



TN NHSN User Call

from the Tennessee Department of Health

TN

Monday April 21, 2025

Agenda

- **Respiratory Illness Update**
 - Ashley Gambrell, MPH
- **NHSN Update**
 - Vicky Lindsey, RN, CIC
- **Annual Report Update**
 - Ashley Gambrell, MPH, CPM
- **Tennessee-Wide Infection Control Education (Twice)**
 - Kate Moore, MSN, RN, CIC
- **Dialysis Simulation-Memphis**
 - Joshua Key, RN
- **Screening for Patient Healthcare-Associated Infections (HAI) Module 2**
 - Priscilla Pineda, MPH, CPH

TDH NHSN Team

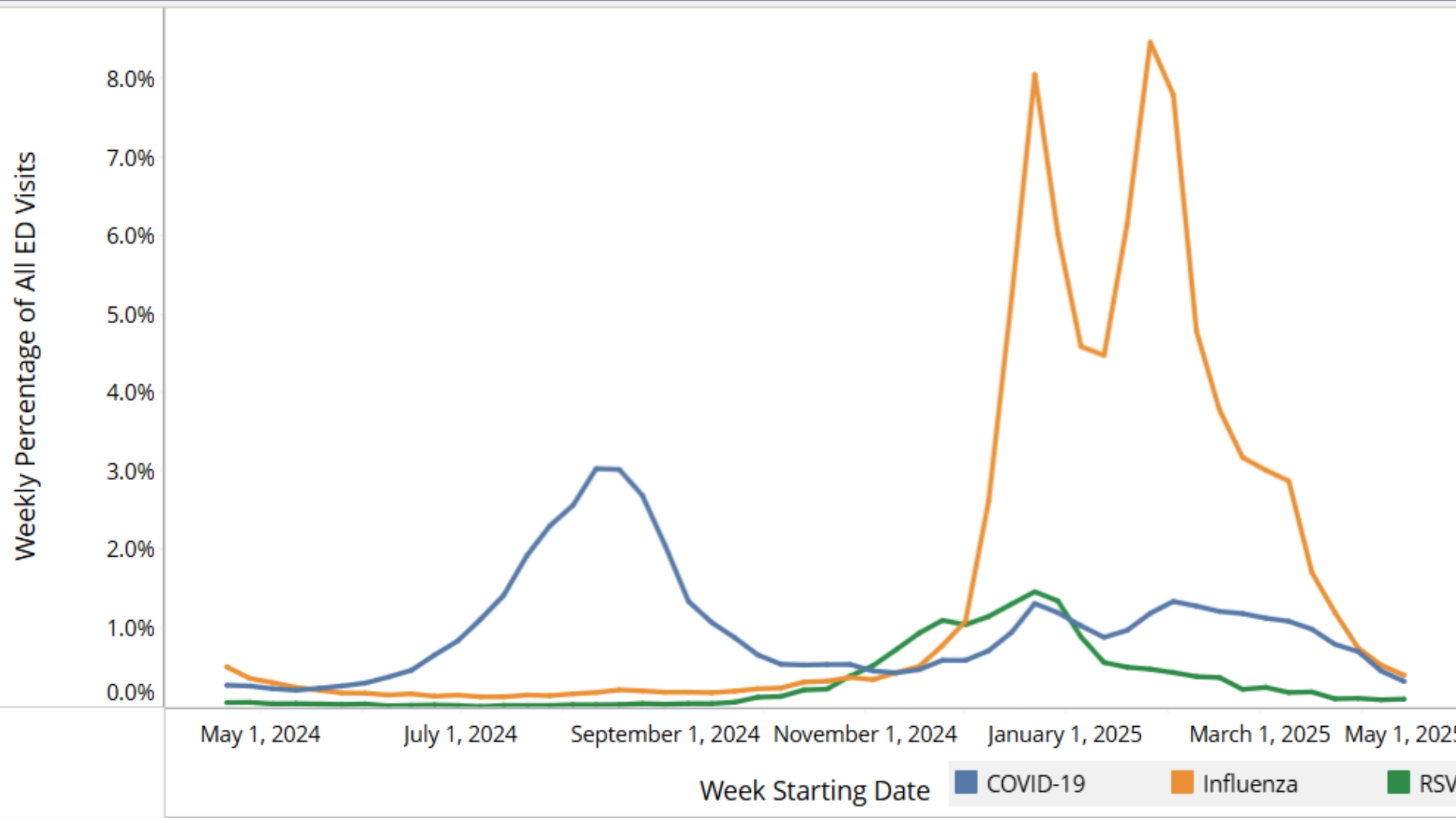
- **Ashley Gambrell, MPH**
 - **Senior NHSN Epidemiologist**
- **Vicky Lindsey, AAS, RN, CIC**
 - **Senior NHSN Public Health Nurse Consultant**
 - **Lead Technological Assistance**
 - **Infection Prevention and Control Specialist**
- **Marissa Turner, MPH**
 - **Assistant NHSN Epidemiologist**
- **Alex Kurutz, MPH**
 - **Dialysis Epidemiologist**
- **Jordan Morris, MPH**
 - **Assistant NHSN Epidemiologist**

Respiratory Illness Update



Syndromic Surveillance of ED Visits

Statewide Weekly Percentage of ED Visits with Viral Respiratory Illness
Discharge Diagnosis Codes

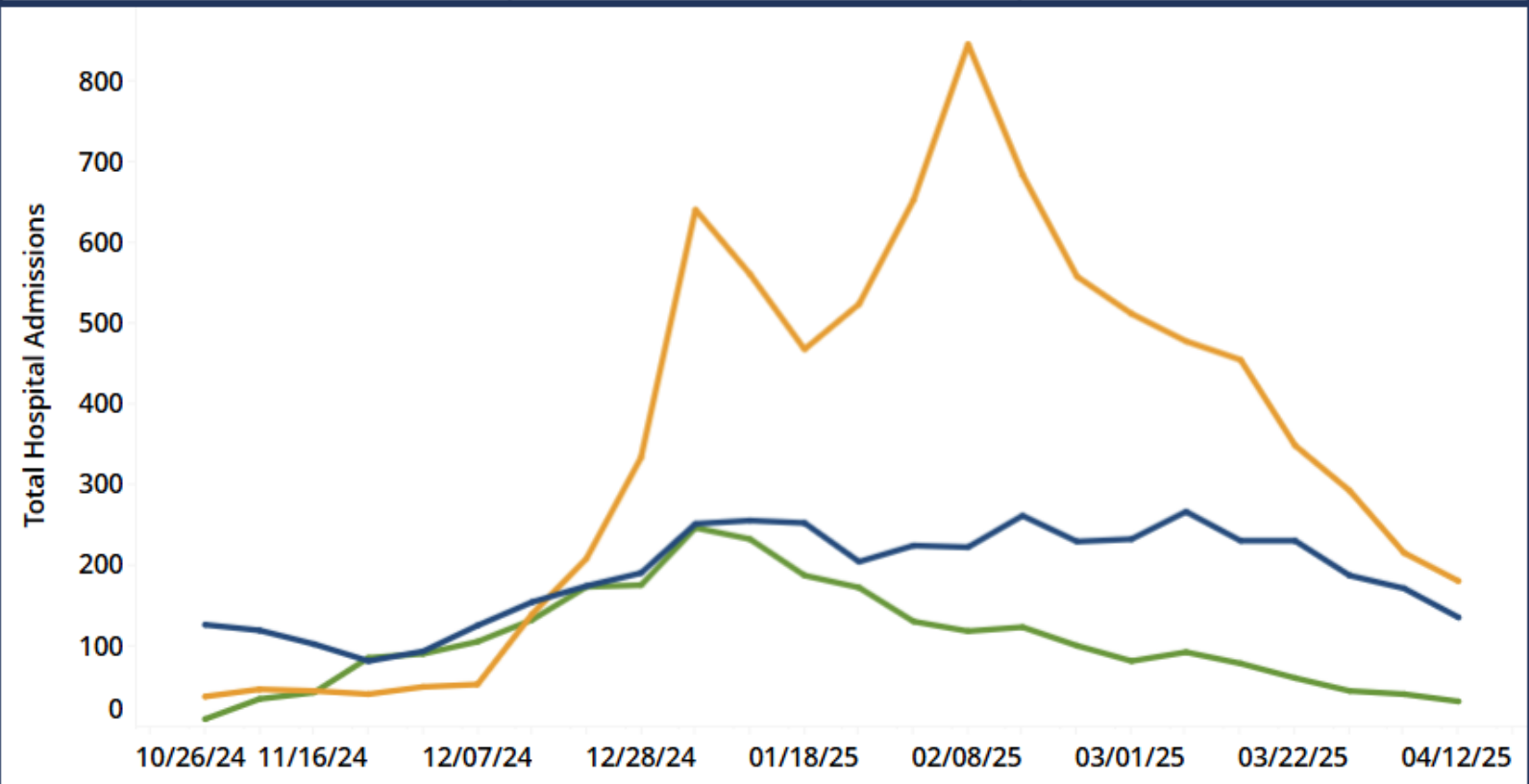


Statewide Weekly Hospital Admissions

Statewide Weekly Hospital Admissions with Respiratory Viral Illness
Date Updated: 4/12/2025



| Total Admissions COVID-19 | Total Admissions Influenza | Total Admissions RSV |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|
| 135 | 180 | 31 |



Respiratory Illness

■ Total Admissions COVID-19 ■ Total Admissions Influenza ■ Total Admissions RSV



Respiratory Illnesses Data Channel

Overall respiratory illness activity in **Tennessee**

Very Low

Emergency department visits in **Tennessee**

COVID-19

Very Low
Decreasing ↘

Flu

Low
Decreasing ↘

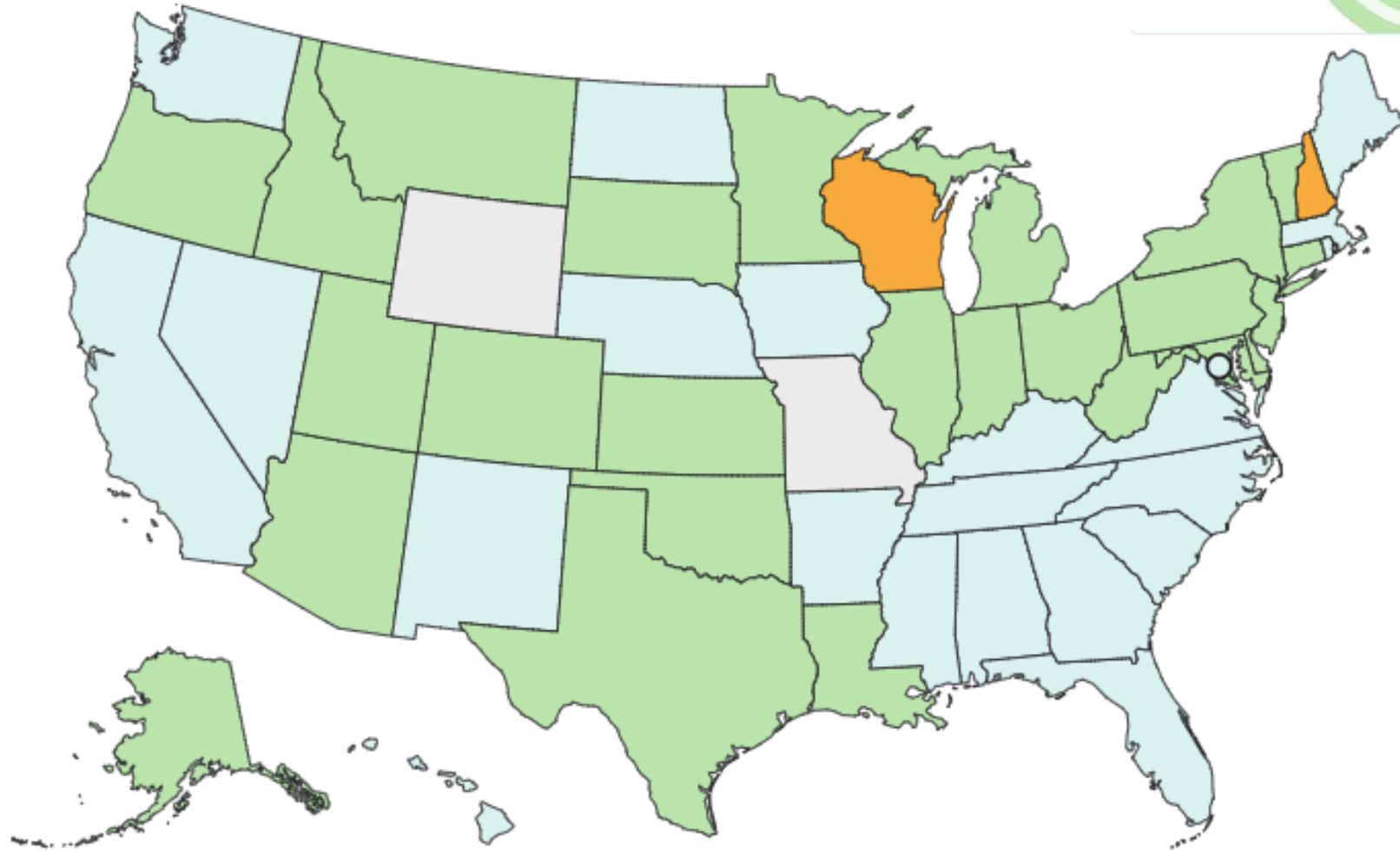
RSV

Low
Decreasing ↘

Bottom Line

Nationally,
**Respiratory
Illness**
causing people to
seek healthcare is

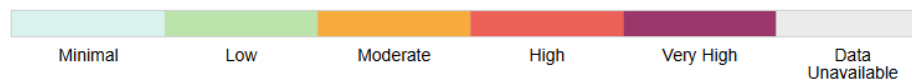
LOW



U.S. Territories



Acute Respiratory Illness



TN



NHSN Updates

Vicky Lindsey, RN, CIC | Tennessee Department of Health | Communicable and Environmental
Diseases and Emergency Preparedness

NHSN – Dialysis

- **CMS revised the End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) statement of work in September 2024.**
 - **The revisions included removal of reporting requirements to NHSN for monthly patient COVID-19 vaccination and monthly healthcare personnel (HCP) influenza vaccination data reporting.**
- **The reporting of HCP COVID-19 Vaccination, as required by the CMS End-Stage Renal Disease Quality Incentive Program (ESRD QIP), remains in place and is not affected by the ESRD statement of work.**
 - **Facilities participating in ESRD-QIP must report COVID-19 vaccination data among HCP monthly (one week per month; facilities can select any week to report).**

NHSN – Dialysis

- This data is due according to the ESRD-QIP deadlines, which are approximately 3 months after the last week of a reporting quarter.
- Data for the reporting period for Q1 2025 (January-March 2025) are due by June 30, 2025.
- All NHSN data submission deadlines for calendar year 2025 can be found here: [NHSN Submission Deadlines for Calendar Year 2025 ESRD QIP Data | My CROWN Web](#).
- Additionally, NHSN still supports the voluntary submission of dialysis patient COVID-19 vaccination and HCP influenza vaccination reporting.

NHSN – Dialysis- Up to date Definition

- **The Up to Date definition for Q1 2025 should be used beginning with the first reporting week in 2025 (December 30, 2024-January 5, 2025, for HCP or January 1-January 7, 2025, for patients).**
- **Beginning the first week of reporting for Q1 2025 (December 30, 2024 – March 30, 2025), individuals aged 65 years and older are Up to Date when they have received 2 doses of the 2024-2025 COVID-19 vaccine or received 1 dose of the 2024-2025 COVID-19 vaccine in the past 6 months.**
- **There is no change to the Up to Date definition for individuals younger than 65 years. Therefore, individuals younger than 65 years are Up to Date when they have received 1 dose of the 2024-2025 COVID-19 vaccine (any time since it was approved in August 2024).**

NHSN – Reporting Deadline CMS QRP –Q4

- **May 15, 2025, Q4 Data**
 - **Acute Care Hospitals,**
 - **Cancer Hospitals,**
 - **Inpatient Rehabilitation Facilities,**
 - **Long-term Acute Care Facilities (Long-term Care Hospitals),**
 - **Skilled Nursing Facilities,**
 - **Inpatient Psychiatric Facilities,**
 - **Ambulatory Surgery Centers**
- **Healthcare Personnel Influenza Vaccination**
 - **Q4 & Q1 data**

Annual Report Announcements

- We are working on the Annual Report for this year!
 - Will include 2023 and 2024 data
 - Will include facility specific pages
- New Format
 - Previously:
 - Release Statewide Report and Facility-Specific Tables together
 - Now:
 - Would like to Release Preliminary Facility-Specific Tables in June 2025
 - Dependent on participation from you!
 - Will follow up with Statewide Report in late summer 2025
- We need your help!

Facility Tasks: Data Confirmation

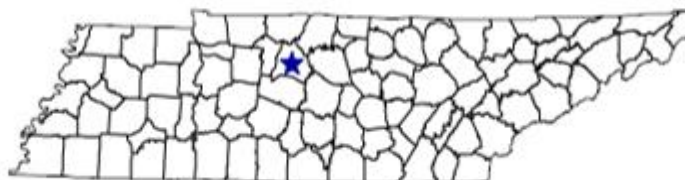
- By the end of April, facilities will receive an email requesting they view and approve their preliminary data
 - If data is correct, please reply as a confirmation
 - End of tasks
 - If data is incorrect, please reply with incorrect data details, and we will work with you to get the data corrected in NHSN for subsequent final report
- Facilities will have one month to view and confirm their data for the release of the final report

Facility-specific Pages General Section

TDH Central, Nashville, Davidson County

Medical School Affiliation: Graduate teaching

Bed Size Category: 400+ beds



Section 1:

Facility information
from the NHSN 2022
Annual Survey

Healthcare-Associated Infections (HAI) Summary

Standardized Infection Ratio (SIR) by Infection Type, 01/01/2014-12/31/2014

| HAI | Type/Unit | Infections | | Device Days/Procedures Performed/Patient Days | Standardized Infection Ratio (SIR) | | |
|--------|------------------------|------------|-----------|--|------------------------------------|----------------|--------|
| | | Observed | Predicted | | SIR* | 95% CI | TN SIR |
| CLABSI | Adult/Pediatric ICU | 6 | 7.0 | 5007 | 0.85 | (0.34, 1.76) | 0.46 |
| | Neonatal ICU | 1 | 10.3 | 4471 | 0.10 | (0.01, 0.48) | 0.34 |
| CAUTI | Adult/Pediatric ICU | 10 | 4.8 | 2139 | 2.05 | (1.04, 3.66) | 1.22 |
| SSI | Colon surgery | 3 | 9.5 | 272 | 0.31 | (0.08, 0.86) | 0.91 |
| | Abdominal hysterectomy | 5 | 2.5 | 404 | 1.93 | (0.71, 4.28) | 0.80 |
| LabID | MRSA bacteremia | 11 | 18.6 | 191987 | 0.59 | (0.31, 1.03) | 1.02 |
| | C. difficile infection | 113 | 154.1 | 165536 | 0.73 | (0.61, 0.88) | 0.78 |

Green highlighting indicates an SIR significantly LOWER than the national baseline (CLABSI, SSI - 2006-2008; CAUTI - 2009; LabID - 2010-2011)

Red highlighting indicates an SIR significantly HIGHER than the national baseline (CLABSI, SSI - 2006-2008; CAUTI - 2009; LabID - 2010-2011)

N/A: Data not shown for <50 device days or <20 procedures / SIR not calculated when <1 infection predicted

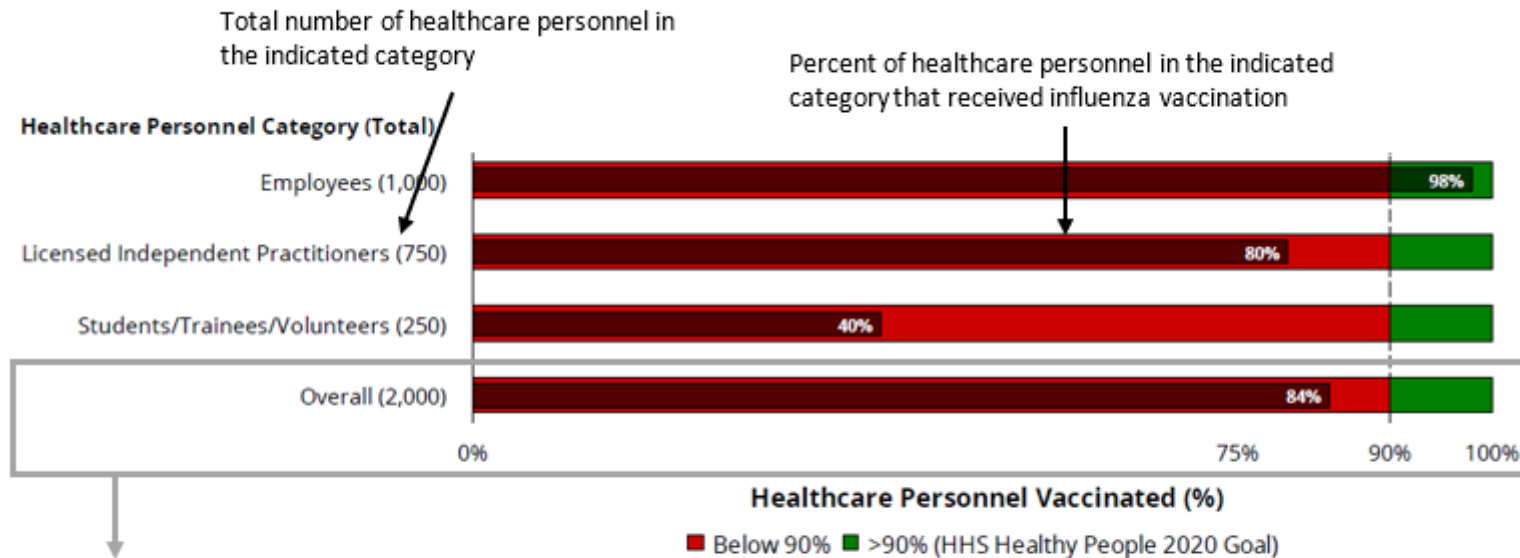
*Complex Admission/Readmission SIRs are presented for surgical site infections (SSI)

See page 2 for more detailed information about HAIs at TDH Central

Section 2:

Facility-Specific
Standardized Infection
Ratios (SIRs) by HAI
from January –
December 2022

How to Read Facility Influenza Vaccinations



Example:

- 2,000 total healthcare personnel at this facility
- 84% received influenza vaccination during this flu season
- Did not reach Healthy People 2020 Goal (90%)

How to Read Facility-specific SIRs

Figure 5: How to Read Facility-Specific Standardized Infection Ratio Figure

OBS = Number of infections observed

PRED = Number of infections predicted based on NHSN national baseline data

Number of procedures performed

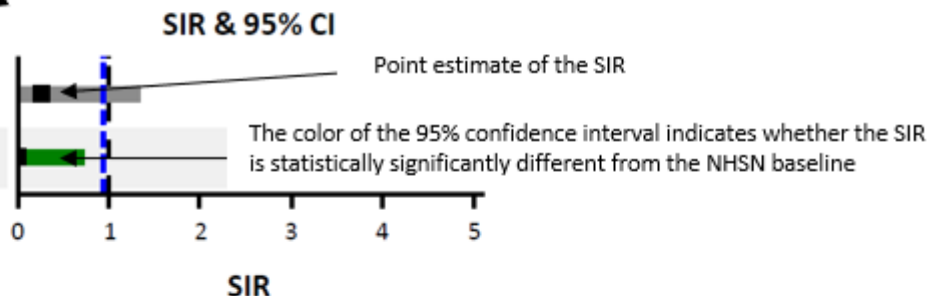
Reporting year

| YR | OBS | PRED | PROC | SIR |
|------|-----|------|------|-----|
| 2021 | 1 | 3.6 | 110 | 0.3 |
| 2022 | 0 | 4.0 | 120 | 0.0 |

Standardized Infection Ratio (SIR)

$$\text{SIR} = \frac{\text{Number of infections observed}}{\text{Number of infections predicted}}$$

- SIR=1.3 means **30% more** infections than predicted
- SIR=0.5 means **50% fewer** infections than predicted



Example:

In 2021, this facility:

- Performed 110 procedures (**PROC**)
- Observed 1 infections (**OBS**)
- Based on NHSN national baseline data, 3.6 infections were predicted (**PRED**)

This Facility's Standardized Infection Ratio (SIR)

- Not statistically significantly different from the NHSN SIR of 1
- SIR=0.3 (1 observed infections/3.6 predicted infections)
- 70% fewer infections than predicted

Our Asks to You

By May 30, 2025:

1. Please review your facility data
2. Please reply to original data-containing email to confirm:
 1. Data is correct and no further actions are needed, OR
 2. Data is NOT correct, further actions will be needed to fix within NHSN



Measles TNHAN

Ashley Gambrell, MPH | Tennessee Department of Health | Communicable and Environmental
Diseases and Emergency Preparedness

Measles

- With increased reports of measles across the United States, the Tennessee Department of Health urges clinicians to identify, isolate, and inform regarding suspected measles cases. Immediately report cases to TDH at 615-741-7247.
 - Suspect measles in unvaccinated patients with fever and rash, especially with travel history.
 - Isolate suspected cases immediately and use airborne precautions.
 - Contact TDH before specimen collection; testing available with prior approval.
 - Thank you for protecting public health.

[TN Health Alert Network \(TNHAN\) Archive](#)




Tennessee-Wide Infection Control Education (TWICE)

Kate Moore, MSN, RN, CIC | Tennessee Department of Health | Communicable and Environmental
Diseases and Emergency Preparedness

Tennessee-Wide Infection Control Education

- May 1, 2025
- 8:30 am
- Humboldt Medical Center
- 6.75 Contact Hours
- FREE program
- Light breakfast and lunch provided
- Questions?
 - Kate.moore@tn.gov
- [TWICE May 1, 2025](#)

TWICE



Tennessee-Wide Infection Control Education


About the Program: **Approved for 6.75 contact hours*

Designed to deliver evidence-based infection prevention and control education to Healthcare Facilities across the state.

Topics include:

- Infection Prevention and Control Program Planning
- Transmission-Based Precautions
- Injection Safety
- Laboratory Specimen Collection
- Antibiotic Stewardship
- Environmental Services (EVS) Practices

Join us for a dynamic learning experience that combines face-to-face instruction with hands-on practice!




Humboldt Medical Center

May 1, 2025 | 8:30am - 4:00pm

FREE Program + Lunch Provided

Scan here to register!

For more information email:
kate.moore@tn.gov






Dialysis Simulation- Memphis

Joshua Key, RN | Tennessee Department of Health | Communicable and Environmental Diseases and
Emergency Preparedness

Dialysis Simulation


- Tuesday, April 29th
- UC Bluff Room at the University of Memphis
499 University Street
Memphis, TN 38152
- 8:30am to 4:00pm
 - Light breakfast and lunch provided
- Scan QR code to register!






Department of
Health

*The entire program is FREE +
7.25 CEUs offered + lunch
provided!*





Scan here to register!

Hemodialysis Infection Prevention Simulation

***Get 7.25 CEUs
at no cost!**

About the Simulation:

The purpose of this project is to provide CDC guidance on infection prevention covering topics such as CVC, AVF/AVG, environmental disinfection, patient safety, and MORE! Each session will have a classroom style presentation and hands on simulation experiences!

Details for Attendees:

- **Audience:** Hemodialysis Nurses, Technicians, and Infection Preventionists
- **Date:** Tuesday, April 29th, 2025
- **Location:** UC Bluff Room at the University of Memphis
499 University Street
Memphis, TN 38152
- **Time:** 8:30 am - 4:00 pm, light breakfast, snacks and lunch provided

**For more information email:
HAI.Health@tn.gov**

*This activity has been submitted to Georgia Nurses Association for approval to award contact hours.
Georgia Nurses Association is accredited as an
approver of nursing continuing professional
development by the American Nurses Credentialing
Center's Commission on Accreditation




Screening for Resistant Healthcare-Associated Infections Learning Series


Colonization Screening for Multidrug-Resistant Organisms
in Healthcare Facilities

APHL Learning Series

Module 1: Overview and Importance of Screening for Multidrug-Resistant Organisms, or MDROs



Module 2: Carbapenemase-producing Organisms Colonization Screening



Module 3: *Candida auris* Colonization Screening



Module 4: Packaging and Shipping for Colonization Screening

For full modules:

https://www.aphl.org/programs/infectious_disease/Pages/Colonization_Screening_for_Healthcare_Facilities.aspx

Module 2



Carbapenemase-Producing Organisms (CPOs) Colonization Screening

Screening for Resistant
Healthcare-Associated Infections

Learning Objectives



DEFINE

What carbapenemase-producing organisms (CPOs) are and why they are a public health concern.



EXPLAIN

The various logistical considerations that are involved in conducting screenings.



DISCUSS

The test methods used and the possible results obtained in CPO screening.



DESCRIBE

Where to find additional resources to help with prevention and containment strategies for [MDROs](#).

What is a CPO?

Carbapenemase-Producing Organisms (CPO)

- Multidrug-resistant
- Contain carbapenemase genes that breakdown carbapenem antibiotics

'The Big Five'

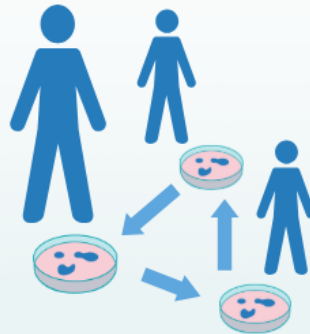
- KPC
- NDM
- VIM
- IMP
- OXA-48-like



Why are CPOs a Major Concern?



CPOs are multidrug-resistant organisms, meaning that it is resistant to multiple antibiotics commonly used to treat infections.



Patients can be asymptotically colonized, which can progress to invasive infections.



CPOs can spread rapidly in healthcare facilities and can cause large and difficult to control outbreaks.

Coordination and Communication with Public Health



Discuss Process and
Develop Plan



Resources to
Support Screening



Timing

Communication with the Patient



SCREENING PROCESS



SPECIMEN COLLECTION
PROCESS

Order Specimen Collection and Shipping Supplies

- Supplies are provided through the AR Lab Network
- Request supplies through HAI/AR Epidemiologist at State Health Department
- Quantity of supplies is decided during the planning stages of screening
- Order tests through the ARLN Lab Web Portal
 - Advanced registration
 - Training

Collection Day: Supplies

- Wear proper Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)



- Specimen Collection



- Packaging and shipping

Collection Day: Specimen Collection

CRE and CRPA Colonization Screening

- Requires a rectal swab

CRAB

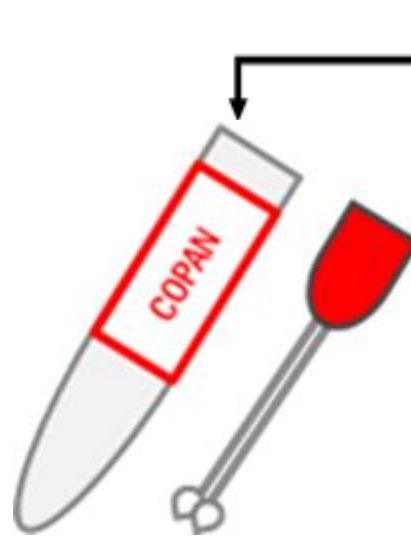
- Multiple collection sites possible
 - Axilla/groin
 - Rectal
 - Wound
 - Tracheal tube/sputum

Submitting Test Requisition Forms

Specimen tube MUST be clearly labeled with:

- Patient's full name
- Date of birth
- Date of specimen collection (MM/DD/YYYY)
- Time of specimen collection
- Specimen Source
- Initials of person collecting the swab

PATIENT NAME : John Doe
DOB: 01/01/2001
DATE OF SPECIMEN COLLECTION: 04/01/2024
TIME OF SPECIMEN COLLECTION: 1:00 PM
SPECIMEN SOURCE: Axilla/Groin



630 Hart Lane
Nashville, TN 37216
(615) 262-6300

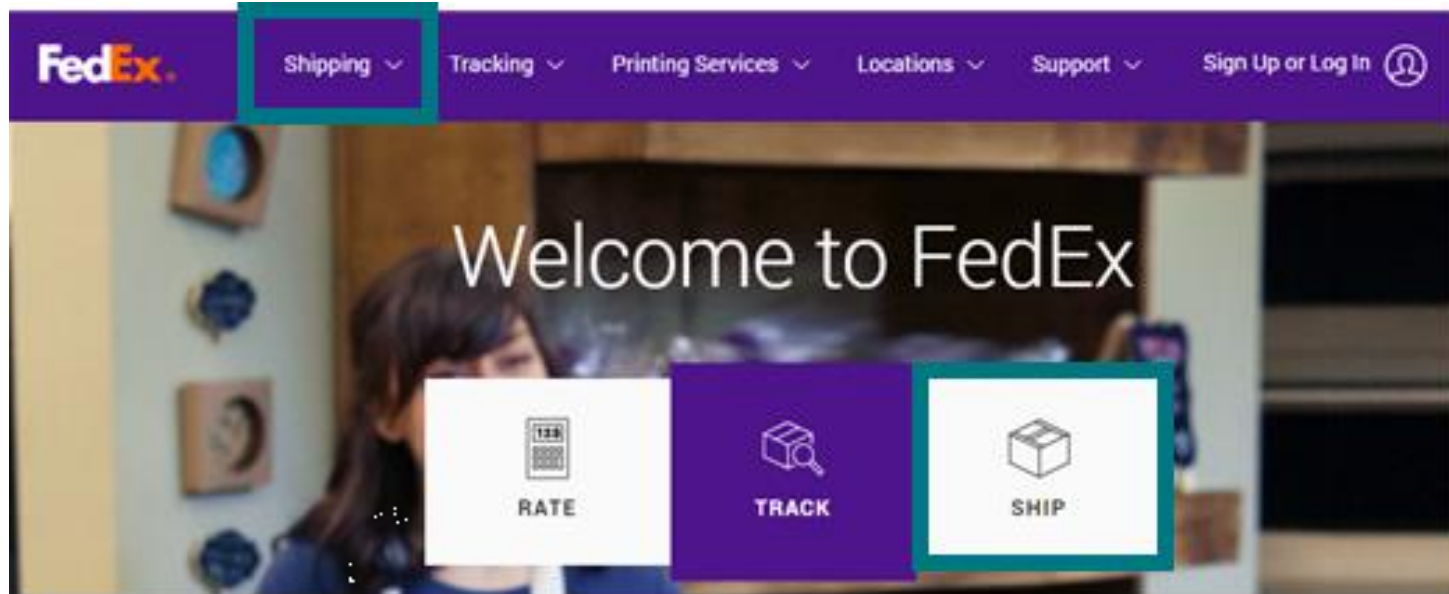
Candida auris Colonization Requisition
Date Submitted: 4/26/2021 4:24:21 PM CST
Submitted By: Shane Allen

Order ID: OEDTN2210603951

TN Department of Health

| | |
|---|--|
| Patient Demographics | |
| Last Name: ALLEN | First Name: TRISH |
| Date of Birth: 12/14/2020 | Phone Number: 6158375472 |
| Address: 630 Hart Lane | City: Nashville |
| State: TN | Country: Rhodesia |
| Gender: Female | Pregnant: No |
| Race: White | Ethnicity: Not Hispanic or Latino |
| Submitter Patient ID: | |
| Submitter Information | |
| Facility Name: Tennessee Dept. of Health Division of Lab Services | |
| Phone Number: 615-262-6300 | Fax Number: |
| Address: 630 Hart Lane | City: Nashville |
| State: TN | Zip Code: 37243 |
| Point of Contact: Gibbs, Paula | |
| Phone Number: 615-262-6300 | Fax Number: |
| Ordering Provider: Areola, DR | NPI: 1234567890 |
| Phone Number: 6157431800 | Fax Number: |
| Email: | City: Nashville |
| Address: 850 RS Gas Blvd | Zip Code: 37216 |
| State: TN | |
| Collection Facility | |
| Collection Facility: Collection Site 153 | |
| Name and Title of Collection Facility Point of Contact: | Email Address: collection@email.gov |
| POC: RN 153 | Fax Number: 7894561234 |
| Phone Number: 0000000153 | City: WI City |
| Address: 476 Out of State Blvd | Zip Code: 00153 |
| State: WI | Country: Iran |
| Lab CLIA or MTS: Other | Other Number: SCP |
| Specimen Information | |
| Collection Date And Time: 4/26/2021 4:03:55 PM CST | Test: Candida auris Colonization |
| Specimen Type: Axilla and groin swabs | |
| Is this a Clinical Sample? Clinical Sample | |
| Laboratory Name: Nashville | Laboratory Address: 630 Hart Lane, Nashville, TN 37216 |
| Additional Comments/Information: | |

Specimen Collection: Shipping Specimens



CPO Test Method

Detection of common carbapenemases

- PCR test



Detection of OXA carbapenemases in CRAB

- May vary by testing laboratory
- Culture-based and PCR tests



CPO Screening Results



Positive Result (of any kind)

Indicates the patient is colonized with a CPO

- PCR result alone
- PCR and culture result
- Culture result alone



Negative Result

- No evidence of colonization found during the test
- There is still a chance the patient may be colonized
- Should not be used as tests of cure

Next Steps



If screening identifies colonized patients:

Ensure appropriate infection control measures are in place

HAI/AR epidemiologist will help determining next steps



Next steps depend on many factors including:

Which patients are positive and their location in the facility

Which MDRO was identified

The patient's level of care

The purpose for the screening

Containment Strategy

- If you have a positive CPO result, it is important to implement a containment strategy
- Facility representatives and HAI/AR epidemiologists should work together to address next steps

Summary

- CPOs are multidrug-resistant organisms which can spread rapidly and cause large and difficult to control outbreaks in healthcare facilities
- Patients should be screened to limit the transmission of CPOs in healthcare facilities
- The HAI/AR epidemiologist is available to assist with:
 - Coordinating schedules for screening
 - Providing resources
 - Interpreting results
- Proper specimen collection, labeling and packaging is crucial for receiving timely and accurate results
- CDC Interim Guidance for a Public Health Response to Contain Novel or Targeted Multidrug-Resistant Organisms(MDROs) describes recommendations to be taken during the investigation

Resources



Carbapenemase-Producing Organisms (CPOs) Colonization Screening

Screening for Resistant Healthcare- Associated Infections


Thank you for your participation!

Screening for Resistant Healthcare-Associated Infections (HAI): Colonization
Screening for Healthcare Facilities - APHL Learning Center


Resources

APHL Learning Series

Module 1: Overview and Importance of Screening for Multidrug-Resistant Organisms, or MDROs



Module 2: Carbapenemase-producing Organisms Colonization Screening



Module 3: *Candida auris* Colonization Screening



Module 4: Packaging and Shipping for Colonization Screening

For full modules:

https://www.aphl.org/programs/infectious_disease/Pages/Colonization_Screening_for_Healthcare_Facilities.aspx



Questions?
Priscilla.Pineda@tn.gov
ARLN.Health@tn.gov

References

- Association of Public Health Laboratories. (2024). *Overview and Importance of Screening for Multidrug-Resistant Organisms, or MDROs* [slideshow]. Carbapenemase-Producing Organisms (CPOs) Colonization Screening

Next NHSN User Call

- **Monday May 19 , 2025**
 - 10am CT / 11am ET
- **NHSN Related**
 - Vicky.Lindsey@tn.gov
 - Ashley.Gambrell@tn.gov
- **AU/AR Module**
 - Christopher.Evans@tn.gov
- **Infection Prevention**
 - HAHealth@tn.gov