

Acute Care Hospitals: Troubleshooting your CLABSI and CAUTI SIRs

We suggest that you review the [General Tips for NHSN Analysis](#) document before reviewing this troubleshooting guide any further. This guide assumes recent dataset generation and no 'Alerts' on the home screen.

➤ **CLABSI and CAUTI SIR general information:**

- CLABSI baseline time period: 2015
- CAUTI baseline time period: 2015

➤ **Problem #1: My quarterly SIR for CMS IPPS shows fewer CLABSI (or CAUTI) events and/or fewer device days than I have entered in NHSN.**

Solution:

- **Step 1:** Check your monthly reporting plans for all 3 months of the quarter. Be sure that all applicable ICU and select ward locations are included in your monthly reporting plans for CLABSI (or CAUTI) surveillance.
- **Step 2:** Be sure that you have entered denominator data, both patient days and central line (or urinary catheter) days, for all ICU and select ward locations for all 3 months of the quarter. If no events were entered for any month, the appropriate 'No Events' box should be checked.
- **Step 3:** Run a line list of all infection events (in the Advanced folder) for the time period and infection of interest. Review specific details of each event to determine possible reasons for exclusion.
 - If central line= "No" on any BSI event, the event is not considered a CLABSI and will be excluded from the SIR. If mbi_lcbi = "Y", then the event is excluded from the CLABSI SIR. MBI-LCBIs have their own SIR report.
 - If urinary catheter = "NEITHER" on any UTI event, the event is not considered a CAUTI and will be excluded from the SIR.
 - Note that the "centralLine", "mbi_lcbi", and the "UrinaryCath" variables will need to be manually added to the line lists through the Modify option.
 - The CLABSI and CAUTI SIR output for CMS IPPS only includes:
 - CLABSI events from adult, pediatric, and neonatal ICUs
 - CAUTI events from adult and pediatric ICUs
 - For both CLABSI and CAUTI, starting in 2015:
 - Medical ward, medical/surgical ward, surgical ward, pediatric medical ward, pediatric medical/surgical ward, and pediatric surgical ward

CMS IPPS Checklist for CLABSI SIR: <http://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/PDFs/CMS/Helpful-Tips-for-CLABSI-Reporting.pdf>

CMS IPPS Checklist for CAUTI SIR: <http://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/PDFs/CMS/Helpful-Tips-for-CAUTI-Reporting.pdf>

How to Modify a Report: <https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/pdfs/ps-analysis-resources/howtomodifyreport.pdf>