



Clostridium difficile Infection Surveillance Updates

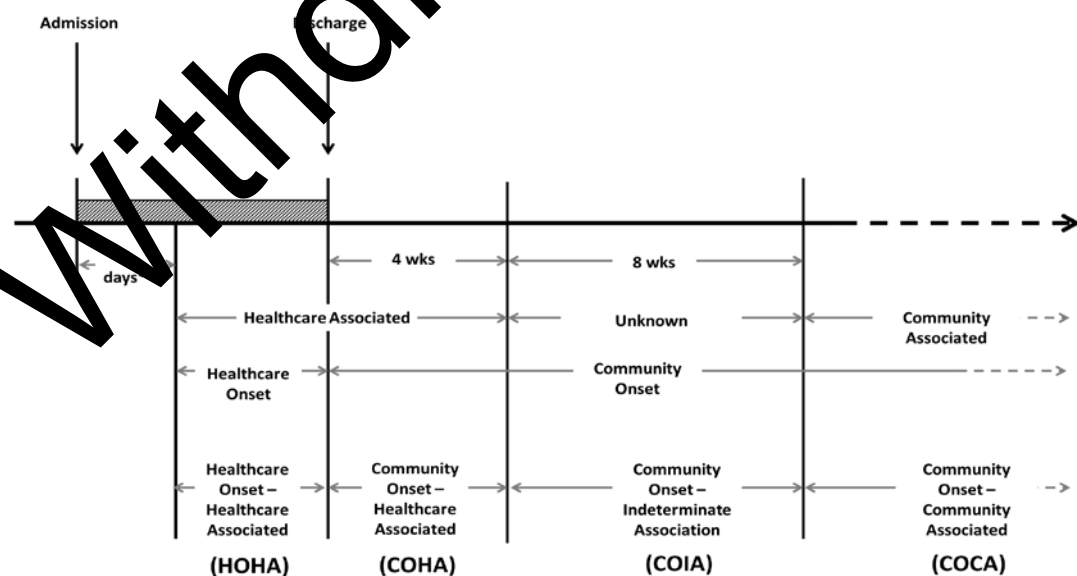
From April 2017 *Clostridium difficile* infection (CDI) data collection on the HCAI Data Capture System (HCAI DCS) will include additional data items to facilitate the collection of information relating to prior admissions to the same hospital.

These additional data items will provide us with the necessary data to align English CDI surveillance with other internationally recognised definitions (ESDC, CDC). It will be mandatory to provide this information for every CDI case entered on the HCAI DCS.

Categorisation of cases

In conjunction with the time of onset information that is already available this additional information will allow the categorisation of non-hospital onset cases based upon the timing of prior admissions to the reporting trust. Figure 1 provides details of how this information will be used to categorise cases.

Figure 1: Categorisation of HCAI DCS cases according to timing of detection and prior admission to the reporting trust



*CDI detected within the first 2 days of admission (where date of admission is day 1) are considered community onset cases and categorised further based upon the patient's last discharge from a health facility as per figure 2

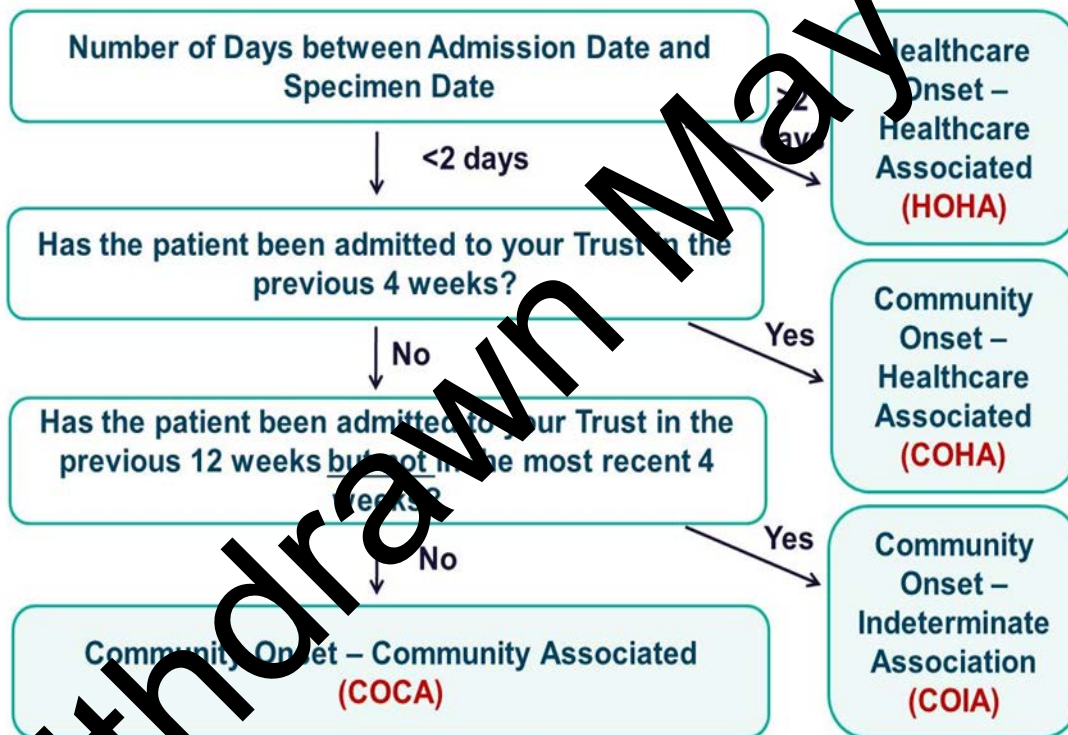
HCAI DCS data flow

Information will be collected via additional questions on the HCAI DCS to ascertain if/when the patient was last admitted to the reporting NHS trust. This will be undertaken by a series of mandatory yes/no questions.

During record entry users will be prompted to indicate whether the patient has previously been admitted to the reporting trust (yes/no).

- a response of 'yes' will instigate the data flow in figure 2
- a response of 'no' will result in non-trust apportioned (non-hospital onset) cases being assigned to the COCA category

Figure 2: 'Time to Onset' and Prior Healthcare Interaction Data/Question flow



NE Calculation of the number of days between admission date and specimen date will be undertaken automatically. Users will be responsible for providing the responses to the Yes/No questions in order to ascertain prior healthcare exposure.

A response of 'don't know' will result in the case being assigned to the COHA category.

It is important to note that although it is mandatory to report this information on the HCAI DCS from April 2017 this does not constitute a formal change to the existing CDI algorithm.

Formal reporting and associated performance management will continue to be undertaken on the basis of the existing CDI algorithm. We will use the new prior admission data collected via the HCAI DCS to review how data looks according to the revised categorisations. We will produce indicative outputs and feed this information back to the NHS for review. This data/information will then be used to inform future developments/changes to the CDI algorithm over time.

Withdrawn May 2024

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