



April 28, 2014

Are HAIs reportable in Alaska?

Yes-in May of 2013 the AK Division of Public Health, section of Epidemiology (SOE) proposed regulations to update current reporting requirements. After a 90 day public comment period, those comments were reviewed by the legal team. The final regulations were signed off by the Lieutenant Governor and became effective on December 29, 2013. The regulatory changes specific to HAIs were:

- Reporting requirements for two antibiotic-resistant organisms of national significance. They are vancomycin- resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* and carbapenemase-producing Enterobacteriaceae (CRE).
- Allow SOE access to healthcare-associated infections (HAI) data that are collected by hospitals and submitted to federal agencies through the National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN).
- For more information about the National Health and Safety Network (NHSN) see:
<http://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/>