

Infectious Disease- Healthcare Associated Infections

Assignment Description

The CSTE Fellow would be assigned to the Surveillance for Healthcare-Associated and Resistant Pathogens (SHARP) Unit. The Fellow will be responsible for data analysis support to the MDCH SHARP National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) Surveillance Initiative, the methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*/ *Clostridium difficile* Infection (MRSA/CDI) Prevention, and carbapenem-resistant *Enterobacteriaceae* (CRE) Surveillance and Prevention Initiatives.

Day-to-Day Activities

Daily activities for the MDCH SHARP CSTE HAI Fellow will include data entry and analysis, email and phone communication with participating facilities to provide technical support, contribution to Initiative monthly reports, Unit Newsletters, and other publications and resources. The Fellow will participate in Prevention Initiative calls, HAI Prevention Advisory Group meetings/calls, and Unit/Section/Division meetings as they occur.

Potential Projects

The CSTE HAI Fellow assigned to MDCH SHARP will have the opportunity to pursue HAI-related projects of interest to them. The Fellow will be granted access to NHSN Surveillance Initiative data, as well as databases for both the MRSA/CDI Prevention and CRE Surveillance and Prevention Initiatives. Also available is the web-based communicable disease reporting system, the Michigan Disease Surveillance System (MDSS), as well as the Michigan Inpatient Database (MIDB).

The NHSN Surveillance Initiative data currently includes 83 MI facilities which voluntarily share their HAI reports on central line-associated bloodstream infection (CLABSI), catheter-associated bloodstream infection (CAUTI), ventilator-associated event (VAE), MRSA bacteremia and CDI Laboratory-identified (LabID) events, surgical site infection (SSI), and Healthcare Personnel Influenza Vaccination Summary data. The NHSN Surveillance Initiative generates quarterly aggregate reports, as well as semi-annual and annual aggregate and facility-specific reports. Should resources become available, there is an existing plan for statewide validation of NHSN data that will be prioritized as a Fellow responsibility.

The MRSA/CDI Prevention Initiative currently includes 13 acute care and 12 skilled nursing facilities which submit monthly MRSA and CDI LabID event (acute care) and LabID event-like (skilled nursing) data. The CRE Surveillance and Prevention Initiative currently includes 17 acute care and 4 long-term acute care facilities which all submit monthly reports of CRE infections. Facilities participating in each of these Initiatives are provided monthly reports demonstrating facility progress compared to all sites.

The CSTE HAI Fellow surveillance evaluation could include validation of data on a single NHSN Infection type, or comparison of NHSN and Prevention Initiative data. Larger analytic projects might involve the linking of available NHSN, Prevention Initiative, MDSS, MIDB, and vital records data to evaluate HAI costs and impacts over time. The Fellow will have the opportunity to be integrally involved in the enrollment of skilled nursing facilities into the MDCH SHARP NHSN Surveillance and MRSA/CDI

Prevention Initiatives, as well as to assist with enrollment of additional acute care facilities into all three MDCH SHARP Initiatives, including the development of enrollment and training materials. Additionally, the Fellow will participate in and/or lead any HAI-related outbreak investigations which occur.

Preparedness Role

All staff are offered Incident Command Training and are expected to participate in the ICS of the agency in the event of a public health emergency.

Assignment Location: Michigan Department of Community Health
Lansing, MI

Primary Mentor: Jennie Finks, DVM, MVPH
HAI Coordinator and SHARP Unit Manager

Secondary Mentor: James Collins, MPH, RS
Division Director