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Georgia Southern Examines the Impact of State HAI Reporting Laws

September 14, 2016



Robust evidence regarding the effect of mandatory health care–associated infection (HAI) reporting is increasingly important to policy makers. The objective of the study was to examine the effect of mandated state HAI reporting laws on central line–associated bloodstream infection (CLABSI) rates in adult intensive care units (ICUs).

We analyzed 2006–2012 adult ICU CLABSI and hospital annual survey data from the National Healthcare Safety Network. The final analytic sample included 244 hospitals, 947 hospital years, 475 ICUs, 1,902 ICU years, and 16,996 ICU months. We used a quasi-experimental study design to identify the effect of state mandatory reporting laws. Several secondary models were conducted to explore potential explanations for the plausible effects of HAI laws.

Our results provide valuable evidence that state reporting requirements for HAIs improved care. Additional studies are needed to further explore why and how mandatory HAI reporting laws decreased CLABSI rates.

["Impact of State Reporting Laws on Central Line–Associated Bloodstream Infection Rates in U.S. Adult Intensive Care Units,"](#) was published in *Health Services Research* July 24, 2016.

Dr. Julie Reagan, Assistant Professor of Health Policy and Management at the Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health Georgia Southern University was one of the co-authors of the study.

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