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**IPC.8 The hospital provides continuing education on infection prevention and control practices to staff, patients, families, and other caregivers as indicated by their involvement in the care process.**

IPC.8.1 The hospital provides continuing education for relevant staff on:

IPC.8.1.1 Hospital wide policies, procedures, and practices of the infection prevention and control program.

IPC.8.1.2 Departmental policies, procedures, and practices of the infection prevention and control program based on the service provided.

IPC.8.2 The hospital provides education on infection prevention and control to patients, families, and other caregivers as appropriate.

IPC.8.3 New staff receive an orientation to the hospital's infection prevention and control policies and procedures upon hiring. Training records are maintained in their files.

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**Standard Intent:**

For the hospital to have an effective infection prevention and control program, it must educate staff members about the program when upon hiring and regularly thereafter. The education program includes professional staff, clinical and nonclinical support staff, patients & families, students, volunteers, trade people and other visitors. Patients and families are encouraged to participate in the implementation and comply with infection prevention and control practices in the hospital. The education is provided as part of the orientation of all new staff and is refreshed periodically, or at least when there is a change in the policies, procedures, and practices that guide the hospital's infection prevention and control program. The education also includes the findings and trends from the measurement activities.

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**IPC.9 There is a continuous surveillance of healthcare-associated infections.**

IPC.9.1 There are policies and procedures which define the types of surveillance to be carried out with regard to healthcare-associated infections.

IPC.9.2 There are written standardized definitions for identification of healthcare-associated infections.

IPC.9.3 The policies and procedures define how data will be collected, analyzed, and used.

IPC.9.4 The monitoring process includes using indicators related to infection issues that are epidemiologically important to the hospital.

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**Standard Intent:**

Surveillance is an important component of infection control program to assess the effectiveness of prevention and control measures. Surveillance assists the hospitals to identify risks from practices and infections on which they should focus their programs to control and minimize them. Each hospital should identify those epidemiologically important infections, infection sites, and associated devices, procedures, and practices

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that will provide the focus of efforts to prevent and to reduce the risk and incidence of health care-associated infections. Identification of HAIs should be done according to Standardized Criteria. Data Collection & analysis should be done according to hospital surveillance policy. The hospital should adopt outcome indicators for monitoring HAIs rates.

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**IPC.10 Results of healthcare-associated infections surveillance are integrated into the hospital's quality improvement program.**

- IPC.10.1 The hospital selects indicators based on the projected use of data (internal and external benchmarking).
  - IPC.10.2 The hospital defines the data collection methods and sources (e.g., hospital information system, verbal and written communication, medical record review, direct observation and review of clinical indicators).
  - IPC.10.3 The results of infection monitoring in the hospital are regularly communicated to staff, physicians, and management.
  - IPC.10.4 The hospital uses risk, rate, and trend information to design or modify processes to reduce healthcare-associated infections to the lowest possible level.
  - IPC.10.5 The hospital makes the necessary improvements for the identified epidemiologically important infections, processes, and devices that are associated with risk of healthcare-associated infections.
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**Standard Intent:**

To ensure that the surveillance data (calculated HAI rates) are properly utilized by the hospital to improve the clinical services and safety within the hospital. The calculated HAIs rates should be trended, benchmarked and communicated regularly with concerned departmental/unit leaders, higher administration authority and integrated with quality improvement projects.

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**IPC.11 The hospital designs and implements a comprehensive system for investigation and management of outbreaks of infectious diseases.**

- IPC.11.1 There is a policy and procedure that guides staff for investigation and control of outbreaks of infectious diseases.
  - IPC.11.2 The policy defines how an outbreak is determined.
  - IPC.11.3 The infection prevention and control team leads the investigation and control of outbreaks of infectious diseases.
  - IPC.11.4 The results of investigation of an outbreak are used to prevent recurrence.
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**Standard Intent:**

Providing a management protocol of an outbreak in health care facilities assists in early detection of an outbreak and initiates immediate control measures that prevent further