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## Goal 1

Improve the accuracy of patient identification.

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EP 1 Collaborate with organization leaders to develop and implement written procedures for managing the critical results of tests and diagnostic procedures that address the following:

- The definition of critical results of tests and diagnostic procedures
- By whom and to whom critical results of tests and diagnostic procedures are reported
- The acceptable length of time between the availability and reporting of critical results of tests and diagnostic procedures

Documentation is required.

EP 3 Evaluate the timeliness of reporting the critical results of tests and diagnostic procedures.

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## Goal 7

Reduce the risk of health care–associated infections.

Comply with either the current Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) hand hygiene guidelines and/or the current World Health Organization (WHO) hand hygiene guidelines.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, each year, millions of people acquire an infection while receiving care, treatment, or services in a health care organization. Consequently, health care–associated infections (HAIs) are a patient safety issue affecting all types of health care organizations. One of the most important ways to address HAIs is by improving the hand hygiene of health care staff. Compliance with the World Health Organization (WHO) and/or Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) hand hygiene guidelines will reduce the transmission of infectious agents by staff to patients, thereby decreasing the incidence of HAIs. To ensure compliance with this National Patient Safety Goal, an organization should assess its compliance with the CDC and/or WHO guidelines through a comprehensive program that provides a hand hygiene policy, fosters a culture of hand hygiene, monitors compliance, and provides feedback.

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EP 1 Implement a program that follows categories IA, IB, and IC of either the current Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and/or the current World Health Organization (WHO) hand hygiene guidelines. (See also IC.01.04.01, EP 1)

EP 2 Set goals for improving compliance with hand hygiene guidelines. (See also IC.03.01.01, EP 1)

EP 3 Improve compliance with hand hygiene guidelines based on established goals.

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