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**CBE ID**

2720

**Title**

National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) Antimicrobial Use Measure

**Endorsement Status**

Endorsement Removed

**E&M Committee Rationale/Justification**

Steward no longer pursuing endorsement.

**Is Under Review**

No

**Previous Endorsement Cycle**

Spring 2019

**Removal Date**

Tue, 03/31/2026 - 13:59

**Initial Endorsement**

Thu, 12/10/2015 - 06:47

**Steward**

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

**1.0 New or Maintenance**

Maintenance

**1.1 Measure Structure**

Single Measure

**1.3 Electronic Clinical Quality Measure (eCQM)**

No

**1.6 Measure Description**

This measure assesses antimicrobial use in hospitals based on medication administration data that hospitals collect electronically at the point of care and report via electronic file submissions to CDC's National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN). The antimicrobial use data that are in scope for this measure are antibacterial agents administered to adult and pediatric patients in a specified set of ward and intensive care unit locations: medical ICU, medical-surgical ICU, surgical ICU (adult only), medical ward, medical-surgical ward, surgical ward, general hematology-oncology ward (adult only), and step-down unit (adult only). The measure compares

antimicrobial use that the hospitals report with antimicrobial use that is predicted on the basis of nationally aggregated data. The measure is comprised of a discrete set of ratios, Standardized Antimicrobial Administration Ratios (SAARs), each of which summarizes observed-to-predicted antimicrobial use for one of 40 antimicrobial agent-patient care location combinations. The SAARs are designed to serve as high value targets or high level indicators for antimicrobial stewardship programs (ASPs). SAAR values that are outliers are intended to prompt analysis of possible overuse, underuse, or inappropriate use of antimicrobials, subsequent actions aimed at improving the quality of antimicrobial prescribing, and impact evaluations of ASP interventions.

## 1.7 Measure Type

Process

## 1.8 Level of Analysis

Facility

### 1.14 Numerator

Days of antimicrobial therapy for antimicrobial agents administered to adult and pediatric patients in medical ICU, medical-surgical ICU, surgical ICU (adult only), medical ward, medical-surgical ward, surgical ward, general hematology-oncology ward (adult only), and step-down unit (adult only).

### 1.15 Denominator

Days present for each patient care location—adult and pediatric medical ICU, medical-surgical ICU, surgical ICU (adult only), medical ward, medical-surgical ward, surgical ward, general hematology-oncology ward (adult only), and step-down unit (adult only) is defined as the number of patients who were present for any portion of each day of a calendar month for each location. The day of admission, discharge, and transfer to and from locations are included in days present. All days present are summed for each location and month, and the aggregate sums for each location-month combination comprise the denominator data for the measure.

## 1.20 Types of Data Sources

Paper Patient Medical Records

### 6.1.2 Current or Planned Use(s)

Public Health/Disease Surveillance, Quality Improvement (Internal to the specific organization), Quality Improvement with Benchmarking (external benchmarking to multiple organizations)

### 6.1.3 Current Use(s)

Public Health/Disease Surveillance, Quality Improvement (Internal to the specific organization), Quality Improvement with Benchmarking (external benchmarking to multiple organizations)

## Exclusions

Hospital patient care locations other than adult and pediatric medical ICU, medical-surgical ICU, surgical ICU (adult only), medical ward, medical-surgical ward, surgical ward, general hematology-oncology ward (adult only), and step-down unit (adult only) are excluded from this measure.

**Risk Adjustment**

Statistical risk model

**Target Population**

Populations at Risk

**The measure developer is different from the measure steward**

No

**Steward Organization**

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

**Steward POC email**

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