

Healthcare Associated Clostridium Difficile Infection (CDI) Rate

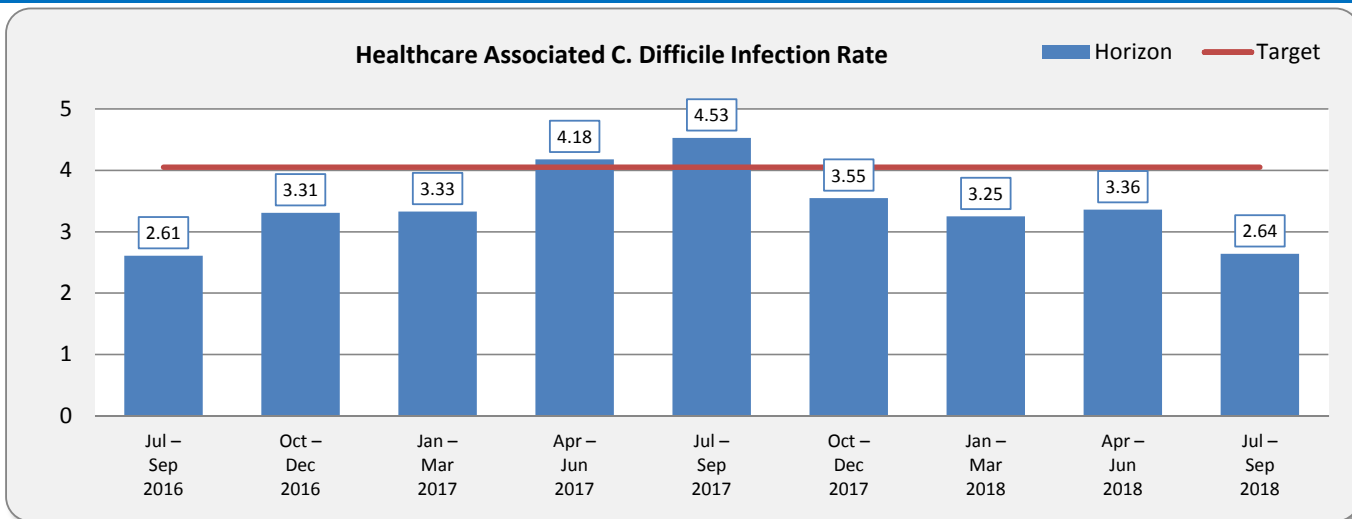
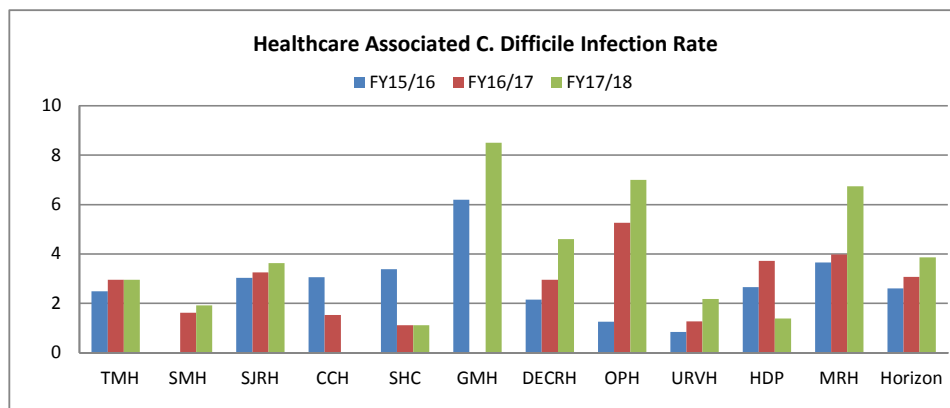
Fiscal Year 2018/2019, Q2

Report date: January 30, 2019

Clostridium difficile (C. difficile) is a bacterium that causes mild to severe diarrhea and intestinal conditions. It can be found in both community and hospital settings. Certain antibiotics used in high doses or over a prolonged period of time can destroy a person's normal bacteria found in the bowel, causing C. difficile bacteria to grow and cause diarrhea. However, some people can have C. difficile bacteria present in their bowel and not show symptoms. Those at higher risk include the elderly, people with severe underlying illness, and people taking certain antibiotics or cancer chemotherapy. It is easily spread by contact with unwashed hands and surfaces. People can unknowingly transmit the bacteria during routine activities and procedures between patients.

Definition: Total # of newly identified Healthcare Associated CDI cases per 10,000 patient days. Healthcare Associated is a term relating to infections that are acquired during the delivery of healthcare. This excludes nursing homes and community acquired cases.

2018/19 Target: 4.05



Analysis: The Healthcare Associated CDI overall rate at Horizon remains better than target; decreasing from Quarter 1 in Quarter 2. All but two facilities had decreasing rates, six out of eleven had a rate of 0.00.

Infection Prevention and Control (IP&C) continues to monitor all cases of CDI closely. Each case is reviewed and in many cases common risk factors have been identified which include age, comorbidities and antibiotic use. IP&C continues to work with frontline healthcare workers reviewing; IP&C practices related to isolation precautions, proper hand hygiene and environmental cleaning. The local Area Antimicrobial Stewardship Committees continue to work to reduce inappropriate antimicrobial use, improve patient outcomes and reduce patient safety incidents.