

## SKIN AND SOFT TISSUE INFECTION (SST)

## BRST – Breast Abscess or Mastitis

*(Last updated January 1, 2015)***DEFINITION:** A breast abscess or mastitis must meet at least **ONE** ☐ of the following criteria:**☐ Criterion 1:** *(Last updated January 1, 2013)*

- Patient has a positive culture of **ONE** ☐ of the following:
  - ☐ tissue from affected breast obtained by invasive procedure
  - ☐ fluid from affected breast obtained by invasive procedure

**☐ Criterion 2:** *(Last updated January 1, 2015)*

- Patient has a **ONE** ☐ of the following:
  - ☐ breast abscess seen during **ONE** ☐ of the following:
    - ☐ gross anatomic exam
    - ☐ histopathologic exam
  - ☐ other evidence of infection seen during **ONE** ☐ of the following:
    - ☐ gross anatomic exam
    - ☐ histopathologic exam

**☐ Criterion 3:** *(Last updated January 1, 2015)*

- Patient has **BOTH** ☐ of the following: (*± as documented in the medical record*)
  - ☐ fever ( $>38.0^{\circ}\text{C}$ )<sub>±</sub>
  - ☐ local inflammation of the breast

**AND**

- Physician initiates antimicrobial therapy within 2 days of the **ONE** ☐ of the following:
  - ☐ onset of symptoms
  - ☐ worsening of symptoms

**REPORTING INSTRUCTIONS:** *(Last updated January 1, 2015)*

- For SSI after a BRST procedure: if the infection is in the subcutaneous region report as a superficial incisional SSI, and if the infection involves the muscle/fascial level report as deep incisional SSI.



TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
HEALTHCARE-ASSOCIATED INFECTIONS AND ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE PROGRAM  
HAI Surveillance Definitions  
SKIN AND SOFT TISSUE INFECTION (SST)



**BURN – Burn**

*(Last updated January 1, 2015)*

**DEFINITION:** Burn infections must meet the following criterion:

**□ Criterion 1:** *(Last updated January 1, 2015)*

- Patient has **ONE** **△** of the following changes in burn wound appearance or character:
  - △** rapid eschar separation
  - △** dark brown, black, or violaceous discoloration of the eschar
- AND**
- Organisms cultured from blood in the absence of other identifiable infection

**CIRC – Newborn Circumcision***(Last updated January 1, 2015)*

**DEFINITION:** Circumcision infection in a newborn ( $\leq 30$  days old) must meet at least **ONE** ☐ of the following criteria:

**☐ Criterion 1:** *(Last updated June, 2008)*

- ☐ Newborn has purulent drainage from circumcision site

**☐ Criterion 2:** *(Last updated June, 2008)*

- ☐ Newborn has at least **ONE** ☐ of the following signs or symptoms with no other recognized cause at circumcision site:

- ☐ erythema
- ☐ swelling
- ☐ tenderness

**AND**

- ☐ Newborn has a pathogen cultured from circumcision site

**☐ Criterion 3:** *(Last updated January 1, 2015)*

- ☐ Newborn has at least **ONE** ☐ of the following signs or symptoms with no other recognized cause at circumcision site:

- ☐ erythema
- ☐ swelling
- ☐ tenderness

**AND**

- ☐ Newborn has a common commensal is cultured from circumcision site

**AND**

- ☐ Physician initiates antimicrobial therapy within 2 days of the **ONE** ☐ of the following:
  - ☐ onset of symptoms
  - ☐ worsening of symptoms










## SKIN AND SOFT TISSUE INFECTION (SST)

### DECU – Decubitus Ulcer, Including Both Superficial and Deep Infections

*(Last updated January 1, 2015)*

**DEFINITION:** Decubitus ulcer infections must meet the following criterion:

**□ Criterion:** *(Last updated January 1, 2015)*

- Patient has at least **TWO**  of the following signs or symptoms with no other recognized cause:
  -  erythema
  -  tenderness
  -  swelling of decubitus wound edges
- AND**
- Patient has organisms cultured from **ONE**  of the following:
  -  needle aspiration of fluid
  -  biopsy of tissue from ulcer margin



## SKIN AND SOFT TISSUE INFECTION (SST)

### SKIN – Skin Infection (Skin and / or Subcutaneous)

*(Last updated January 1, 2015)*

**DEFINITION:** Skin infections must meet at least **ONE** ☐ of the following criteria:

☐ **Criterion 1:** *(Last updated January 1, 2015)*

☐ Patient has at least **ONE** ☐ of the following:

- ☐ purulent drainage
- ☐ pustules
- ☐ vesicles
- ☐ boils (excluding acne)

## SKIN AND SOFT TISSUE INFECTION (SST)

### **Criterion 2:** (Last updated January 1, 2015)

- Patient has at least **TWO** **△** of the following signs or symptoms with no other recognized cause:

- △** pain or tenderness
- △** swelling
- △** erythema
- △** heat

**AND**

- Patient has at least **ONE** **△** of the following:

- △** organisms cultured from **ONE** **□** of the following:
  - aspirate from affected site
  - drainage from affected site

**Note:** 1. NOT a common commensal.  
2. If organism is a common commensal, it must be a pure culture (i.e., single organism grown).  
Examples common commensal include diphtheroids [*Corynebacterium* spp.], *Bacillus* [not *B. anthracis*] spp., *Propionibacterium* spp., coagulase-negative staphylococci [including *S. epidermidis*], viridans group streptococci, *Aerococcus* spp., *Micrococcus* spp.

- △** positive non-culture diagnostic lab test\* performed on **ONE** **□** of the following:

- infected tissue
- blood

(\* e.g., *antigen test*, *PCR*)

- △** multinucleated giant cells seen on microscopic examination of affected tissue

- △** choose **ONE** **□** of the following:

- diagnostic single antibody titer (IgM) for organism
- 4-fold increase in paired sera (IgG) for organism

### **REPORTING INSTRUCTIONS:** (Last updated January 1, 2015)

- Do not report acne as a skin/soft tissue HAI
- Report omphalitis in infants as UMB.
- Report infections of the circumcision site in newborns as CIRC.
- Report pustules in infants as PUST.
- Report infected decubitus ulcers as DECU.
- Report infected burns as BURN.
- Report breast abscesses or mastitis as BRST.
- Report localized infection at a vascular access site as VASC unless there is a positive blood culture meeting LCBI criteria, which should instead be reported as an LCBI (see VASC definition).

## SKIN AND SOFT TISSUE INFECTION (SST)

**ST – Soft Tissue**  
**(Muscle and / or Fascia [e.g., Necrotizing Fasciitis, Infectious Gangrene, Necrotizing Cellulitis, Infectious Myositis, Lymphadenitis, or Lymphangitis])***(Last updated January 1, 2015)***DEFINITION:** Soft tissue infections must meet at least **ONE** ☐ of the following criteria:**☐ Criterion 1:** *(Last updated June, 2008)*

- ☐ Patient has organisms cultured from **ONE** ☐ of the following:

- ☐ tissue from affected site
- ☐ drainage from affected site

**☐ Criterion 2:** *(Last updated June, 2008)*

- ☐ Patient has purulent drainage at affected site

**☐ Criterion 3:** *(Last updated January 1, 2015)*

- ☐ Patient has **ONE** ☐ of the following:

- ☐ abscess during **ONE** ☐ of the following:

- ☐ gross anatomic exam
- ☐ histopathologic exam

- ☐ other evidence of infection seen during **ONE** ☐ of the following:

- ☐ gross anatomic exam
- ☐ histopathologic exam

**REPORTING INSTRUCTIONS:** *(Last updated January 1, 2015)*

- Report infected decubitus ulcers as DECU.
- Report infection of deep pelvic tissues as OREP.
- Report localized infection at a vascular access site as a VASC unless there is a positive blood culture then it should be reported as an LCBI (see VASC definition).

## UMB – Omphalitis

*(Last updated January 1, 2015)*

**DEFINITION:** Omphalitis in a newborn ( $\leq 30$  days old) must meet at least **ONE** ☐ of the following criteria:

**☐ Criterion 1:** *(Last updated January 1, 2013)*

- Patient has at **ONE** ☐ of the following:

- ☐ erythema

- ☐ serous drainage from umbilicus

**AND**

- Patient has at least **ONE** ☐ of the following:

- ☐ organisms cultured from **ONE** ☐ of the following:

- ☐ drainage

- ☐ needle aspirate

- ☐ organisms cultured from blood

**☐ Criterion 2:** *(Last updated June, 2008)*

- Patient has erythema at the umbilicus

**AND**

- Patient has purulence at the umbilicus

**REPORTING INSTRUCTIONS:** *(Last updated January 1, 2015)*

- Report infection of the umbilical artery or vein related to umbilical catheterization as VASC if there is no accompanying blood culture or a blood culture is negative. If the patient meets criteria for LCBI, report as LCBI (see VASC).



## SKIN AND SOFT TISSUE INFECTION (SST)

USI – Urinary System Infection [Formerly OUTI]  
(Kidney, Ureter, Bladder, Urethra, or  
Tissue Surrounding the Retroperitoneal or Perinephric Space)*(Last updated January 1, 2015)***DEFINITION:** Urinary system infection must meet at least **ONE** ☐ of the following criteria:**☐ Criterion 1:** *(Last updated January 1, 2015)*

- ☐ Patient has microorganisms isolated from culture of **ONE** ☐ of the following:
  - ☐ fluid (NOT urine) from affected site
  - ☐ tissue from affected site

**☐ Criterion 2:** *(Last updated January 1, 2015)*

- ☐ Patient has **ONE** ☐ of the following:
  - ☐ abscess seen during **ONE** ☐ of the following:
    - ☐ gross anatomic exam
    - ☐ during invasive procedure
    - ☐ histopathologic exam
  - ☐ other evidence of infection seen during **ONE** ☐ of the following:
    - ☐ gross anatomic exam
    - ☐ during invasive procedure
    - ☐ histopathologic exam

**☐ Criterion 3:** *(Last updated January 1, 2015)*

- ☐ Patient has **ONE** ☐ of the following signs or symptoms:
    - ☐ fever (>38.0°C)
    - ☐ localized pain or tenderness\*
- AND**
- ☐ Patient has at least **ONE** ☐ of the following:
    - ☐ purulent drainage from affected site
    - ☐ **BOTH** ☐ of the following:
      - ☐ organisms cultured from blood
      - ☐ imaging test\* evidence of infection
- (\* e.g., ultrasound, CT scan, magnetic resonance imaging [MRI], or radiolabel scan [gallium, technetium])*

## SKIN AND SOFT TISSUE INFECTION (SST)

**□ Criterion 4:** *(Last updated January 1, 2015)*

- Patient  $\leq$  1 year of age has at least **ONE**  $\Delta$  of the following signs or symptoms: (\* *with no other recognized cause*)

$\Delta$  fever ( $>38.0^{\circ}\text{C}$ )

$\Delta$  hypothermia ( $<36.0^{\circ}\text{C}$ )

$\Delta$  apnea\*

$\Delta$  bradycardia\*

$\Delta$  lethargy\*

$\Delta$  vomiting\*

**AND**

- Patient has at least **ONE**  $\Delta$  of the following:

$\Delta$  purulent drainage from affected site

$\Delta$  **BOTH**  $\square$  of the following:

$\square$  organisms cultured from blood

$\square$  imaging test\* evidence of infection

(\* e.g., *ultrasound, CT scan, magnetic resonance imaging [MRI], or radiolabel scan [gallium, technetium]*)

**REPORTING INSTRUCTIONS:** *(Last updated January 1, 2015)*

- Report infections following circumcision in newborns as SST-CIRC.
- If patient meets USI criteria and they also meet UTI criteria, report UTI only, unless USI is a surgical site organ/space infection, in which case, only USI should be reported.