

Fast Facts

Arizona MRSA Improvement Project Learning Session 2

Learning Session 2 of HSAG's Arizona MRSA Improvement Project was held at the Arizona Cancer Center on May 19, 2009. Materials from the Learning Session will be available after May 26 at http://www.hsag.com/projects/safety_hospitals/MRSA_LS2.asp. Below are meeting highlights and links to resources.

Meeting Objectives:

- Discuss data entry through the sharing of case studies.
- Determine if participants would like to develop a state-wide validation process.
- Discuss interventions designed to reduce hospital-acquired central-line infections.

Kathy McCasland, Kevin Waldrop, and Monica Fuentes presented case studies as learning experiences for the group. During the discussion, areas for improvement were identified. These included:

- The need for abstractors to follow the directions provided by the CDC. These directions may not appear to apply to the case, but the abstractor should be aware that modifying the directions may result in data results that are not comparable.
- The CDC has provided multiple answers to the same question. Participants suggest that the QIO negotiate with the CDC to have only one person answer questions and that a database of FAQs be developed.
- Physician documentation impacts abstraction and, ultimately, the information entered into the data module.
- Incorrect coding may also impact abstraction and the results.

Alfonso Torress-Cook, DrPH, Hospital Epidemiologist, Pacific Hospital of Long Beach, presented information on *Implementing a Central-Line Bundle*. Strategies he discussed—in addition to elements of the IHI bundle—included the need to transform the environment. Dr. Cook discussed the key role of leadership in reducing the incidence of MRSA. He cited the need for leadership to:

- Be supportive of changes.
- Set the standard: "This is how we will practice."
- Provide needed resources.
- Share data as a strategy to motivate change.

Additional information on this and related infection control topics is available at Dr. Torress-Cook's [Web site](#).

MRSA Learning Session 2 Follow-Up Actions

Participants discussed ways and means to ensure that the Learning Sessions are useful to participants. At the end of the discussion these conclusions were reached:

- The group will meet one more time this year, in mid-to-late September. During that meeting they will determine the date for the first meeting of 2010.
- Attendees will be asked to assist in the development of agenda items.
- Evaluations indicated that sharing information via case studies was useful to the group.