



Surgical Site Infection (SSI) Event

Introduction: In 2010, an estimated 16 million operative procedures were performed in acute care hospitals in the United States¹. A recent prevalence study found that SSIs were the most common healthcare-associated infection, accounting for 31% of all HAIs among hospitalized patients². The CDC healthcare-associated infection (HAI) prevalence survey found that there were an estimated 157,500 surgical site infections associated with inpatient surgeries in 2011³. NHSN data included 16,147 SSIs following 849,659 operative procedures in all groups reported, for an overall SSI rate of 1.9% between 2006-2008⁴. A 19% decrease in SSI related to 10 select procedures was reported between 2008 and 2013⁵.

While advances have been made in infection control practices, including improved operating room ventilation, sterilization methods, barriers, surgical technique, and availability of antimicrobial prophylaxis, SSIs remain a substantial cause of morbidity, prolonged hospitalization, and death. SSI is associated with a mortality rate of 3%, and 75% of SSI-associated deaths are directly attributable to the SSI⁶.

Surveillance of SSI with feedback of appropriate data to surgeons has been shown to be an important component of strategies to reduce SSI risk⁷⁻¹⁰. A successful surveillance program includes the use of epidemiologically-sound infection definitions and effective surveillance methods, stratification of SSI rates according to risk factors associated with SSI development, and data feedback^{8,9}. A new CDC and Healthcare Infection Control Practices Advisory Committee guideline for the prevention of surgical site infection is scheduled for publication soon, and will replace the previous *Guideline for Prevention of Surgical Site Infection, 1999*¹⁰.

Settings: Surveillance of surgical patients will occur in any inpatient and/or outpatient setting where the selected NHSN operative procedure(s) are performed.

Requirements: Perform surveillance for SSI following at least one NHSN operative procedure category ([ICD-10-PCS](#) and [CPT Mapping](#)) as indicated in the *Patient Safety Monthly Reporting Plan* ([CDC 57.106](#)). Collect SSI (numerator) and operative procedure category (denominator) data on all procedures included in the selected procedure categories for at least one month to meet NHSN requirements, or as otherwise specified by mandates and other reporting requirements. A procedure must meet the NHSN definition of an operative procedure in order to be included in the surveillance. All procedures included in the NHSN monthly surveillance plan are followed for superficial, deep, and organ/space SSIs.

SSI monitoring requires active, patient-based, prospective surveillance. Post-discharge and ante-discharge surveillance methods should be used to detect SSIs following inpatient and outpatient operative procedures. These methods include: 1) direct examination of patients' wounds during follow-up visits to either surgery clinics or physicians' offices, 2) review of medical records or surgery clinic patient records, 3) surgeon surveys by mail or telephone, and 4) patient surveys by mail or telephone (though patients may have a difficult time assessing



their infections). Any combination of these methods is acceptable for use; however, CDC criteria for SSI must be used. To minimize Infection Preventionists' (IPs) workload of collecting denominator data, operating room data may be downloaded (See file specifications at: <http://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/PDFs/training/ImportProcedureData8.5.pdf>).

An SSI will be associated with a particular NHSN operative procedure and the facility in which that procedure was performed. Refer to the NHSN application's Help system for instruction on linking an SSI to an operative procedure.

The *International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision Clinical Modifications* (ICD-10-CM/PCS) codes, which are defined by the ICD-10 Coordination and Maintenance Committee of the National Center for Health Statistics and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), are developed as a tool for classification of morbidity data. Their wide use enables the grouping of surgery types for the purpose of determining SSI rates. The [ICD-10-PCS](#) mapping is located on the NHSN website in the SSI Protocol under "Supporting Materials". NHSN has also mapped Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) codes to NHSN operative procedure categories to assist users in determining the correct NHSN code to report for facilities which use CPT codes. The [CPT NHSN operative procedure mapping](#) is also found in the "Supporting Materials" section of the SSI Protocol on the NHSN website. Both the ICD-10-PCS and the CPT codes include a general description of the types of operations contained in the NHSN operative procedure categories.

Notes:

- The Infection Window Period, Present on Admission, Hospital Associated Infection and Repeat Infection Timeframe definitions should **not** be applied to the SSI protocol.
- ICD-10-PCS and CPT code fields remain as optional fields in 2016.
- ICD-10-PCS and CPT codes do not differentiate between spinal fusions (FUSN) and repeat spinal fusions (RFUSN). Therefore the NHSN procedure group FUSN will include both fusion and re-fusion procedures and the RFUSN category should not be used for procedures performed on or after October 1, 2015.
- The NHSN Category "OTH" will not be mapped to ICD-10-PCS and CPT codes. Any infections associated with procedures in that group will not be considered an NHSN surgical site infection, beginning with October 1, 2015 procedures.

Definition of an NHSN Operative Procedure

An NHSN Operative Procedure is a procedure:

- that is included in the [ICD-10-PCS](#) or [CPT](#) NHSN operative procedure code mapping.
And
- takes place during an operation where at least one incision (including laparoscopic approach) is made through the skin or mucous membrane, or reoperation via an incision that was left open during a prior operative procedure
And



- takes place in an operating room (OR), defined as a patient care area that met the Facilities Guidelines Institute's (FGI) or American Institute of Architects' (AIA) criteria for an operating room when it was constructed or renovated¹¹. This may include an operating room, C-section room, interventional radiology room, or a cardiac catheterization lab.

Exclusions: Otherwise eligible procedures that are assigned an ASA score of 6 are not eligible for NHSN SSI surveillance

Note: Incisional closure method is NOT a part of the NHSN operative procedure definition; all otherwise eligible procedures are included, regardless of closure type. Therefore both primarily closed procedures and those that are not closed primarily should be entered into the denominator data for procedures in the facility's monthly reporting plan. Any SSIs attributable to either primarily closed or non-primarily closed procedures should be reported.

NHSN Operative Procedure Category Mappings to ICD-10-PCS and CPT Codes:

[ICD-10-PCS](#) and [CPT](#) Code Mappings to NHSN Operative Procedures

Denominator for Procedure Definitions:

ASA physical status: Assessment by the anesthesiologist of the patient's preoperative physical condition using the American Society of Anesthesiologists' (ASA) Classification of Physical Status^{12,13}. Patient is assigned one of the following:

1. A normally healthy patient
2. A patient with mild systemic disease
3. A patient with severe systemic disease
4. A patient with severe systemic disease that is a constant threat to life
5. A moribund patient who is not expected to survive without the operation.

Note: Do NOT report procedures with an ASA physical status of 6 (a declared brain-dead patient whose organs are being removed for donor purposes) to NHSN.

Date of event (DOE): For an SSI the date of event is the date when the first element used to meet the SSI infection criterion occurs for the first time during the surveillance period. Synonym: infection date.

Diabetes: The NHSN SSI surveillance definition of diabetes indicates that the patient has a diagnosis of diabetes requiring management with insulin or a non-insulin anti-diabetic agent. This includes patients with "insulin resistance" who are on management with anti-diabetic agents. This also includes patients with a diagnosis of diabetes who are noncompliant with their diabetes medications. The ICD-10-CM diagnosis codes that reflect the diagnosis of diabetes are also acceptable for use to answer YES to the diabetes field question on the denominator for procedure entry. These codes are found on the NHSN website in the SSI



section under “[Supporting Materials](#)”. The NHSN definition excludes patients with no diagnosis of diabetes. The definition also excludes patients who receive insulin for perioperative control of hyperglycemia but have no diagnosis of diabetes.

Duration of operative procedure: The interval in hours and minutes between the Procedure/Surgery Start Time, and the Procedure/Surgery Finish Time, as defined by the Association of Anesthesia Clinical Directors (AACD)¹⁴:

- Procedure/Surgery Start Time (PST): Time when the procedure is begun (*e.g.*, incision for a surgical procedure).
- Procedure/Surgery Finish (PF): Time when all instrument and sponge counts are completed and verified as correct, all postoperative radiologic studies to be done in the OR are completed, all dressings and drains are secured, and the physicians/surgeons have completed all procedure-related activities on the patient.

Emergency operative procedure: A nonelective, unscheduled operative procedure. Emergency operative procedures are those that do not allow for the standard immediate preoperative preparation normally done within the facility for a scheduled operation (*e.g.*, stable vital signs, adequate antiseptic skin preparation, etc.).

General anesthesia: The administration of drugs or gases that enter the general circulation and affect the central nervous system to render the patient pain free, amnesic, unconscious, and often paralyzed with relaxed muscles. This does not include conscious sedation.

Height: The patient’s most recent height documented in the medical record in feet (ft) and inches (in.), or meters (m).

NHSN Inpatient Operative Procedure: An NHSN operative procedure performed on a patient whose date of admission to the healthcare facility and the date of discharge are different calendar days.

NHSN Outpatient Operative Procedure: An NHSN operative procedure performed on a patient whose date of admission to the healthcare facility and date of discharge are the same calendar day. Procedures performed at an ASC should be designated as outpatient procedures.

Non-primary Closure is defined as closure that is other than primary and includes surgeries in which the skin level is left completely open during the original surgery and therefore cannot be classified as having primary closure. For surgeries with non-primary closure, the deep tissue layers may be closed by some means (with the skin level left open), or the deep and superficial layers may both be left completely open. An example of a surgery with non-primary closure would be a laparotomy in which the incision was closed to the level of the deep tissue layers, sometimes called “fascial layers” or “deep fascia,” but the skin level was left open. Another example would be an “open abdomen” case in which the abdomen is left completely open after the surgery. Wounds with non-primary closure may or may not be described as “packed” with



gauze or other material, and may or may not be covered with plastic, “wound vacs,” or other synthetic devices or materials.

Primary Closure is defined as closure of the skin level during the original surgery, regardless of the presence of wires, wicks, drains, or other devices or objects extruding through the incision. This category includes surgeries where the skin is closed by some means. Thus, if any portion of the incision is closed at the skin level, by any manner, a designation of primary closure should be assigned to the surgery.

Note: If a procedure has multiple incision/laparoscopic trocar sites and any of the incisions are closed primarily then the procedure technique is recorded as primary closed.

Scope: An instrument used to visualize the interior of a body cavity or organ. In the context of an NHSN operative procedure, use of a scope involves creation of several small incisions to perform or assist in the performance of an operation rather than use of a traditional larger incision (i.e., open approach). Robotic assistance is considered equivalent to use of a scope for NHSN SSI surveillance. See also [Instructions for Completion of Denominator for Procedure Form](#) and both [Numerator Data](#) and [Denominator Data](#) reporting instructions in this chapter.

Note: If a scope site has to be extended for hand assist or removal of specimen this will still meet scope = Yes. If the procedure is converted to an open procedure it will be scope = No.

Secondary BSI Attribution Period for SSI: The secondary BSI attribution period for SSI is a 17-day period that includes the date of event, 3 days prior and 13 days after. For detailed instructions on determining whether identification of an organisms from a blood specimen represents a secondary BSI, refer to the Secondary BSI Guide (Appendix 1 of the [BSI Event Protocol](#)).

Trauma: Blunt or penetrating injury occurring prior to the start of the procedure.

Weight: The patient’s most recent weight documented in the medical record in pounds (lbs.) or kilograms (kg) prior to or otherwise closest to the procedure.

Wound class: An assessment of the degree of contamination of a surgical wound at the time of the operation. Wound class should be assigned by a person involved in the surgical procedure (e.g., surgeon, circulating nurse, etc.). The wound class system used in NHSN is an adaptation of the American College of Surgeons wound classification schema.

There are a group of NHSN procedures that can never be coded as clean. NHSN reached the decision regarding which NHSN operative procedures can never be classified as clean based on feedback from external experts in the field of surgery.



The procedures that can never be entered as clean are: APPY, BILI, CHOL, COLO, REC, SB and VHYS. Therefore, for these procedures in the application clean is not an option on the drop down menu.

For all other procedures clean is available as a choice and if the surgical team deems the procedure to be clean it can be entered as such into the NHSN application. For example CSEC, HYST, or OVRY can be a clean wound class if documented as such.

Wounds are divided into four classes:

1. **Clean:** An uninfected operative wound in which no inflammation is encountered and the respiratory, alimentary, genital, or uninfected urinary tracts are not entered. In addition, clean wounds are primarily closed and, if necessary, drained with closed drainage. Operative incisional wounds that follow nonpenetrating (blunt) trauma should be included in this category if they meet the criteria.

Note: The clean wound classification level will not be available for denominator data entry for the following NHSN operative procedure categories: APPY, BILI, CHOL, COLO, REC, SB, and VHYS

2. **Clean-Contaminated:** Operative wounds in which the respiratory, alimentary, genital, or urinary tracts are entered under controlled conditions and without unusual contamination. Specifically, operations involving the biliary tract, appendix, vagina, and oropharynx are included in this category, provided no evidence of infection or major break in technique is encountered.
3. **Contaminated:** Open, fresh, accidental wounds. In addition, operations with major breaks in sterile technique (e.g., open cardiac massage) or gross spillage from the gastrointestinal tract, and incisions in which acute, nonpurulent inflammation is encountered including necrotic tissue without evidence of purulent drainage (e.g., dry gangrene) are included in this category.
4. **Dirty or Infected:** Includes old traumatic wounds with retained devitalized tissue and those that involve existing clinical infection or perforated viscera. This definition suggests that the organisms causing postoperative infection were present in the operative field before the operation.



Table 1. Surgical Site Infection Criteria

| Criterion | Surgical Site Infection (SSI) |
|-----------|--|
| | <p>Superficial incisional SSI Must meet the following criteria:</p> |
| | <p>Infection occurs within 30 days after any NHSN operative procedure (where day 1 = the procedure date) AND involves only skin and subcutaneous tissue of the incision AND patient has at least <i>one</i> of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. purulent drainage from the superficial incision. b. organisms identified from an aseptically-obtained specimen from the superficial incision or subcutaneous tissue by a culture or non-culture based microbiologic testing method which is performed for purposes of clinical diagnosis or treatment (e.g., not Active Surveillance Culture/Testing (ASC/AST)). c. superficial incision that is deliberately opened by a surgeon, attending physician** or other designee and culture or non-culture based testing is not performed. <p style="text-align: center;">AND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> d. patient has at least <i>one</i> of the following signs or symptoms: pain or tenderness; localized swelling; erythema; or heat. A culture or non-culture based test that has a negative finding does not meet this criterion. d. diagnosis of a superficial incisional SSI by the surgeon or attending physician** or other designee. <p>http://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/xls/icd10-pcs-pcm-nhsn-opc.xlsx http://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/xls/cpt-pcm-nhsn.xlsx</p> <p>** The term attending physician for the purposes of application of the NHSN SSI criteria may be interpreted to mean the surgeon(s), infectious disease, other physician on the case, emergency physician or physician’s designee (nurse practitioner or physician’s assistant).</p> |



| Criterion | Surgical Site Infection (SSI) |
|---|--|
| Comments | There are two specific types of superficial incisional SSIs: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="516 380 1424 520">1. Superficial Incisional Primary (SIP) – a superficial incisional SSI that is identified in the primary incision in a patient that has had an operation with one or more incisions (e.g., C-section incision or chest incision for CBGB)<li data-bbox="516 529 1424 667">2. Superficial Incisional Secondary (SIS) – a superficial incisional SSI that is identified in the secondary incision in a patient that has had an operation with more than one incision (e.g., donor site incision for CBGB) |
| Reporting Instructions for Superficial SSI | <p data-bbox="457 676 1424 747"><u>The following do not qualify as criteria for meeting the NHSN definition of superficial SSI:</u></p> <ul data-bbox="457 751 1424 1367" style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="457 751 1424 892">• Diagnosis/treatment of cellulitis (redness/warmth/swelling), by itself, does not meet criterion d for superficial incisional SSI. An incision that is draining or that has organisms identified by culture or non-culture based testing is not considered a cellulitis.<li data-bbox="457 900 1424 972">• A stitch abscess alone (minimal inflammation and discharge confined to the points of suture penetration)<li data-bbox="457 980 1424 1081">• A localized stab wound or pin site infection. While it would be considered either a skin (SKIN) or soft tissue (ST) infection, depending on its depth, it is not reportable under this module. Note: A laparoscopic trocar site for an NHSN operative procedure is not considered a stab wound.<li data-bbox="457 1089 1424 1190">• Circumcision is not an NHSN operative procedure. An infected circumcision site in newborns is classified as CIRC and is not reportable under this module.<li data-bbox="457 1199 1424 1339">• An infected burn wound is classified as BURN and is not reportable under this module. |



| Criterion | Surgical Site Infection (SSI) |
|-----------------|--|
| | <p>Deep incisional SSI Must meet the following criteria: Infection occurs within 30 or 90 days after the NHSN operative procedure (where day 1 = the procedure date) according to the list in Table 2 AND involves deep soft tissues of the incision (e.g., fascial and muscle layers) AND patient has at least <i>one</i> of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. purulent drainage from the deep incision. b. a deep incision that spontaneously dehisces, or is deliberately opened or aspirated by a surgeon, attending physician** or other designee and organism is identified by a culture or non-culture based microbiologic testing method which is performed for purposes of clinical diagnosis or treatment (e.g., not Active Surveillance Culture/Testing (ASC/AST) or culture or non-culture based microbiologic testing method is not performed AND patient has at least <i>one</i> of the following signs or symptoms: fever (>38°C); localized pain or tenderness. A culture or non-culture based test that has a negative finding does not meet this criterion. c. an abscess or other evidence of infection involving the deep incision that is detected on gross anatomical or histopathologic exam, or imaging test <p>** The term attending physician for the purposes of application of the NHSN SSI criteria may be interpreted to mean the surgeon(s), infectious disease, other physician on the case, emergency physician or physician's designee (nurse practitioner or physician's assistant).</p> |
| Comments | <p>There are two specific types of deep incisional SSIs:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Deep Incisional Primary (DIP) – a deep incisional SSI that is identified in a primary incision in a patient that has had an operation with one or more incisions (e.g., C-section incision or chest incision for CBGB) 2. Deep Incisional Secondary (DIS) – a deep incisional SSI that is identified in the secondary incision in a patient that has had an operation with more than one incision (e.g., donor site incision for CBGB) |
| | <p>Organ/Space SSI Must meet the following criteria: Infection occurs within 30 or 90 days after the NHSN operative procedure (where day 1 = the procedure date) according to the list in Table 2</p> |



| Criterion | Surgical Site Infection (SSI) |
|-----------|---|
| | <p>AND infection involves any part of the body deeper than the fascial/muscle layers, that is opened or manipulated during the operative procedure</p> <p>AND patient has at least <i>one</i> of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. purulent drainage from a drain that is placed into the organ/space (e.g., closed suction drainage system, open drain, T-tube drain, CT guided drainage)b. organisms are identified from an aseptically-obtained fluid or tissue in the organ/space by a culture or non-culture based microbiologic testing method which is performed for purposes of clinical diagnosis or treatment (e.g., not Active Surveillance Culture/Testing (ASC/AST).c. an abscess or other evidence of infection involving the organ/space that is detected on gross anatomical or histopathologic exam, or imaging test <p>AND meets at least <i>one</i> criterion for a specific organ/space infection site listed in Table 3. These criteria are found in the Surveillance Definitions for Specific Types of Infections chapter.</p> |



Table 2. Surveillance Period for Deep Incisional or Organ/Space SSI Following Selected NHSN Operative Procedure Categories. Day 1 = the date of the procedure.

| 30-day Surveillance | | | |
|----------------------------|---|-------------|------------------------------------|
| Code | Operative Procedure | Code | Operative Procedure |
| AAA | Abdominal aortic aneurysm repair | LAM | Laminectomy |
| AMP | Limb amputation | LTP | Liver transplant |
| APPY | Appendix surgery | NECK | Neck surgery |
| AVSD | Shunt for dialysis | NEPH | Kidney surgery |
| BILI | Bile duct, liver or pancreatic surgery | OVRY | Ovarian surgery |
| CEA | Carotid endarterectomy | PRST | Prostate surgery |
| CHOL | Gallbladder surgery | REC | Rectal surgery |
| COLO | Colon surgery | SB | Small bowel surgery |
| CSEC | Cesarean section | SPLE | Spleen surgery |
| GAST | Gastric surgery | THOR | Thoracic surgery |
| HTP | Heart transplant | THYR | Thyroid and/or parathyroid surgery |
| HYST | Abdominal hysterectomy | VHYS | Vaginal hysterectomy |
| KTP | Kidney transplant | XLAP | Exploratory Laparotomy |
| 90-day Surveillance | | | |
| Code | Operative Procedure | | |
| BRST | Breast surgery | | |
| CARD | Cardiac surgery | | |
| CBGB | Coronary artery bypass graft with both chest and donor site incisions | | |
| CBGC | Coronary artery bypass graft with chest incision only | | |
| CRAN | Craniotomy | | |
| FUSN | Spinal fusion | | |
| FX | Open reduction of fracture | | |
| HER | Herniorrhaphy | | |
| HPRO | Hip prosthesis | | |
| KPRO | Knee prosthesis | | |
| PACE | Pacemaker surgery | | |
| PVBY | Peripheral vascular bypass surgery | | |
| VSHN | Ventricular shunt | | |

Note: Superficial incisional SSIs are only followed for a 30-day period for all procedure types.



Table 3. Specific Sites of an Organ/Space SSI.

| Code | Site | Code | Site |
|------|-------------------------------------|------|---|
| BONE | Osteomyelitis | LUNG | Other infections of the respiratory tract |
| BRST | Breast abscess or mastitis | MED | Mediastinitis |
| CARD | Myocarditis or pericarditis | MEN | Meningitis or ventriculitis |
| DISC | Disc space | ORAL | Oral cavity (mouth, tongue, or gums) |
| EAR | Ear, mastoid | OREP | Other infections of the male or female reproductive tract |
| EMET | Endometritis | PJI | Periprosthetic Joint Infection |
| ENDO | Endocarditis | SA | Spinal abscess without meningitis |
| EYE | Eye, other than conjunctivitis | SINU | Sinusitis |
| GIT | GI tract | UR | Upper respiratory tract |
| HEP | Hepatitis | USI | Urinary System Infection |
| IAB | Intraabdominal, not specified | VASC | Arterial or venous infection |
| IC | Intracranial, brain abscess or dura | VCUF | Vaginal cuff |
| JNT | Joint or bursa | | |

(Criteria for these sites can be found in the [Surveillance Definitions](#) for Specific Types of Infections chapter).

Note: [Appendix 1](#) contains a list of all NHSN operative procedure groups and the site specific SSIs that are available as events for each group.

Numerator Data: All patients having any of the procedures included in the selected NHSN operative procedure category(s) are monitored for signs of SSI. The *Surgical Site Infection (SSI)* form is completed for each such patient found to have an SSI. If no SSI events are identified during the surveillance month, check the “Report No Events” field in the Missing PA Events tab of the Incomplete/Missing List.

The [Instructions for Completion of the Surgical Site Infection](#) form include brief instructions for collection and entry of each data element on the form. The [SSI form](#) includes patient demographic information and information about the operative procedure, including the date and type of procedure. Information about the SSI includes the date of SSI, specific criteria met for identifying the SSI, when/how the SSI was detected, whether the patient developed a secondary bloodstream infection, whether the patient died, the organisms identified and the organisms’ antimicrobial susceptibilities.



SSI Event Reporting Instructions:

1. **Excluded organisms:** Organisms belonging to the following genera cannot be used to meet any NHSN definition: *Blastomyces*, *Histoplasma*, *Coccidioides*, *Paracoccidioides*, *Cryptococcus* and *Pneumocystis*. These organisms are typically causes of community-associated infections and are rarely known to cause healthcare-associated infections, and therefore are excluded.
2. **Attributing SSI to an NHSN procedure when there is evidence of infection at the time of the primary surgery:** POA definition does not apply to the SSI protocol. If there was evidence of infection at the time of the procedure and then later in the surveillance period the patient develops an infection that meets the NHSN SSI criteria it is attributed to the procedure (see PATOS below). A high wound class is not an exclusion for a patient later meeting criteria for an SSI.
3. **Infection present at time of surgery (PATOS):** PATOS denotes that there is evidence of an infection or abscess at the start of or during the index surgical procedure (in other words, it is present preoperatively). PATOS is a YES/NO field on the SSI Event form. PATOS does not apply if there is a period of wellness between the time of a preoperative condition and surgery. The evidence of infection or abscess must be noted/documented intraoperatively in an intraoperative note (immediate postoperative note). Only select PATOS = YES if it applies to the depth of SSI that is being attributed to the procedures (e.g., if a patient has evidence of an intraabdominal infection at the time of surgery and then later returns with an organ/space SSI the PATOS field would be selected as a YES. If the patient returned with a superficial or deep incisional SSI the PATOS field would be selected as a NO). The patient does not have to meet the NHSN definition of an SSI at the time of the primary procedure but there must be notation that there is evidence of an infection or abscess present at the time of surgery. PATOS is not diagnosis driven (e.g. diverticulitis, peritonitis, and appendicitis). Identification of an organism alone using culture or non-culture based microbiologic testing method or on a pathology report from a surgical specimen does not = PATOS. Additionally, the following verbiage alone without specific mention of infection does not meet the PATOS definition: colon perforation, necrosis, gangrene, fecal spillage, nicked bowel during procedure, or a note of inflammation. Fresh traumas that are contaminated cases do not necessarily meet PATOS. For example, a gunshot wound to the abdomen will be a trauma case with a high wound class but there would not have been time for infection to develop. PATOS can be met when an abscess is noted, there is mention of infection in the OR note, purulence or pus is noted, septic/feculent peritonitis is noted. An infected appendix that has ruptured will meet PATOS =Yes, if the patient has a subsequent intraabdominal organ space SSI.
 - a) **Example:** Patient admitted with an acute abdomen. Sent to OR for an XLAP where there is a finding of an abscess due to ruptured appendix and an APPY is performed. Patient returns two weeks later and meets criteria for an organ/space IAB SSI. The PATOS field would be selected as YES on the SSI event.



- b) **Example:** Patient is admitted with a ruptured diverticulum. In the OR note the surgeon documents that there are multiple abscesses in the intraabdominal cavity. Patient returns three weeks later and meets criteria for a superficial SSI. The PATOS field would be selected as NO since there was no documentation of evidence of infection or abscess of the superficial area at the time of the procedure.
 - c) **Example:** During an unplanned cesarean section (CSEC) the surgeon nicks the bowel and there is contamination of the intraabdominal cavity. One week later the patient returns and meets criteria for an organ/space OREP (other reproductive) SSI. The PATOS field would be selected as NO since there was no documentation of evidence of infection or abscess at the time of the CSEC. The colon nick was a complication but there was no infection present at the time of surgery.
4. **Multiple tissue levels are involved in the infection:** The type of SSI (superficial incisional, deep incisional, or organ/space) reported should reflect the deepest tissue layer involved in the infection during the surveillance period:
- a) Report infection that involves the organ/space as an organ/space SSI, whether or not it also involves the superficial or deep incision sites.
 - b) Report infection that involves the superficial and deep incisional sites as a deep incisional SSI.
 - c) If an SSI started as a superficial SSI on day 10 of the SSI surveillance period and then a week later, (day 17 of the SSI surveillance period) meets criteria for a deep incisional SSI the date of event would be the date the of deep incisional SSI.
5. **Reporting of SSI after a non-primary closure:** If a patient develops an SSI after a non-primary closure it should be reported as attributable to that procedure if it meets criteria for an SSI within the appropriate surveillance period.
6. **Attributing SSI to a NHSN procedure when several are performed on different dates:** If a patient has several NHSN operative procedures performed on different dates prior to an infection, report the operative procedure code of the operation that was performed most closely in time prior to the infection date, unless there is evidence that the infection was associated with a different operation.

Note: For multiple NHSN operative procedures performed within a 24 hour period, see [Denominator Reporting Instruction #9](#).

7. **Attributing SSI to NHSN procedures that involve multiple primary incision sites:** If multiple primary incision sites of the same NHSN operative procedure become infected, only report as a single SSI, and assign the type of SSI (superficial incisional, deep incisional, or organ/space) that represents the deepest tissue level involved at any of the infected sites. For example:
- a) If one laparoscopic incision meets criteria for a superficial incisional SSI and another meets criteria for a deep incisional SSI, only report one deep incisional SSI.



- b) If one or more laparoscopic incision sites meet criteria for superficial incisional SSI but the patient also has an organ/space SSI related to the laparoscopic procedure, only report one organ/space SSI.
 - c) If an operative procedure is limited to a single breast and involves multiple incisions in that breast that become infected, only report a single SSI.
 - d) In a colostomy formation or reversal (take down) procedure, the stoma and other abdominal incision sites are considered primary incisions. If both the stoma and another abdominal incision site develop superficial incisional SSI, report only as one SSI (SIP).
8. **Attributing SSI to NHSN procedures that have secondary incision sites:** Certain procedures can involve secondary incisions (i.e., BRST, CBGB, CEA, FUSN, PVBV, REC, and VSHN). The surveillance period for all secondary sites is 30 days, regardless of the required deep incisional or organ/space SSI surveillance period for the primary incision site(s) ([Table 2](#)). Procedures meeting this designation are reported as only one operative procedure. For example:
- a) A saphenous vein harvest incision site in a CBGB procedure is considered the secondary incision. One CBGB procedure is reported, the saphenous vein harvest site is monitored for 30 days after surgery for SSI, and the chest incision is monitored for 90 days. If the patient has a superficial infection of the leg site and a deep incisional SSI of the chest site two SSIs are reported.
 - b) A tissue harvest site (e.g., Transverse Rectus Abdominis Myocutaneous [TRAM] flap) in a BRST procedure is considered the secondary incision site. One BRST procedure is reported, and if the secondary incision gets infected, report as either SIS or DIS as appropriate.
9. **SSI detected at another facility:** It is required that if an SSI is detected at a facility other than the one in which the operation was performed, notify the IP of the index facility with enough detail so the infection can be reported to NHSN. When reporting the SSI, the index facility should indicate that Detected = RO – (Readmission to facility other than where procedure was performed).
10. **SSI Attribution after Multiple types of NHSN procedures are performed during a single trip to the OR:** If more than one NHSN operative procedure category was performed through a single incision/laparoscopic sites during a single trip to the operating room, attribute the SSI to the procedure that is thought to be associated with the infection. If it is not clear, as is often the case when the infection is an incisional SSI, use the NHSN Principal Operative Procedure Category Selection Lists ([Table 4](#)) to select the operative procedure to which the SSI should be attributed. For example, if a patient develops SSI after a single trip to the OR in which both a COLO and SB were performed, and the source of the SSI is not apparent, assign the SSI to the COLO procedure.
11. **SSI following invasive manipulation/accession of the operative site:** If during the post-operative period the surgical site has an invasive manipulation/accession for diagnostic or



therapeutic purposes (e.g., needle aspiration), and following this manipulation/accession an SSI develops, the infection is not attributed to the operation. This reporting instruction does NOT apply to closed manipulation (e.g., closed reduction of a dislocated hip after an orthopedic procedure). Invasive manipulation does not include wound packing, or changing of wound packing materials as part of postoperative care.

12. **Reporting instructions for specific post-operative infection scenarios:** An SSI that otherwise meets the NHSN definitions should be reported to NHSN without regard to post-operative accidents, falls, inappropriate showering or bathing practices, or other occurrences that may or may not be attributable to patients’ intentional or unintentional postoperative actions. Also, SSI should also be reported regardless of the presence of certain skin conditions (e.g., dermatitis, blister, impetigo) that occur near an incision, and regardless of the possible occurrence of a “seeding” event from an unrelated procedure (e.g., dental work). This instruction concerning various postoperative circumstances is necessary to reduce subjectivity and data collection burden associated with the previously exempted scenarios.

Table 4. NHSN Principal Operative Procedure Category Selection Lists

(The categories with the highest risk of SSI are listed before those with lower risks).

| Priority | Code | Abdominal Operations |
|----------|------|---|
| 1 | LTP | Liver transplant |
| 2 | COLO | Colon surgery |
| 3 | BILI | Bile duct, liver or pancreatic surgery |
| 4 | SB | Small bowel surgery |
| 5 | REC | Rectal surgery |
| 6 | KTP | Kidney transplant |
| 7 | GAST | Gastric surgery |
| 8 | AAA | Abdominal aortic aneurysm repair |
| 9 | HYST | Abdominal hysterectomy |
| 10 | CSEC | Cesarean section |
| 11 | XLAP | Laparotomy |
| 12 | APPY | Appendix surgery |
| 13 | HER | Herniorrhaphy |
| 14 | NEPH | Kidney surgery |
| 15 | VHYS | Vaginal Hysterectomy |
| 16 | SPLE | Spleen surgery |
| 17 | CHOL | Gall bladder surgery |
| 18 | OVRY | Ovarian surgery |
| Priority | Code | Thoracic Operations |
| 1 | HTP | Heart transplant |
| 2 | CBGB | Coronary artery bypass graft with donor incision(s) |
| 3 | CBGC | Coronary artery bypass graft, chest incision only |



| | | |
|-----------------|-------------|---|
| 4 | CARD | Cardiac surgery |
| 5 | THOR | Thoracic surgery |
| Priority | Code | Neurosurgical (Brain/Spine) Operations |
| 1 | VSHN | Ventricular shunt |
| 2 | CRAN | Craniotomy |
| 3 | FUSN | Spinal fusion |
| 4 | LAM | Laminectomy |
| Priority | Code | Neck Operations |
| 1 | NECK | Neck surgery |
| 2 | THYR | Thyroid and or parathyroid surgery |

Denominator Data: For all patients having any of the procedures included in the NHSN Operative Procedure category(s) selected for surveillance during the month, complete the [Denominator for Procedure](#) form. The data are collected individually for each operative procedure performed during the month specified on the [Patient Safety Monthly Reporting Plan](#). The [Instructions for Completion of the Denominator for Procedure](#) Form include brief instructions for collection and entry of each data element on the form.

Denominator Reporting Instructions:

1. **Closure type:** Incisional closure is NOT a part of the NHSN operative procedure definition; all otherwise eligible procedures are included in the denominator reporting, regardless of closure type. The closure technique is entered for each denominator for procedure. If a procedure has multiple incision sites and any of the incisions are closed primarily then the procedure is entered as a primary closure.

Note: When the patient returns to the OR within 24 hours of the end of the first procedure assign the surgical wound closure that applies when the patient leaves the OR from the first operative procedure.

2. **Wound class:** A high wound class is not an exclusion for denominator reporting. If the procedure meets the definition of an NHSN operative procedure it should be reported in the denominator data regardless of wound class. NHSN will use the wound class for risk adjustment, as appropriate.
3. **Different operative procedure categories performed during same trip to the OR:** If procedures in more than one NHSN operative procedure category are performed during the same trip to the operating room through the same or different incisions, a [Denominator for Procedure](#) form is reported for each NHSN operative procedure category being monitored. For example, if a CARD and CBGC are done through the same incision, a *Denominator for Procedure* form is reported for each. In another example, if following a motor vehicle accident, a patient has an open reduction of fracture (FX) and splenectomy (SPLE) performed during the same trip to the operating room and both procedure categories are being monitored, complete a *Denominator for Procedure* form for each.



EXCEPTION: If a patient has both a CBGC and CBGB during the same trip to the operating room, report only as a CBGB. Only report as a CBGC if there is only a chest incision. CBGB and CBGC are never reported for the same patient for the same trip to the operating room.

4. **Duration of the procedure when more than one category of NHSN operative procedure is performed through the same incision:** If more than one NHSN operative procedure category is performed through the same incision during the same trip to the operating room, record the combined duration of all procedures, which is the time from procedure/surgery start time to procedure/surgery finish time. For example, if a CBGC and a CARD are performed on a patient during the same trip to the operating room, the time from start time to finish time is reported for both operative procedures.
5. **Duration of Operative procedures if patient has two different NHSN operative procedures performed via separate incisions on the same trip to the OR;** try to determine the correct duration for each separate procedure (if this is documented), otherwise, take the time for both procedures and split it evenly between the two.
6. **Same operative procedure category but different ICD-10-PCS or CPT codes during same trip to the OR:** If procedures of different ICD-10-PCS or CPT codes from the same NHSN operative procedure category are performed through the same incision/laparoscopic sites, record only one procedure for that category. For example, a facility is performing surveillance for CARD procedures. A patient undergoes a replacement of both the mitral and tricuspid valves during the same trip to the operating room. Complete one CARD [Denominator for Procedure](#) form because both procedures are in the same operative procedure category [CARD].
7. **For revision HPRO and KPRO procedures:** If total or partial revision HPRO or KPRO is performed, evaluate if any of the ICD-10-PCS/CM diagnosis or procedure codes (see link below) were coded for that joint in the 90 days prior to and including the index HPRO or KPRO revision. If any of the specified codes is recorded, indicate on the denominator form that the revision was associated with ‘prior infection at index joint’ = YES. Note that the ‘prior infection at index joint’ variable only applies to *revision* HPRO and KPRO. The cases designated ‘prior infection at index joint’ = yes should be validated before the procedure is submitted to NHSN. This validation is necessary to ensure the code is aligned with the index joint revision. The ICD-10-PCS/CM code mapping guidance is found on the NHSN website in the SSI section under “[Supporting Materials](#).”
8. **Same NHSN operative procedure via separate incisions:** For operative procedures that can be performed via separate incisions during same trip to operating room (i.e., AMP, BRST, CEA, FUSN, FX, HER, HPRO, KPRO, LAM, NEPH, OVRY, PVBY, REFUSN), separate [Denominator for Procedure](#) forms are completed. To document the duration of the procedures, indicate the procedure/surgery start time to procedure/surgery finish time



for each procedure separately or, alternatively, take the total time for the procedures and split it evenly between procedures.

Notes:

1. A COLO procedure with a colostomy formation is entered as one COLO procedure.
 2. Laparoscopic hernia repairs are considered one procedure, regardless of the number of hernias that are repaired in that trip to the OR. In most cases there will be only one incision time documented for this procedure. If more than one time is documented, total the durations. Open (i.e., non-laparoscopic) hernia repairs are reported as one procedure for each hernia repaired via a separate incision, (i.e., if two incisions are made to repair two defects), then two procedures will be reported. It is anticipated that separate incision times will be recorded for these procedures. If not, take the total time for both procedures and split it evenly between the two.
9. **More than one operative procedure through same incision within 24 hours:** If a patient goes to the operating room more than once during the same admission and another procedure of the same or different NHSN procedure category is performed through the same incision and the start time of the second procedure is within 24 hours of the finish time of the original operative incision, report only one *Denominator for Procedure* form for the original procedure, combining the durations for both procedures based on the procedure start times and finish times for both procedures. For example, a patient has a CBGB lasting 4 hours. He returns to the OR six hours later for another NHSN operative procedure via the same incision (e.g., CARD). The second operation has duration of 1.5 hours. Record the operative procedure as one CBGB and the duration of operation as 5 hour 30 minutes. If the wound class has changed, report the higher wound class. If the ASA class has changed, report the higher ASA class. Do not report the CARD procedure in your denominator data.
- Note:** When the patient returns to the OR within 24 hours of the end of the first procedure assign the surgical wound closure technique that applies when the patient leaves the OR from the first operative procedure.
10. **Patient expires in the OR:** If a patient expires in the operating room, do not complete a *Denominator for Procedure* form. This operative procedure is excluded from the denominator.
11. **Laparoscopic hysterectomy – HYST or VHYS:** When assigning the correct ICD-10-PCS or CPT hysterectomy procedure codes, a trained coder must determine what structures were detached and how they were detached based on the medical record documentation. The code assignment is based on the surgical technique or approach used for the detachment of those structures, not on the location of where the structures were physically removed from the patient's body.



Data Analyses: The Standardized Infection Ratio (SIR) is calculated by dividing the number of observed infections by the number of predicted (i.e., expected) infections. The number of predicted infections is calculated using SSI probabilities estimated from multivariate logistic regression models constructed from NHSN data during a baseline time period, which represents a standard population’s SSI experience⁴.

There are three SSI SIR models available from NHSN, each briefly described in the table below.

| | |
|--|---|
| All SSI SIR Model | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Includes Superficial, Deep & Organ/Space SSIs • Superficial & Deep incisional SSIs limited to primary incisional SSIs only • Includes SSIs identified on admission, readmission & via post-discharge surveillance |
| Complex A/R SSI Model | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Includes <u>only</u> Deep incisional primary SSIs & Organ/Space SSIs • Includes <u>only</u> SSIs identified on Admission/Readmission to facility where procedure was performed • Includes <u>only</u> inpatient procedures • Used for the HAI Progress Report, published annually by CDC |
| Complex 30-day SSI model (used for CMS IPPS) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Includes only in-plan, inpatient COLO and HYST procedures in adult patients (i.e., ≥ 18 years of age) • Includes only deep incisional primary SSIs and organ/space SSIs with an event date within 30 days of the procedure • Uses only age and ASA to determine risk • Used only for CMS IPPS reporting and for public reporting on Hospital Compare |

While the SSI SIR can be calculated for single procedure categories and for specific surgeons, the measure also allows you to summarize your data across multiple procedure categories while adjusting for differences in the estimated probability of infection among the patients included across the procedure categories. For example, you will be able to obtain one SSI SIR adjusting for all procedures reported. Alternatively, you can obtain one SSI SIR for all colon surgeries (COLO) only within your facility.

Additional Notes about SSI SIRs:

1. **Primary closure:** All of the SSI SIRs that use the 2006-2008 SSI baseline data will include only those procedures that were reported with a primary closure method.³
2. **Infection present at time of surgery (PATOS):** All of the SSI SIRs that use the 2006-2008 SSI baseline will include SSIs that are reported as present at time of surgery.
3. **SIRs based on Procedure Date:** SSIs will be included in the numerator of an SIR based on the date of procedure, not the date of event.
4. **Calculation of the SIR:** The SIR will be calculated only if the number of predicted HAIs (“numExp” in the NHSN application) is ≥ 1 to help enforce a minimum precision criterion.



$$\text{SIR} = \frac{\text{Observed (O) HAIs}}{\text{Expected (E) HAIs}}$$

SSI rates per 100 operative procedures are calculated by dividing the number of SSIs by the number of specific operative procedures and multiplying the results by 100. SSIs will be included in the numerator of a rate based on the date of procedure, not the date of event. Using the advanced analysis feature of the NHSN application, SSI rate calculations can be performed separately for the different types of operative procedures and stratified by the basic risk index.

Descriptive analysis options of numerator and denominator data are available in the NHSN application, such as line listings, frequency tables, and bar and pie charts. SIRs and SSI rates and run charts are also available. Guides on using NHSN analysis features are available from: <http://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/PS-Analysis-resources/reference-guides.html>



APPENDIX 1: SSI specific event types attributed to each NHSN procedure category.

| Procedure code | Specific Event Code |
|--|---|
| AAA - abdominal aortic aneurysm repair | DIP - Deep Incisional Primary CARD - Myocarditis or pericarditis GIT - Gastrointestinal tract IAB - Intraabdominal, not specified elsewhere SIP - Superficial Incisional Primary VASC - Arterial or venous infection |
| AMP - Limb amputation | BONE - Osteomyelitis DIP - Deep Incisional Primary JNT - Joint or bursa SIP - Superficial Incisional Primary |
| APPY - Appendix surgery | DIP - Deep Incisional Primary GIT - Gastrointestinal tract IAB - Intraabdominal, not specified elsewhere SIP - Superficial Incisional Primary |
| AVSD - AV shunt for dialysis | DIP - Deep Incisional Primary SIP - Superficial Incisional Primary VASC - Arterial or venous infection |
| BILI - Bile duct, liver or pancreatic surgery | DIP - Deep Incisional Primary GIT - Gastrointestinal tract IAB - Intraabdominal, not specified elsewhere SIP - Superficial Incisional Primary |
| BRST - Breast surgery | BRST - Breast abscess or mastitis DIP - Deep Incisional Primary DIS - Deep Incisional Secondary SIP - Superficial Incisional Primary SIS - Superficial Incisional Secondary |
| CARD - Cardiac surgery | BONE - Osteomyelitis CARD - Myocarditis or pericarditis DIP - Deep Incisional Primary ENDO - Endocarditis IAB - Intraabdominal, not specified elsewhere LUNG - Other infections of the lower respiratory tract MED - Mediastinitis SIP - Superficial Incisional Primary VASC - Arterial or venous infection |



| Procedure code | Specific Event Code |
|--|--|
| CBGB - Coronary bypass with chest & donor incisions | BONE - Osteomyelitis CARD - Myocarditis or pericarditis DIP - Deep Incisional Primary DIS - Deep Incisional Secondary ENDO - Endocarditis IAB - Intraabdominal, not specified elsewhere LUNG - Other infections of the lower respiratory tract MED - Mediastinitis SIP - Superficial Incisional Primary SIS - Superficial Incisional Secondary VASC - Arterial or venous infection |
| CBGC - Coronary bypass graft with chest incision | BONE - Osteomyelitis CARD - Myocarditis or pericarditis DIP - Deep Incisional Primary ENDO - Endocarditis IAB - Intraabdominal, not specified elsewhere LUNG - Other infections of the lower respiratory tract MED - Mediastinitis SIP - Superficial Incisional Primary VASC - Arterial or venous infection |
| CEA - Carotid endarterectomy | DIP - Deep Incisional Primary DIS - Deep Incisional Secondary SIS - Superficial Incisional Secondary SIP - Superficial Incisional Primary VASC - Arterial or venous infection |
| CHOL - Gallbladder surgery | DIP - Deep Incisional Primary GIT - Gastrointestinal tract IAB - Intraabdominal, not specified elsewhere SIP - Superficial Incisional Primary |
| COLO - Colon surgery | DIP - Deep Incisional Primary GIT - Gastrointestinal tract IAB - Intraabdominal, not specified elsewhere SIP - Superficial Incisional Primary OREP - Other infection of the male or female reproductive tract USI - Urinary System Infection |
| CRAN - Craniotomy | BONE - Osteomyelitis DIP - Deep Incisional Primary IC - Intracranial infection MEN - Meningitis or ventriculitis SINU - Sinusitis SIP - Superficial Incisional Primary |



| Procedure code | Specific Event Code |
|--|--|
| CSEC - Cesarean section | DIP - Deep Incisional Primary EMET - Endometritis GIT - Gastrointestinal tract IAB - Intraabdominal, not specified elsewhere OREP - Other infection of the male or female reproductive tract SIP - Superficial Incisional Primary USI - Urinary System Infection |
| FUSN - Spinal fusion | BONE - Osteomyelitis DIP - Deep Incisional Primary DIS - Deep Incisional Secondary DISC - Disc space infection IAB - Intraabdominal, not specified elsewhere IC - Intracranial infection LUNG - Other infections of the lower respiratory tract MEN - Meningitis or ventriculitis SA - Spinal abscess without meningitis SIP - Superficial Incisional Primary SIS - Superficial Incisional Secondary |
| FX - Open reduction of fracture | BONE - Osteomyelitis DIP - Deep Incisional Primary JNT - Joint or bursa SIP - Superficial Incisional Primary |
| GAST - Gastric surgery | DIP - Deep Incisional Primary GIT - Gastrointestinal tract IAB - Intraabdominal, not specified elsewhere LUNG - Other infections of the lower respiratory tract SIP - Superficial Incisional Primary |
| HER - Herniorrhaphy | DIP - Deep Incisional Primary IAB - Intraabdominal, not specified elsewhere SIP - Superficial Incisional Primary |
| HPRO - Hip prosthesis | BONE - Osteomyelitis DIP - Deep Incisional Primary PJI - Prosthetic joint infection SIP - Superficial Incisional Primary |



| Procedure code | Specific Event Code |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| HTP - Heart transplant | BONE - Osteomyelitis CARD - Myocarditis or pericarditis DIP - Deep Incisional Primary ENDO - Endocarditis IAB - Intraabdominal, not specified elsewhere LUNG - Other infections of the lower respiratory tract MED - Mediastinitis SIP - Superficial Incisional Primary VASC - Arterial or venous infection |
| HYST - Abdominal hysterectomy | DIP - Deep Incisional Primary IAB - Intraabdominal, not specified elsewhere OREP - Other infection of the male or female reproductive tract SIP - Superficial Incisional Primary VCUF - Vaginal cuff infection |
| KPRO - Knee prosthesis | BONE - Osteomyelitis DIP - Deep Incisional Primary SIP - Superficial Incisional Primary PJI - Prosthetic joint infection |
| KTP - Kidney transplant | DIP - Deep Incisional Primary IAB - Intraabdominal, not specified elsewhere OREP - Other infection of the male or female reproductive tract SIP - Superficial Incisional Primary USI - Urinary System Infection VASC - Arterial or venous infection |
| LAM - Laminectomy | BONE - Osteomyelitis DIP - Deep Incisional Primary DISC - Disc space infection IAB - Intraabdominal, not specified elsewhere IC - Intracranial infection MEN - Meningitis or ventriculitis SA - Spinal abscess without meningitis SIP - Superficial Incisional Primary |
| LTP - Liver transplant | DIP - Deep Incisional Primary GIT - Gastrointestinal tract IAB - Intraabdominal, not specified elsewhere HEP - Hepatitis SIP - Superficial Incisional Primary VASC - Arterial or venous infection |



| Procedure code | Specific Event Code |
|--|--|
| NECK - Neck surgery | DIP - Deep Incisional Primary EAR - Ear, mastoid infection ORAL - Oral cavity infection (mouth, tongue, or gums) SIP - Superficial Incisional Primary UR - Upper respiratory tract infection, pharyngitis, laryngitis, epiglottitis |
| NEPH - Kidney surgery | DIP - Deep Incisional Primary IAB - Intraabdominal, not specified elsewhere OREP - Other infection of the male or female reproductive tract SIP - Superficial Incisional Primary USI - Urinary System Infection |
| OVRY - Ovarian surgery | DIP - Deep Incisional Primary IAB - Intraabdominal, not specified elsewhere OREP - Other infection of the male or female reproductive tract SIP - Superficial Incisional Primary USI - Urinary System Infection |
| PACE - Pacemaker surgery | CARD - Myocarditis or pericarditis DIP - Deep Incisional Primary ENDO - Endocarditis IAB - Intraabdominal, not specified elsewhere SIP - Superficial Incisional Primary VASC - Arterial or venous infection |
| PRST - Prostate surgery | DIP - Deep Incisional Primary IAB - Intraabdominal, not specified elsewhere OREP - Other infection of the male or female reproductive tract SIP - Superficial Incisional Primary USI - Urinary System Infection |
| PVBY - Peripheral vascular bypass surgery | DIP - Deep Incisional Primary DIS - Deep Incisional Secondary SIP - Superficial Incisional Primary SIS - Superficial Incisional Secondary VASC - Arterial or venous infection |
| REC - Rectal surgery | DIP - Deep Incisional Primary DIS - Deep Incisional Secondary GIT - Gastrointestinal tract IAB - Intraabdominal, not specified elsewhere OREP - Other infection of the male or female reproductive tract SIP - Superficial Incisional Primary SIS - Superficial Incisional Secondary USI - Urinary System Infection |



| Procedure code | Specific Event Code |
|--|---|
| SB - Small bowel surgery | DIP - Deep Incisional Primary GIT - Gastrointestinal tract IAB - Intraabdominal, not specified elsewhere OREP - Other infection of the male or female reproductive tract SIP - Superficial Incisional Primary USI - Urinary System Infection |
| SPLE - Spleen surgery | DIP - Deep Incisional Primary IAB - Intraabdominal, not specified elsewhere SIP - Superficial Incisional Primary |
| THOR - Thoracic surgery | BONE - Osteomyelitis BRST - Breast abscess or mastitis DIP - Deep Incisional Primary IAB - Intraabdominal, not specified elsewhere LUNG - Other infections of the lower respiratory tract SIP - Superficial Incisional Primary |
| THYR - Thyroid and/or parathyroid surgery | DIP - Deep Incisional Primary EAR - Ear, mastoid infection GIT - Gastrointestinal tract SIP - Superficial Incisional Primary UR - Upper respiratory tract infection, pharyngitis, laryngitis, epiglottitis |
| VHYS - Vaginal hysterectomy | DIP - Deep Incisional Primary IAB - Intraabdominal, not specified elsewhere OREP - Other infection of the male or female reproductive tract SIP - Superficial Incisional Primary USI - Urinary System Infection VCUF - Vaginal cuff infection |
| VSHN - Ventricular shunt | BONE - Osteomyelitis DIP - Deep Incisional Primary DIS - Deep Incisional Secondary IAB - Intraabdominal, not specified elsewhere IC - Intracranial infection LUNG - Other infections of the lower respiratory tract MEN - Meningitis or ventriculitis SA - Spinal abscess without meningitis SIP - Superficial Incisional Primary SIS - Superficial Incisional Secondary |



| Procedure code | Specific Event Code |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| XLAP - Exploratory laparotomy | DIP - Deep Incisional Primary EMET - Endometritis GIT - Gastrointestinal tract IAB - Intraabdominal, not specified elsewhere OREP - Other infection of the male or female reproductive tract SIP - Superficial Incisional Primary USI - Urinary System Infection |



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