

Clostridium difficile Infection (CDI) Onset/Specimen date recording

To assist with assigning CDI cases to the correct onset/specimen date for reporting, please follow the instructions below.

- > For inpatient records, onset/specimen date must always be between admission and discharge date
- > For outpatient/emergency records, onset/specimen date must equal the attendance date
- > If specimen date is less than 48 hours after admission date, investigation of symptom onset is NOT required –specimen date is recorded
- > If specimen date is greater than 48 hours after admission date, investigate whether onset of symptoms was within the initial 48 hours:
 - Symptom onset > 48hrs after admission date – recording of symptom onset is NOT required
 - Symptom onset < 48hrs after admission date – record symptom onset date*

***NOTE:**

- If onset of symptoms was prior to admission date, record the admission date as onset date, NOT a date that is prior to the admission date.
- ICIMS users can record additional onset information in the notification's comment section if required.

ICIMS user reminder:

State reporting currently only collects data on hospital identified cases, with identification of those classified as Category A* (HCA-HCF) episodes. If a patient has a specimen taken during a current visit and it is identified as being associated with a previous admission, do not classify as a “post discharge” in the secondary acquisition, classify as NEW. Post-discharge information can be recorded as a notification comment in ICIMS.

***Category A: Healthcare associated – Healthcare facility onset (HCA-HCF)**

Date of CDI symptom onset more than 48 hours after admission to a health care facility and prior to discharge from the facility. If date of symptom onset is not available, the date/time of specimen collection is used as a proxy.