NACCHO Healthcare Infection Prevention and Control Summit: Equip, Collaborate, and Innovate for Success
NACCHO’s Support of Local Health Departments in IPC

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About NACCHO

NACCHO serves over 3,300 local health departments across the United States and is the leader in providing cutting-edge, skill building, professional resources and programs. Our mission is to improve the health of communities by strengthening and advocating for local health departments.
NACCHO’s HAI/AR and Healthcare IPC Work

2011 Assessment of Local Health Departments (LHDs)

- 6/10 interviewees reported little or no awareness of state or national HAI initiatives
- A majority of LHDs indicated that they had a role in detecting and investigating HAI outbreaks
- LHDs see the need for this work, being asked to do it more and more

- 2011 First Two LHDs Funded as Demonstration Sites
  - $16,400 total
NACCHO’s HAI/AR and Healthcare IPC Work

https://rb.gy/bz0ldg
NACCHO’s HAI/AR and Healthcare IPC Work

2016

Lessons in Infection Control (LINC) Initiative
NACCHO’s HAI/AR and Healthcare IPC Work


- 25 LHDs funded for up to $100,000
- Worked with a local IPC expert to train LHD staff
- Did outreach, education, assessment, and support for high-risk facilities
NACCHO’s HAI/AR and Healthcare IPC Work

2021: Building Local Operational Capacity for COVID-19, HAIs, and AR (BLOC COVID-19+)

- 24 LHDs funded for up to $100,000
- Similar model as BLOC COVID but went beyond COVID-19
CDC’s Interim LHD HAI/AR Strategy

LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT STRATEGY FOR HAI/AR

Vision
To strengthen local capacity to respond to, control, and prevent HAI and AR across all healthcare settings and in the community.

Strategy Overview
Healthcare-associated infections (HAI) and antibiotic resistance (AR) pose a major threat to communities. Each day approximately 1 in 31 U.S. hospital patients and 1 in 43 nursing home residents has a HAI, and about half of hospital patients and 1 in 12 nursing home residents receive an antimicrobial medication. More than 2.8 million antibiotic-resistant infections occur in the U.S. each year, and more than 35,000 people die as a result, also costing billions annually in healthcare costs.

Local health departments (LHDs) play a critical role in implementing HAI/AR prevention and response efforts. CDC is working closely with partners to develop and pilot a strategy for LHDs to increase their capacity for HAI/AR prevention and response. The strategy includes a series of recommended goals, objectives, and activities based on an assessment of the key roles that LHDs could play in the response, control, and prevention of HAI/AR. This strategy aims to strengthen LHDs by focusing on three main goal areas: growing strong partner networks; building internal operational capacity; and expanding the scope of programmatic activities to effectively address HAI/AR in their jurisdictions.

The strategy is designed to support public health professionals, who are planning, leading, or coordinating HAI/AR activities at the local level. It is meant to be a helpful aid in planning and use of the strategy is optional. The specific users may vary depending on structures within your state. For example, this strategy could be used by LHDs, by regions defined by state health departments, or by local jurisdictions, districts, or units who have responsibility for HAI/AR prevention, control, and response.

How to Use the Strategy
Use this strategy when your LHD is ready to examine and strengthen your HAI/AR capabilities. We recommend revising this strategy annually in close collaboration with your partners, such as the state HAI/AR program.

Specific HAI/AR activities vary across LHDs and depend on factors such as size of the LHD, governance structures, emerging threats, types of healthcare facilities in the jurisdiction, demographics, local relationships, and collaborations with the state HAI/AR program. The strategy is flexible to accommodate levels that are appropriate for LHDs of varying capacity and expertise. Visit the Interim LHD HAI/AR Framework for Implementing This Strategy webpage on the CDC website for further instructions. The webpage has recommended steps and tools when your health department is ready to assess and strengthen your HAI/AR capabilities.

Step 1: Read the Strategy
Step 2: Assess your Capacity
Step 3: Develop an Action Plan
NACCHO’s HAI/AR and Healthcare IPC Work

2022: HAI/AR Pilot Site Project

- 11 LHDs funded for up to $120,000
- Piloted the CDC Interim Local Strategy
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2023: Building Up Infection Prevention & Control in Local Departments in Healthcare-Associated Infections and Antimicrobial Resistance (BUILD HAIAR)

- 17 LHDs funded for up to $80,000
- Leveraging interim strategy
- Infection control assessments, antimicrobial stewardship, and addressing health equity.
NACCHO’s HAI/AR and Healthcare IPC Work

Infection Prevention and Control Assessment Training (IPC-AT)

• Partnered with APIC Consulting Services

• Paired 35 LHDs with local IPs to shadow and conduct tele-ICARs at LTCF
NACCHO’s HAI/AR and Healthcare IPC Work

Certification in Infection Control (CIC®) Scholarships

Scholarships Provided in:

- 2016  24 LHDs
- 2023  126 LHDs
- 2024  108 LHDs

Outcomes

- Increased confidence among LHD staff
- Strengthened partnerships with healthcare facilities
NACCHO & Project Firstline

• NACCHO’s Project Firstline work aims to build the capacity of local health departments to deliver training and education to their community partners through the development and promotion of tools and resources.
The Living Learning Network (LLN) provides local health department staff opportunities to build subject matter expertise related to IPC.

Group activities include:

• Peer discussions,
• Expert presentations, and
• Review of CDC Project Firstline training materials.

All interested in IPC at the local level are welcome to join!
NACCHO & Project Firstline

Essential Skills Training Series

• Virtual and in-person training opportunities for LHD staff involved in supporting healthcare IPC activities.

• Virtual community available with recordings and resources
NACCHO & Project Firstline

IPC Learning Collaborative Project

• Goal: Build LHD staff capacity and confidence in partnering with and training healthcare facility staff on IPC topics.

• Mentorship Program
  • 5 mentor health departments
  • 10 mentee health departments
NACCHO Resources

IPC Resource Library

- Compilation of resources to enhance the capacity of LHD staff to address unique IPC needs in a range of high-risk settings.
NACCHO Resources

- Addressing HAIs: The Role of Local Health Departments Video

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FHznk9ypKLk
NACCHO Resources: Coming Soon!

HAI and AR: Opportunities for LHDs in Prevention and Response
A Landscape Analysis Report

LHD HAI Staff Competency and Training Workbook
NACCHO Resources: Coming Soon!

Framework and Guide for Integrating Health Equity into Outbreak Response and Prevention in Healthcare Settings
Virtual Courses for LHD Staff:

- Conducting a remote LTCF ICAR
- IPC Basics & Adult Learning Principles
PASSPORT TO IPC
Thank you!