

2025 NHSN MRSA Bacteremia LabID Event Medical Record Abstraction Tool (MRAT) Instructions

**V1.0 Updated January 2026 – for
validating 2025 data**



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For validation of MRSA bacteremia (blood specimens only) LabID Event reporting in acute care hospitals, long-term acute care hospitals, and inpatient rehabilitation facilities conducting LabID Event surveillance for MRSA bacteremia. (EXCLUDES SCREENING CULTURES for colonization). Based on CDC sampling guidance, this tool will be used in two ways:

- **Sample A** to validate reportability of the FIRST inpatient positive MRSA blood specimen for a patient and location; and
- **Sample B** to validate reportability of a subsequent SELECTED non-first positive MRSA blood specimen for a patient and location.

Sample A evaluates the facility's ability to link early inpatient positive MRSA blood specimens to recent episodes of care. Sample B evaluates the facility's ability to correctly identify duplicate vs. reportable events. See NHSN Patient Safety (PS) Manual Chapter 12 for further [details](#).

Section 1. Patient Information and Sampling Type:

Enter patient identifiers and demographics. Identify the method of sample validation, whether it is Sample A: a first positive MRSA blood specimen (PBS) **OR** Sample B: a selected, non-first MRSA PBS.

Section 2. Positive MRSA Blood Specimens

For Sample A, begin with the first MRSA PBS and enter it into the first row. For Sample B, begin with the selected MRSA PBS. Next, review the 14 days prior to the first/selected PBS to identify if additional MRSA PBS were collected in the same location. If additional specimens are identified, enter them into the table in reverse chronological order and review the next 14-day period from the earliest collection date identified to find additional MRSA PBSs. Repeat this until no additional PBSs in the same location are identified.

Work across the row to determine if the MRSA PBS were reportable to NHSN. PBSs are considered reportable to NHSN if there is no prior positive MRSA specimen from the patient in the same location **OR** more than 14 days since last MRSA positive specimen from the patient in the same location.

Section 3. Case Classification

Determine if the first (sample A) or selected (sample B) MRSA PBS was correctly reported or correctly not reported, over reported, or under reported. If the PBS was correctly reported or correctly not reported, validation for this patient is complete.

Section 4. Misclassification Reason

If the MRSA PBS was misclassified, select the most appropriate reason for the misclassification. If "Other" is selected, specify the reason.