Program FAQ

Who is eligible to participate?
Hospitals with a positive Cumulative Attributable Difference (CAD) (i.e., >0) in CDI between October 2017 and September 2018, and which receive an invitation, are eligible to participate. This CAD metric identifies the number of infections a unit needs to prevent to reach a reduction goal (TAP report).

Why should I participate?
Your hospital will learn how to overcome challenges in CDI prevention by gaining access to nationally recognized health care experts and a network of other hospitals focused on the same goals. Using data for action, this program will assess your hospital’s unique challenges using the CDC Targeted Assessment for Prevention (TAP Strategy) and provide customized resources based on your unique needs. The CDC Strategies to Prevent Clostridioides difficile Infection in acute care facilities will guide you in implementing evidence-based practices that improve patient safety. This program also aligns with CDI prevention work in the Hospital Improvement Innovation Networks (HIIN). By participating, you will join the crucial effort to achieve the U.S. Health and Human Services 2020 CDI reduction goals.

What are the cost and time commitments?
There is no charge to participate in this 12-month program, which is funded and guided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), with collaboration from the American Hospital Association (AHA). The program begins in Fall 2019, with an estimated time commitment of 5% FTE, which can be distributed among a multi-disciplinary team.

Who should be involved in this program?
Preventing CDI is a team effort. We encourage hospitals to build a multidisciplinary team for this program including key team members from infection prevention, epidemiology, environmental services, quality, laboratory services, antimicrobial stewardship, pharmacy, and senior leadership.

What are the participation requirements?
Enrolled hospitals are expected to participate for the entire 12 month duration. Participation requirements include:
- Join the program’s NHSN Group to track data progress.
- Invitation to attend an in-person kickoff meeting in Fall 2019 (travel will be reimbursed for one individual per registered hospital).
- Attend onboarding and monthly collaborative webinars.
- Complete a baseline assessment to measure CDI prevention practices, and develop an action plan based on gaps identified in the assessment (hospitals will receive technical support and guidance throughout the program).
- Engage in coaching opportunities (phone, potential site visit, etc.) with key contacts and subject matter experts.

What resources will be offered?
This program will be tailored to your hospital’s specific improvement opportunities, aligning with any ongoing prevention efforts. All educational offerings are virtual, including onboarding webinars and monthly collaborative webinars. Your hospital will network with other hospitals to share best practices and receive coaching support and CDC expert guidance for your unique challenges. Your hospital will also be invited to attend an in-person kickoff meeting to network with other participating hospitals and lay the foundation for this work.

Who can I contact to register for this program?
Please contact cdifference@aha.org to learn more information.