



National Action Plan to Prevent Health Care-Associated Infections:  
**ROAD MAP TO ELIMINATION**



2013

# **National Action Plan to Prevent Health Care-Associated Infections: Road Map to Elimination**

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U.S. Department of Health & Human Services:

Administration for Community Living

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

Food and Drug Administration

Health Resources and Services Administration

Indian Health Service

National Institutes of Health

Office of the Secretary

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation

Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology

U.S. Department of Defense

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

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## KEY ACRONYMS

<b>ACO:</b> Accountable care organization	<b>HITECH:</b> Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health
<b>AO:</b> Accreditation Organization	<b>HVBP:</b> Hospital Value-based Purchasing (also VBP)
<b>ARRA:</b> American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009	<b>ICU:</b> Intensive care unit
<b>ASCs:</b> Ambulatory Surgical Centers	<b>ICWS:</b> Infection Control Worksheet
<b>CAUTI:</b> Catheter-associated urinary tract infection	<b>IPPS:</b> Inpatient Prospective Payment System
<b>CDI:</b> <i>Clostridium difficile</i> infections	<b>IT:</b> Information Technology
<b>CLABSI:</b> Central-line associated bloodstream infections	<b>LTCFs:</b> Long-term care facilities
<b>CfC:</b> Conditions for Coverage	<b>MDR:</b> Multi-drug resistant
<b>CoP:</b> Condition of Participation	<b>MRSA:</b> Methicillin-resistant <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>
<b>CUSP:</b> Comprehensive Unit-based Safety Program	<b>NHSN:</b> National Healthcare Safety Network
<b>EHR:</b> Electronic health record	<b>NwHIN:</b> Nationwide Health Information Network
<b>ESRD:</b> End-Stage Renal Disease	<b>PSO:</b> Patient Safety Organization
<b>FHISE:</b> Federal Health Information Sharing Environment	<b>QIO:</b> Quality Improvement Organization
<b>HAC-POA:</b> Hospital-Acquired Conditions-Present on Admission	<b>SCIP:</b> Surgical Care Improvement Project
<b>HAI:</b> Health care-associated infections	<b>SSA:</b> State Survey Agencies
<b>HCP:</b> Health Care Personnel	<b>SSI:</b> Surgical site infections
<b>HICPAC:</b> Health Care Infection Control Practices Advisory Committee	<b>UTI:</b> Urinary tract infection
	<b>VAE:</b> Ventilator-associated event
	<b>VAP:</b> Ventilator-associated pneumonia
	<b>VBP:</b> Value-based purchasing

## Acronyms for Federal Departments and Agencies

<b>AHRQ:</b> Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality	<b>IHS:</b> Indian Health Service
<b>ACL:</b> Administration for Community Living	<b>NIH:</b> National Institutes of Health
<b>CDC:</b> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	<b>OS:</b> HHS Office of the Secretary
<b>CMS:</b> Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services	<b>ASPE:</b> Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation
<b>DOD:</b> U.S. Department of Defense	<b>OASH:</b> Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health
<b>FDA:</b> Food and Drug Administration	<b>NVPO:</b> National Vaccine Program Office
<b>GAO:</b> Government Accountability Office	<b>ODPHP:</b> Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion
<b>HHS:</b> U.S. Department of Health & Human Services	<b>ONC:</b> Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology
<b>HRSA:</b> Health Resources and Services Administration	<b>VA:</b> U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

I am pleased to share the *National Action Plan to Prevent Health Care-Associated Infections: Road Map to Elimination* (HAI Action Plan). Health care-associated infections (HAI) are a serious national health issue. At any given time, one in 20 hospitalized patients has an HAI, and more than one million HAIs occur every year, costing the U.S. health care system billions of dollars. The Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) encourages HAI reductions by engaging public and private sector stakeholders.

The HAI Action Plan reflects a significant update and expansion from the initial version issued in 2009. It includes new sections specific to infection reduction in ambulatory surgical centers, end-stage renal disease facilities, and long-term care facilities, as well as a section on increasing influenza vaccination of health care personnel. The HAI Action Plan reflects the work of many offices across HHS and the Departments of Defense and Veterans Affairs. The plan also reflects input from national experts and stakeholder organizations.

Achieving the highest quality health care at an affordable cost is a complex endeavor. It requires providers, health care organizations, governments, the public health community, patients, and their loved ones to collaborate and support each other's actions to realize our shared mission of being the healthiest society we can be. Patients across the nation depend on our efforts to prevent and eventually eliminate HAIs.

The HAI Action Plan is critical to our overall mission to strengthen health systems by improving health-care quality and patient safety. Recently, we have seen significant investments in the essential strategies and infrastructure needed to reduce the HAI burden. My vision is to contribute to an even stronger, healthier, and more prosperous America for years to come. The *National Action Plan to Prevent Health Care-Associated Infections: Road Map to Elimination* will help to achieve that vision.

Sincerely,

/Kathleen Sebelius/

Kathleen Sebelius