



## California Department of Public Health Healthcare- Associated Infections (HAI) Program

### Infection Preventionist Training for Skilled Nursing Facilities Online Course

Please [register via Learning Stream](#)

([reg.learningstream.com/view/view\\_month.aspx?as=76&wp=952&aid=HAIP](http://reg.learningstream.com/view/view_month.aspx?as=76&wp=952&aid=HAIP))

#### Course Description:

This 18 hour self-paced course is designed for busy healthcare professionals in order that they can work around their work and home life schedules. This course can be completed in a manner to fit the student's schedule, as long as it is completed within the deadline. The modules are not required to be completed all at one time.

The course provides practical guidance for implementing an infection prevention program in a skilled nursing facility (SNF) using evidence-based guidelines for preventing serious healthcare-associated infections (HAIs) including central line associated bloodstream infections (CLABSI), *Clostridioides difficile* infection (CDI), and catheter-associated urinary tract infections (CAUTI). Students will learn how to measure staff adherence to infection prevention care practices, to educate staff to follow infection prevention practices, and to provide feedback based on adherence monitoring results. Students will also learn to use their facility HAI data to design effective infection prevention strategies, to conduct outbreak investigations, and to implement essential activities to prevent employee workplace infections.

If after completing one or more modules, and the student has made no additional progress in completing the course within the posted deadline, the student will be contacted to request an extension or required to restart the entire course from the beginning. **No partial CEU credit will be given for modules completed if the entire course requirements were not successfully fulfilled.**

*There is no cost to attend this course. Preregistration is required. CEUs will be granted to those who complete the entire courses' modules and pass each module post-test.*

#### Suggested Audience:

Individuals responsible for infection prevention and control program administration in Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNF). This may include individuals who have completed courses in biology, laboratory technology, licensed vocational or registered nursing, public health, or a related field.

#### Primary Objectives:

At the completion of this course, the participant will be able to:

- Discuss the most important care practices for preventing CLABSI, CDI, HAI, pneumonia, CAUTI, and COVID-19
- List evidence-based sources for infection prevention recommendations
- Discuss principles of infection surveillance and other core disciplines such as microbiology, cleaning/sterilization/disinfection, care of the environment, antibiotic stewardship, and employee health
- Describe how to analyze and use HAI data to focus infection prevention activities
- Describe national, state, and local regulatory bodies that oversee infection prevention and HAI public reporting

See following pages for comprehensive list of course objectives

**California Department of Public Health/HAI Program approved by the California Board of Registered Nursing, Provider # 17280, for 18 contact hours**



**California Department of Public Health Healthcare-  
Associated Infections (HAI) Program**

**Infection Preventionist Training for Skilled Nursing Facilities Online Course  
Objectives by Module Session**

**1. SNF IP Course Overview with an Introduction to Implicit Bias (45 mins)**

- Define the term “implicit bias”
- Discuss how implicit bias affects a real-world situation by completing a case study
- Describe how implicit bias affects infection prevention programs

**2. The Role of the Infection Preventionist and Core IP Practices (30 mins)**

- Describe the role of infection preventionists (IP) in health care
- Discuss relationships important to success in performing the IP roles
- Review how a care practice becomes an infection prevention recommendation
- Describe the core infection prevention practices that must be used in all care settings, all the time

**3. Standard and Transmission-based Precautions (1 hour 45 mins)**

- Describe the 6 elements of Standard precautions
- Review adherence monitoring results and tools for select Standard precautions care practices
- Describe Transmission-based (isolation) precautions
- Discuss Enhanced Standard precautions used in California skilled nursing facilities
- Review adherence monitoring results and tools for Transmission-based precautions care practices

**4. Enhanced Standard Precautions for Skilled Nursing Facilities (90 mins)**

- Discuss why the guidance document Enhanced Standard Precautions for SNF, 2022 was updated
- Describe the 6 moments of Enhanced Standard precautions for SNF
- Define the who, what, when, where, and how of Enhanced Standard precautions in SNF
- Review how implementing Enhanced Standard Precautions (ESP) can prevent multidrug-resistant organism (MDRO) transmission in skilled nursing facilities (SNFs)
- Discuss the steps for applying Enhanced Standard precautions
- Describe how to monitor adherence to ESP practices

**5. Cleaning, Disinfection, and Reprocessing Reusable Equipment (60 mins)**

- Describe the role of the environment in transmitting infections
- Discuss strategies to ensure effectiveness of cleaning and disinfection
- Demonstrate use of adherence monitoring tools and feedback
- List areas where infection prevention environmental assessments should be performed
- Identify criteria for low, intermediate, and high-level disinfection and the Spaulding classification system
- Provide examples of non-critical, semi-critical, and critical devices

**6. Introduction to Microbiology (40 mins)**

- Describe role of the laboratory in infection prevention
- Describe basic laboratory tests for infectious pathogens
- Discuss common Healthcare Associated Infection (HAI) pathogens

**7. Antimicrobial Resistance, Antimicrobial Stewardship, and Infection Prevention (1 hour 15 mins)**

- Discuss the problem of antimicrobial resistance
- Summarize background information on novel and emerging multidrug-resistant organisms (MDRO) in California
- Understand principles of MDRO containment
- Provide guidance to prevent MDRO transmission within a healthcare facility

**8. *Clostridioides difficile* Infection Prevention (35 mins)**

- Describe the cause and epidemiology of *Clostridioides difficile* infection (CDI)
- Review evidence-based CDI prevention strategies
- Describe importance of adherence monitoring and feedback

**9. Central Line Associated Bloodstream Infection, Urinary Tract Infection, and Pneumonia Prevention Including COVID-19 (1 hour 30 mins)**

- Describe the etiology and epidemiology of central line associated bloodstream infections (CLABSI)
- Identify patients at risk for CLABSI
- Review evidence-based CLABSI prevention care practices
- Discuss adherence monitoring and feedback
- Describe healthcare-associated urinary tract infections (UTI)
- Review evidence-based clinical practices shown to prevent catheter-associated urinary tract infections (CAUTI)
- Discuss strategies to reduce CAUTI incidence rates
- Discuss adherence monitoring and feedback
- Describe the problem of healthcare-associated pneumonia in acute care facilities
- List evidence-based pneumonia prevention care practices
- Review healthcare-associated *Legionella* prevention
- Review influenza and COVID-19 prevention strategies
- Describe adherence monitoring of prevention practices

**10. Outbreaks and Unusual Infection Occurrences (includes Foodborne Illnesses) (1 hour 10 mins)**

- Define outbreaks and unusual disease occurrences
- Describe reporting requirements to public health
- Provide examples of outbreaks
- Review the steps in an outbreak investigation

**11. Other Infections and SNF Specialty Area Infection Prevention Considerations (includes scabies and lice) (45 mins)**

- Review activities necessary for preventing transmission of respiratory viruses in specialty areas like pediatric subacute units
- Review epidemiology, risk factors, and treatment of infections that can occur in specialty areas
- Discuss challenges and recommendations for infection prevention in areas of skilled nursing facilities including subacute units
- Describe how hemodialysis in skilled nursing facilities can increase risk of infection to residents

## **12. Infection Surveillance in Skilled Nursing Facilities (45 mins)**

- Discuss basic principles of epidemiology and how they apply to healthcare-associated infection (HAI) surveillance
- Review recommended surveillance practices
- Describe surveillance outcome and process measures for infection prevention
- Discuss NHSN HAI event reporting, data analysis and feedback to staff

## **13. Introduction to NHSN for Skilled Nursing Facilities (20 mins)**

- Describe National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) use in Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNF)
- Access NHSN resources for SNF
- Review NHSN reports available for SNF

## **14. Performing a Facility Risk Assessment and Writing an IPC Plan and Adult Learning Principles (1 hour 30 mins)**

- Describe the purpose of an infection prevention and control (IPC) plan
- Discuss the importance of incorporating the results of an infection control risk assessment into your IPC Plan
- List three modifications your IPC Plan should include to accommodate risks present in your resident population

## **15. Preventing Employee Infections (45 mins)**

- Review essential activities of Employee Health programs
- Describe communicable disease screening and immunization guidance
- Describe prevention of bloodborne and airborne diseases
- Review priorities in post exposure management

## **16. State and Federal Regulatory Requirements (45 mins)**

- Describe national, state, and local regulatory bodies that oversee infection prevention and HAI public reporting
- Describe policy decisions and requirements for public reporting of HAI
- Review current infection control-related regulations

## **17. Communications for Skilled Nursing Facilities (30 mins)**

- Describe how to develop and communicate infection prevention plans and findings to facility leaders and staff
- Discuss effective processes for internal facility communication
- Review a communication tool for sharing information with health care providers
- Illustrate how to share infection status information with external facility partners

## **18. Resources for Skilled Nursing Facility Infection Preventionist (30 mins)**

- Review infection prevention resource websites for skilled nursing facilities (SNF)
- Discuss suggested websites and textbooks as references for the new Infection Preventionist (IP)
- Describe various professional organizations that add value and resources for the SNF IP

## **19. Putting it all Together (30 mins)**

- Identify infection prevention and control (IP &C) issues in each case study
- List IP &C principles to answer scenario questions
- Discuss rationale for IP&C choices in each scenario