



Healthcare Associated Infections Program

June 2014

Healthcare associated infections (HAI) are infections that develop during or soon after care in a hospital or other health care setting. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates 1.7 million health care associated infections occur nationally in hospitals every year. These infections contribute to 99,000 deaths annually and add \$26-33 billion in excess costs. In 2007, the State Legislature created the department's HAI program (RCW 43.70.056). Its purpose is to:

- Create access to accurate, up-to-date information about infections and what everyone can do to end preventable infection risks in health care facilities; and
- Bring together and meaningfully inform the broadest possible coalition to advance the implementation, practices, and science of infection prevention to protect the public's health.

Services

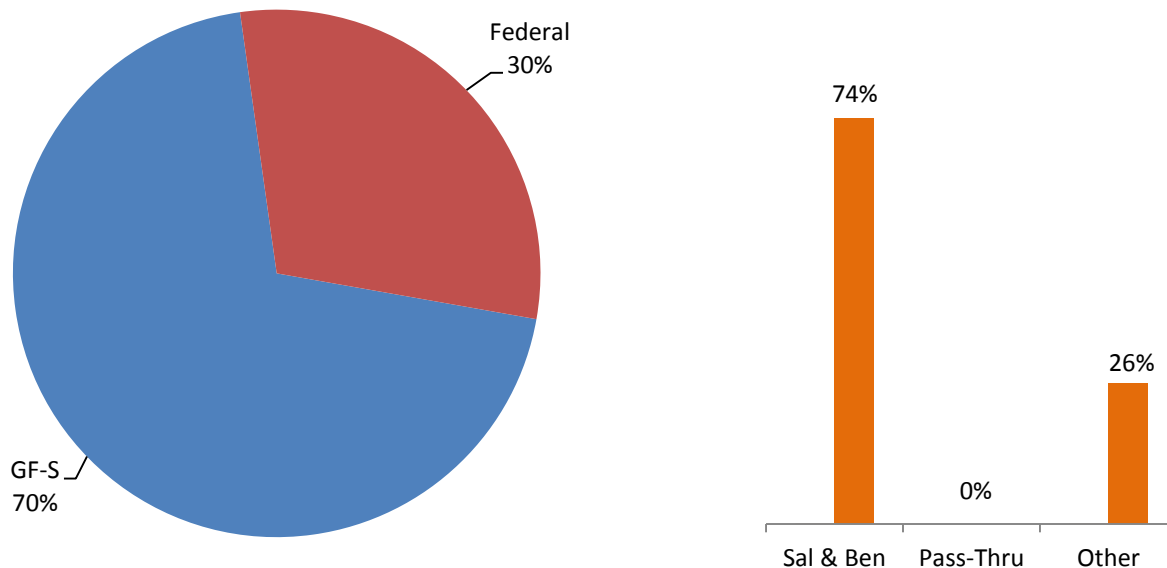
- Publish hospital specific HAI rates on a public information website
- Validate the accuracy of hospital reporting
- Ensure all eligible hospitals are enrolled in the CDC's National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) and consistently report all mandated data
- Convene a broadly representative advisory committee, and through cooperation among its members, coordinate a wide range of "best practices" initiatives to enhance patient safety
- Work directly with hospital-based infection control professionals to improve practice
- Bridge the continuum of care by bringing together acute care hospitals and nearby skilled nursing facilities who share patients in order to reduce the spread of multidrug resistant organisms
- Offer testing of HAI incidents so infection control professionals can see if the same strain of an organism is infecting multiple patients
- Advance the science of health care epidemiology and infection control through evaluation studies and collaboration with universities.
- Strengthen the workforce of today and tomorrow through educational presentations, mentoring a Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists Fellow, and supervising work of graduate students

Stakeholders

- Public advocates and the general public who are concerned about health care quality
- Infection control professionals and other allied health professionals
- Hospitals and other types of health care facilities
- Hospital, patient safety, health care quality, and health care profession associations
- Third-party payers
- Local health jurisdictions

2013-15 biennium

Healthcare Associated Infections Program Fiscal Information



	GF-S	Federal	Dedicated	Fees	Total	Sal & Ben	Pass-Thru	Other
Total	413,000	177,000	0	0	590,000	438,000	0	152,000

Recent Funding History

2007-09 biennium:

- Received \$1,029,000 GF-S ongoing when the program was established per 2SHB 1106

2009-11 biennium:

- ongoing GF-S reduction of \$254,000
- one-time GF-S reduction of \$60,000 for health technical support

2011-13 biennium:

- ongoing GF-S reduction of \$244,000 in response to OFM’s 10 percent reduction request. The HAI program was cut by 43 percent.

Received \$873,000 in ARRA federal funding September 2009 through December 2011; \$450,000 of that funding went to individual contracts offered to state hospitals reporting central-line associated infections to improve infection control programs. Received additional federal funding of \$66,000 effective January 2012 through July 2012.