

QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE

NHSN PSC Alerts

Description

Facilities are responsible for ensuring their data are complete and accurate according to the NHSN protocol. In the NHSN application, Alerts are automated notifications that help facilities identify missing, inconsistent, or unexpected data. They are designed to improve data quality, timeliness, and NHSN protocol alignment.

Before reviewing the details of each alert, keep the following in mind:

- Alerts appear upon login for all users with access to your facility in NHSN.
- Alerts are interactive. Selecting an alert will direct you to the page where the issue can be reviewed and resolved.
- Alerts are generated only for in-plan data.
- Alerts may apply to data from January 2011 through the present.
- If accurate data cannot be reported, you may remove the event, location, or procedure from the monthly reporting plan. Removing items from the reporting plan may affect compliance with state or CMS reporting requirements.
- To revisit alerts at any time, click **Alerts** from the navigation bar.
- If no records meet the criteria for a specific alert, the message “You have no action items” will appear.
- In-plan data are included in rates and SIRs only when the reporting month is considered complete, meaning all required data have been submitted and all applicable alerts have been resolved.

If you have questions regarding this guidance or are still unable to clear your alerts, please contact the NHSN Helpdesk: nhsn@cdc.gov.

Note: the examples provided in this document contain screenshots from a fictitious facility with fictitious data.

Action Items

When logged into the Patient Safety Component home page, facility specific action items are displayed. These items can be resolved by any user in the facility, but it impacts all facility data. These action items can include survey completion reminders, as well as conferring rights to a group (if the facility joined a group in NHSN). The action items are interactive icons, meaning when you click on the alert itself, it will direct you to the page where the specific alerts can be resolved.



- TAP Strategy Dashboard
- TAS Dashboard
- HAI Pathogen Dashboard
- Survey Data Quality Dashboard

▾ Action Items

COMPLETE THESE ITEMS



ALERTS

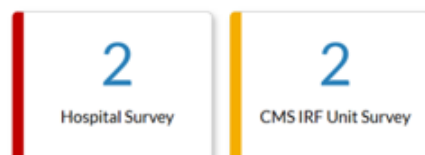
Include alerts for the following time period:

Beginning	Ending		
mm/yyyy	mm/yyyy	Submit	Clear Time Period

45 Total

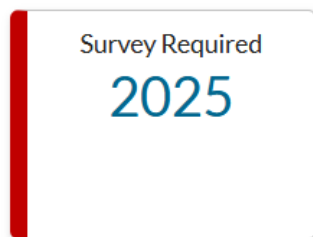


Patient Safety Component Annual Survey Data Quality Alerts



Complete These Items

Survey Required



All facilities that submit data into NHSN must complete the annual survey. Surveys are always for the calendar year prior to the current year.

Confer Rights Not Accepted



This alert will appear if your facility has not accepted the data rights template set up by a Group to which your facility is joined. Facilities can share data with groups (such as state health departments, hospital systems, quality improvement organizations, etc.). Facilities join Groups and provide access to their data as requested by the Group within the NHSN application. A facility that joins a Group does not have access to any data from other facilities in the Group. Groups create a template of rights that is shared with member facilities. Individual facilities within the Group may choose to confer rights to complete data sharing with the Group.

Alerts

The NHSN Patient Safety Component Alerts page allows NHSN users to review alerts by each healthcare associated infection (HAI) type. The filter allows alerts to be filtered by time period. Clicking on an alert will link to a landing page specific to that HAI.

Include alerts for the following time period:

Beginning	Ending		
mm/yyyy	mm/yyyy	Submit	Clear Time Period

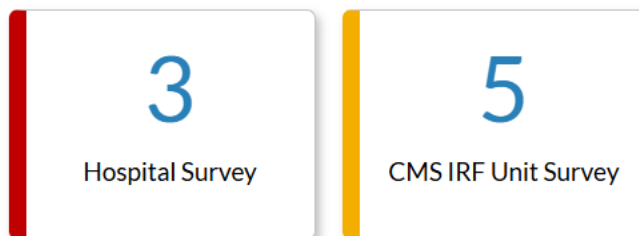
45 Total



There are separate Quick Reference Guides for each HAI type:

- [AUR Alerts QRG](#)
- [DA Alerts QRG](#)
- [MDRO/CDI QRG](#)
- [PA Alerts QRG](#)
- [USP QRG](#)

Patient Safety Component (PSC) Data Quality (DQ) Alerts



PSC Data Quality Alerts are related to the PSC Annual Survey. If there is a potential DQ issue identified on your survey, an alert will be present that directs you to the Annual Survey DQ Dashboard. For additional information about using the DQ dashboard, please review the [PSC Survey Data Quality Dashboard QRG](#).