

# Episode of healthcare-associated *Staphylococcus aureus* bloodstream infection

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# Episode of healthcare-associated *Staphylococcus aureus* bloodstream infection

## Identifying and definitional attributes

**Metadata item type:** Glossary Item

**METEOR identifier:** 751480

**Registration status:** [Health](#), Standard 10/06/2022

**Definition:** A patient episode of a *Staphylococcus aureus* bloodstream infection (SABSI) is a positive blood culture for *Staphylococcus aureus* (*S. aureus*). For surveillance purposes, only the first isolate per patient is counted, unless at least 14 days has passed without a positive culture, after which a subsequent episode is recorded.

**A SABSI is healthcare-associated if Criterion A1 or A2, or Criterion B1, B2, B3 or B4 are met.**

**CRITERION A:** The patient's first *Staphylococcus aureus* positive blood culture was collected:

A1. > 48 hours after admission, with no documented evidence that infection was present (including incubating) on admission

OR

A2. < 48 hours after discharge.

OR

**CRITERION B:** The patient's first positive *Staphylococcus aureus* blood culture was collected ≤ 48 hours after admission and one or more of the following key clinical criteria is met:

B1. SABSI is a complication of the presence of an indwelling medical device

B2. SABSI occurs within 30 days of a surgical procedure where the SABSI is related to the surgical site, or 90 days for deep incisional/organ space infections related to a surgically implanted device

B3. SABSI was diagnosed within 48 hours of a related invasive instrumentation or incision

B4. SABSI is associated with neutropenia\* contributed to by cytotoxic therapy and is unrelated to the presence of an indwelling medical device.

If neither Criterion A1 or A2, nor Criterion B1, B2, B3 or B4 are met, then the SABSI is considered to be community-acquired for the purposes of surveillance.

\*\*Neutropenia is defined as at least two separate calendar days with values of absolute neutrophil count (ANC) or total white blood cells count (WBC) <500 cells/mm<sup>3</sup> (<0.5 X 10<sup>9</sup>/L) on or within a seven-day time period which includes the date the positive blood specimen was collected (Day 1), the three calendar days before and the three calendar days after.

## Source and reference attributes

**Submitting organisation:** Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

**Reference documents:** ACSQHC (Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care) 2021. Implementation Guide for the Surveillance of *Staphylococcus aureus* bloodstream infection. Sydney: ACSQHC, viewed 10 February 2022  
<https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/publications-and-resources/resource-library/implementation-guide-surveillance-staphylococcus-aureus-bloodstream-infection>

## Relational attributes

### Related metadata references:

Supersedes [Episode of healthcare-associated Staphylococcus aureus bacteraemia](#)  
[Health](#), Superseded 10/06/2022

### Metadata items which use this glossary item:

[Establishment—number of healthcare-associated Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus \(MRSA\) bloodstream infection patient episodes](#)  
[Health](#), Standard 10/06/2022

[Establishment—number of healthcare-associated Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus \(MRSA\) bloodstream infection patient episodes, total episodes N\[NNNN\]](#)  
[Health](#), Standard 10/06/2022

[Establishment—number of healthcare-associated Methicillin-sensitive Staphylococcus aureus \(MSSA\) bloodstream infection patient episodes](#)  
[Health](#), Standard 10/06/2022

[Establishment—number of healthcare-associated Methicillin-sensitive Staphylococcus aureus \(MSSA\) bloodstream infection patient episodes, total episodes N\[NNNN\]](#)  
[Health](#), Standard 10/06/2022

[Establishment—number of hospital patient days under Staphylococcus aureus bloodstream infection surveillance](#)  
[Health](#), Standard 10/06/2022

[Establishment—number of hospital patient days under Staphylococcus aureus bloodstream infection surveillance, total days N\[NNNNN\]](#)  
[Health](#), Standard 10/06/2022

[Establishment—number of patient episodes of healthcare-associated staphylococcus aureus bloodstream infection](#)  
[Health](#), Standard 09/12/2022

[Establishment—number of patient episodes of healthcare-associated staphylococcus aureus bloodstream infection, total episodes N\[NNNN\]](#)  
[Health](#), Standard 09/12/2022

[Establishment—Staphylococcus aureus bloodstream infection surveillance indicator](#)  
[Health](#), Standard 10/06/2022

[Establishment—Staphylococcus aureus bloodstream infection surveillance indicator, yes/no code N](#)  
[Health](#), Standard 10/06/2022

[Healthcare-associated infections NBEDS 2021–](#)  
[Health](#), Standard 10/06/2022

[Healthcare-associated infections NBEDS 2025–](#)  
[Health](#), Recorded 26/04/2024

[Number of healthcare-associated Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus \(MRSA\) bloodstream infection patient episodes](#)  
[Health](#), Standard 10/06/2022

[Number of healthcare-associated Methicillin-sensitive Staphylococcus aureus \(MSSA\) bloodstream infection patient episodes](#)  
[Health](#), Standard 10/06/2022

[Number of hospital patient days under Staphylococcus aureus bloodstream infection surveillance](#)  
[Health](#), Standard 10/06/2022

[Number of patient episodes of healthcare-associated Staphylococcus aureus bloodstream infection](#)  
[Health](#), Standard 09/12/2022

[Patient episode of Staphylococcus aureus bloodstream infection](#)  
[Health](#), Standard 09/12/2022

[Patient episode of Staphylococcus aureus bloodstream infection—infection setting](#)  
[Health](#), Standard 09/12/2022

[Patient episode of Staphylococcus aureus bloodstream infection—infection setting, origin code N](#)

[Health](#), Standard 09/12/2022

[Patient episode of Staphylococcus aureus bloodstream infection—most probable origin](#)

[Health](#), Standard 09/12/2022

[Patient episode of Staphylococcus aureus bloodstream infection—most probable origin, healthcare associated clinical criteria code N](#)

[Health](#), Standard 09/12/2022

[Staphylococcus aureus bloodstream infection surveillance indicator](#)

[Health](#), Standard 10/06/2022

[Surveillance of healthcare associated infection: Staphylococcus aureus bloodstream infection NBPDS](#)

[Health](#), Standard 09/12/2022

[Surveillance of healthcare associated infection: Staphylococcus aureus bloodstream infection NBPDS](#)

[Health](#), Recorded 26/04/2024