)  
Location Code\*: INMEDCC - IN:ACUTE:CC:M  
Month\*: November  
Year\*: 2008

General  
Setting: Inpatient Patient Days: 533 Admissions: 24  
Setting: Outpatient (or Emergency Room) Encounters:

Specific Organism Type	MDR-Acinetobacter	C. difficile	MDR-Klebsiella	MRSA	VRE
Infections being monitored				X	

Process Measures

Hand Hygiene  
Performed: \_\_\_\_\_ Indicated: \_\_\_\_\_  
Gown and Gloves  
Used: \_\_\_\_\_ Indicated: \_\_\_\_\_

Active Surveillance Testing (AST)

Active Surveillance Testing performed	Timing of AST	AST Eligible Patients
		X
		ADM - Admission
		*NHx - No History

Admission AST

Performed		*17
Eligible		*19

Discharge/Transfer AST

Performed		
Eligible		

Outcome Measures

Prevalent Cases

AST/Clinical Positive		
Known positive		

Incident Cases

AST/Clinical Positive		
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Edit Delete Back