

FORM APA2
11/96

STATE BOARD OF HEALTH
NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

AGENCY NAME: Alabama Department of Public Health

RULE NUMBER AND TITLE: 420-4-5 Healthcare-Associated Infections Reporting


INTENDED ACTION: Amend Rule

SUBSTANCE OF PROPOSED ACTION: The Mike Denton Infection Reporting Act requires that the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) shall promulgate rules and regulations to facilitate the mandatory reporting and collection of specific healthcare-associated infections by healthcare facilities. Rules mandate the use of the National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) system and definitions to report HAI data. The locations of Mixed Acuity and Mixed Age, Mixed Acuity Wards from which catheter-associated urinary tract infections (CAUTIs) can be reported have been added to the NHSN. Hospitals must choose locations based on the NHSN 80/20 rule, and many hospitals which previously selected Medical, Medical/Surgical, or Surgical Wards must now choose Mixed Acuity Wards. Without adding Mixed Acuity Wards to the list of locations for which CAUTIs must be reported, ADPH is unable to receive HAI data from some of the small hospitals. Without an amendment to add these locations to the rules, certain hospitals would not report infection rates to ADPH, and therefore ADPH would not be able to provide appropriate comparisons for the public.

TIME, PLACE, AND MANNER OF PRESENTING VIEWS: A public hearing will be held on December 15, 2011 at 201 Monroe Street, RSA Tower, Suite 1540, Montgomery, AL 36104 at 9:00 am.

FINAL DATE FOR COMMENTS AND COMPLETION OF NOTICE: Written or oral comments will be received until the close of the record at 5:00 p.m. on January 5, 2012. All comments and requests for copies of the proposed amendments should be addressed to the contact person listed below.

CONTACT PERSON AT AGENCY: Kelly Stevens, Director of Epidemiology, Department of Public Health, 201 Monroe Street, Suite 1460, Montgomery, Alabama 36104. Telephone number: (334) 206-7934.



Pat Ivie, Agency Secretary