



Dear Dr. McLay:

Thank you for providing comments for the Federal Register Notice for the AHRQ Safety Program for HAI Prevention. We are appreciative of the time taken to compile these helpful suggestions.

We are pleased to share that we had already planned to use clinical outcomes that align with the CDC's National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) to ensure the use of the most accurate and standardized healthcare-associated infection data.

Additionally, we appreciate your offer to collaborate with AHRQ, our contractor, NORC, and its partner Johns Hopkins Medicine on this program. Our implementation projects are more effective when they are informed by the expertise and ideas from other groups. We have an Infection Preventionist on the team who will be providing expert guidance on the toolkits and the project. In addition, NORC and JHU will reach out to you to discuss how and when APIC can support this important work. We look forward to engaging with APIC to advance the shared goal of reducing HAIs and improving patient safety nationwide.

Sincerely,

Susan Henderson, MD, MPH  
Medical Officer, Division of Healthcare-associated Infections  
Center for Quality Improvement and Patient Safety  
Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality