

How to Set Up CLABSI and CAUTI Reporting per NHSN Protocol for the CMS Inpatient Prospective Payment System (IPPS)

Updated December 2025

In order to fully comply with NHSN and CMS reporting requirements for the Hospital Inpatient Prospective Payment System (IPPS) that includes Device-Associated Module surveillance (CLABSI & CAUTI), facilities must complete the following steps:

1. Map each of their Adult ICUs, Pediatric ICUs, Neonatal ICUs (CLABSI only), Adult & Pediatric Medical, Surgical, and Medical/Surgical Wards.
2. Map all applicable oncology inpatient locations.
3. Include CLABSI and CAUTI module in their monthly reporting plan each month for each required location.
4. Enter CLABSI and CAUTI events when identified.
5. Enter location-specific summary data each month.
6. Resolve all applicable alerts (e.g., incomplete events, missing events, incomplete summary items).
7. Indicate when zero CLABSI and CAUTI events to report for all reportable locations in a given month.
 - **Important:** If you do not indicate that your facility identified no CLABSI or CAUTI events in a month and location, your data will not show up in the NHSN analysis reports, and it will **not** be included in data sent to CMS.

The following instructions include details of how to complete each step in the reporting process.

Step 1: Map every CMS reportable inpatient location

- Reporting of CLABSI and CAUTI events must be done for all inpatient units that meet CMS reporting requirements.
 - Beginning in 2015, Hospitals participating in CMS Hospital IQR must report all applicable Adult ICUs, Pediatric ICUs, Neonatal ICUs (CLABSI only), Adult & Pediatric Medical, Surgical, and Medical/Surgical Wards.
 - *Data is currently used for CMS Hospital-Acquired Condition Reduction Program (HACRP), Hospital Value-Based Purchasing Program (HVBP)*
 - Beginning in 2026, CMS expanded CLABSI and CAUTI reporting to all oncology locations (oncology ICUs, wards, step-down, and mixed-acuity). Hospitals participating in Hospital IQR must report all applicable oncology locations.
 - *Data is used exclusively for Hospital IQR*
- Each reportable location must be mapped as a unique location in NHSN.
- To view, add, or edit the locations that you have mapped in your facility, click on Facility > Locations in the NHSN navigation bar to access the Location Manager.
- For more information and instructions on how to map your locations, refer to the location mapping guidance:
 - [CDC Locations and Descriptions and Instructions for Mapping Patient Care Locations](#)
- Additional NHSN resources for managing locations can be found here:
 - [Annual Surveys, Locations & Monthly Reporting | PSC | NHSN | CDC](#)



Step 2: Complete monthly reporting for CLABSI and/or CAUTI surveillance

- At the beginning of the month, add the locations and event types (i.e., CLABSI and CAUTI) you plan to follow for that specific month in your monthly reporting plan.
- The Device-associated Module section of the plan must signify the appropriate HAIs as screenshot below, as applicable, for your hospital's data to be sent to CMS.

Section 1: Device-Associated Module

	Locations	CLABSI	VAE	CAUTI	PedVAP	PedVAE
	MS WARD - IN:ACUTE:WARD:MS	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐
	NICU - NICU	☒	☐	☐	☐	☐
	MIXED_ONC - IN:ACUTE:MIXED:ONC	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐

Step 3: Identify and enter all CLABSI and CAUTI events into NHSN by location

- Throughout the month, monitor your patients for CLABSI and CAUTI events and report any events that take place within locations specified in your monthly reporting plan.
- To enter in either a CLABSI or CAUTI event:
 - Manual webform entry
 - Go to Events > Add, then complete patient data, event information, risk factors/event details, and pathogen fields (required fields show a red asterisk).
 - CDA Import
 - Go to Import/Export > Events, Summary Data, Procedure Denominators then upload and submit CLABSI/CAUTI CDA files generated by your EHR vendor. If using DIRECT CDA Automation, follow the [DIRECT protocol](#).
- For more information on entering CLABSI or CAUTI events, please see their respective protocols:
 - [CLABSI Protocol](#)
 - [CAUTI Protocol](#)

Step 4: Enter summary data

- At the end of the month, enter a summary data record for each location specified in your monthly reporting plan.
 - Click on **Summary Data** on the left-hand navigation bar.
 - Click on **Add** from the drop-down menu under 'Summary Data.'
 - Select the correct summary data type for the locations (i.e., ICU/Other, SCA/ONC, or NICU) you're entering denominator/summary data for and then click **Continue**.
 - Note:** Select ICU/Other to enter data for non-ONC ward locations. Select SCA/ONC to enter Specialty Care Area (SCA) and Oncology ICU/Ward locations.



- From this screen, select the location for which you're entering the denominator/summary data using the drop-down menu next to 'Location Code'.
 - Make sure to enter the correct month and year using the drop-down menus next to those fields.
- After selecting the location code, month, and year, certain fields will become required if you've added specific surveillance types (e.g., CLABSI or CAUTI) to your monthly reporting plan for that location.
 - For example, if you chose to report CAUTIs in your medical ward on your monthly reporting plan, total patient days and urinary catheter days would be required fields when entering your summary data.
 - Enter your data in the required fields
 - Note:** All required fields will be marked with a red asterisk
- If you've identified and reported events for all the locations and event types specified in your monthly reporting plan, you're finished with your reporting for the month.
 - IMPORTANT:** If you did not have any events to report for one or more locations, continue to step 4a-c: reporting no events.
 - Note:** If you identify and enter a CLABSI or CAUTI event for a location after you've already checked the 'Report No Events' box, the 'Report No Events' check will automatically be removed in the NHSN database.

Step 4a: Reporting no events – ICU/Other Locations

- If, at the end of the month, you have zero events to report, you need to indicate that on the summary data record to be in full compliance with reporting requirements.
- For each location with zero events for the month, check the 'Report No Events' box next to the event type you're reporting.
- If you have zero device days to report for a month, enter "0" into the box for that device. The "Report No Events" box will be checked automatically.



Denominators for Intensive Care Unit (ICU)/Other locations (not NICU or SCA)

Mandatory fields marked with *

Facility ID *: DHQP Memorial Annex (ID 10401) ▼

Location Code *: MS WARD - IN:ACUTE:WARD:MS ▼

Month *: September ▼

Year *: 2025 ▼

Denominator Data		Report No Events
Total Patient Days *	2500	
Central Line Days *	856	CLABSI: ☒
Urinary Catheter Days *	962	CAUTI: ☒
Ventilator Days :		VAE: ☐ PedVAE: ☐ PedVAP: ☐
APRV Days :		
Episodes of Mechanical Ventilation :		

Sample Values For Estimating Denominator Data		
		Check Box(es) if Sampling Used
Sample Patient Days :		
Sample Central Line Days :		☐
Sample Urinary Catheter Days :		☐



- Upon saving, you'll see that the check boxes are replaced with a check to indicate that no events of that event type have occurred in that location.
- If there have been events already reported for the specific location, the 'Report No Events' box will be disabled, preventing it from being checked.

Denominators for Intensive Care Unit (ICU)/Other locations (not NICU or SCA)

Mandatory fields marked with *

Facility ID *: DHQP Memorial Annex (ID 10401) ▼
 Location Code *: MS WARD - IN:ACUTE:WARD:MS ▼
 Month *: September ▼
 Year *: 2025 ▼

Denominator Data		Report No Events
Total Patient Days *	2500	
Central Line Days *	856	CLABSI: ☒
Urinary Catheter Days *	962	CAUTI: ☐
Ventilator Days :		VAE: ☐ PedVAE: ☐ PedVAP: ☐
APRV Days :		
Episodes of Mechanical Ventilation :		

Sample Values For Estimating Denominator Data		Check Box(es) if Sampling Used
Sample Patient Days :		
Sample Central Line Days :		☐
Sample Urinary Catheter Days :		☐

Step 4b: Reporting no events – SCA/ONC Locations

- Similar to reporting no events in ICU/ward locations, reporting no events for SCA/ONC locations is done on the summary data screen.
- However, because CLABSI are reported by Central Line Type (i.e., Temporary and Permanent) for SCA/ONC locations, the facility must report no events by Central Line Type as well.
- For each SCA/ONC location, check the 'Report No Events' box for each Central Line Type in which no events were identified within the given month.
 - If there have been events already reported for the specific Central Line Type, the 'Report No Events' box will be disabled, preventing it from being checked.
- Upon saving, you'll see that the check boxes are saved with a check to indicate that no events have occurred of that event type in that location.



Denominators of Specialty Care Area/Oncology

Mandatory fields marked with *

Facility ID *: DHQP Memorial Annex (ID 10401) ▼

Location Code *: MIXED_ONC - IN:ACUTE:MIXED:ONC ▼

Month *: September ▼

Year *: 2025 ▼

Denominator Data		Report No Events
Total Patient Days *	1500	
Temporary Central Line Days *	382	TCLAB: ☐
Permanent Central Line Days *	150	PCLAB: ☒
Urinary Catheter Days *	398	CAUTI: ☒
Ventilator Days:		VAE: ☐ PedVAE: ☐ PedVAP: ☐
APRV Days:		
Episodes of Mechanical Ventilation:		

Step 4c: Reporting no event – NICU Locations

- Similar to reporting no events in ICU/ward locations, reporting no events in the NICU is done on the summary data screen.
- However, because CLABSIs are reported by birthweight for neonatal critical care locations, the facility must report no events by birthweight as well.
- For each NICU location, check the 'Report No Events' box for each birthweight in which no events occurred within the given month.
 - If there have been events already reported for the specific birthweight, the 'Report No Events' box will be disabled, preventing it from being checked.
- Upon saving, you'll see that the check boxes are saved with a check to indicate that no events have occurred of that event type in that location.





Neonatal Intensive Care Unit

Mandatory fields marked with *

Facility ID *: DHQP Memorial Annex (ID 10401) ▼

Location Code *: NICU - NICU ▼

Month *: September ▼

Year *: 2025 ▼

Birth Weights							
Birth Weight	Patient Days *	CL Days *	No CLABSI	Vent Days	No PedVAE	No PedVAP	EMV
<=750	38	38	☒		☐	☐	
751-1000	67	58	☒		☐	☐	
1001-1500	20	0	☒		☐	☐	
1501-2500	120	29	☒		☐	☐	
>2500	65	5	☒		☐	☐	

Additional Resources:

- [CMS Reporting Requirements](#)
- [Device Associated CMS SIR Report](#)
- [CMS Reporting Monthly Checklist](#)
- [Location Mapping Checklist](#)

