



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

BUREAU OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY
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WASHINGTON DC 20372-7300

IN REPLY REFER TO
8 Jan 09

MEMORANDUM FOR COMMANDER, NAVY MEDICINE EAST
COMMANDER, NAVY MEDICINE WEST
COMMANDER, NATIONAL CAPITAL AREA
COMMANDER, NAVY MEDICINE SUPPORT COMMAND

SUBJECT: Policy Guidance on Reporting Infection Prevention and Control
Data to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

This memorandum provides guidance and establishes Navy Medicine policy and responsibilities for implementation of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) to support Health Affairs (HA) Policy Memo 08-020 of 4 December 2008. The NHSN is a secure, internet-based surveillance system. It allows Military Treatment Facilities (MTF) to report, aggregate, and analyze infection prevention and control data utilizing the CDC on-line application. The website at <http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dhqp/nhsn.html> details system components.

Initially, eligible MTFs will implement NHSN Device-Associated Module reporting of ventilator-associated pneumonia and central line-associated bloodstream infections in intensive care units. As additional modules become available, the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, in conjunction with Regional Commanders, will determine what data each MTF will submit to the NHSN.

Required training for MTF administrators, facility enrollment guide, protocols, and instructions can be found at http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dhqp/nhsn_documents.html. Training must be completed by established deadlines. Information Technology support will be critical to load the user's digital certificate at each MTF.

All participating MTFs must join the NHSN Navy Service Group and the DoD Patient Safety Center Group as directed in HA Policy 08-020.

I expect full participation in this important quality initiative. My points of contact are Carmen Birk at (202) 762-3081 or e-mail: carmen.birk@med.navy.mil or CAPT Linda Grant at (202) 762-3704 or e-mail: linda.grant@med.navy.mil.

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