

For immediate release

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Hawaii Hospitals Outshine National Peers

This week, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) released the National and State Healthcare Associated Infections Progress Report. Hawaii hospitals fared extremely well, showing results ranging from 36% to 100% better than the national baseline.

In Hawaii hospitals:

- Central line-associated bloodstream infections (CLABSI) rates are **75% lower** compared with a national baseline.
- Catheter-associated urinary tract infections (CAUTI) rates are **38% lower** compared with a national baseline.
- Abdominal hysterectomy surgical site infections (SSIs) rates are **100% lower** compared with a national baseline.
- Hospital-onset *Clostridium difficile* infections (*C. difficile*) rates are **36% lower** compared with a national baseline.
- Hospital-onset methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) bacteremia (bloodstream infections) rates are **43% lower** compared with a national baseline.

“This shows that the efforts by quality professionals in the hospitals have made a huge impact on patient safety and patient health,” said George Greene, Esq., President and CEO of Healthcare Association of Hawaii. “Hawaii hospitals should really be proud of how well they excel in this area.”

Healthcare-associated infections (HAIs) are infections patients can get while receiving medical treatment in a healthcare facility. HAIs are a major, yet often preventable, threat to patient safety. The National and State Healthcare-Associated Infections Progress Report expands and provides an update on previous reports detailing progress toward the ultimate goal of eliminating HAIs.

The Hawaii excerpt and the full CDC report are available here: <http://www.cdc.gov/HAI/progress-report/index.html> .

Hawaii’s success is the result of an intense focus on quality and patient safety. The Hawaii Affinity Team led by the Healthcare Association of Hawaii just completed a three-year collaboration with Hawaii hospitals, Premier, the State Office of Primary Care and Rural Health, Hawaii State Department of Health (HDOH), and Mountain-Pacific Quality Health. Hawaii Health Information Corporation contributed data and analytics significant to the project’s results. The rigorous initiative focused on reducing avoidable

hospital readmissions and harms, including the HAIs. Hospitals and HAH also participate in the HAI Advisory Committee run by HDOH.

HDOH publishes an annual report that contains hospital-specific HAI data. The HAIs in Hawaii 2013 report is available here: <http://health.hawaii.gov/docd/dib/healthcare-associated-infections-hais/>.

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About HAH:

The Healthcare Association of Hawaii's 160 member organizations include all of the acute care hospitals in Hawaii, all of the skilled nursing facilities, all the Medicare-certified home health agencies, all hospices, all assisted living facilities, durable medical equipment suppliers and home infusion/pharmacies. Members represent healthcare providers from throughout the continuum including case management, air and ground ambulance, blood bank, dialysis, and more.

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