

NATIONAL DATA QUALITY GUIDELINES FOR SURVEILLANCE OF ARO & HAI

ARO = Antimicrobial Resistant Organisms HAI = Healthcare-associated Infections

Outcome surveillance in IPAC typically includes ARO and HAI. IPAC staff who perform surveillance may include infection control professionals, epidemiologists or analysts. Data cleaning is a crucial step prior to reporting results from IPAC programs as data may contain errors, inconsistencies, and missing values. Data cleaning identifies and corrects these issues by improving the accuracy of the data, thus limiting bias that may lead to incorrect conclusions.

Data quality includes different domains, but those of **completeness**, **accuracy** and **timeliness** are the most important considerations. Data are **complete** when all cases are included, and all variables are entered. Data are **accurate** when cases reflect the protocol case definition, and when data classification decisions are correct. Data are **timely** when they are available and disseminated when the results are required.



COMPLETENESS

Complete all fields, including

- ☒ Patient Name,
- ☒ Healthcare Identification Number



ACCURACY

Check for data correctness, including

- ☒ Date fields, free text fields
- ☒ Protocol definitions are met
- ☒ Infection definitions are met
- ☒ Adverse events fall within protocol timeframes



TIMELINESS

- ☒ Set timelines for reporting frequency
- ☒ Set data entry and data cleaning frequencies based on reporting times

