Advisory Notices are designed to provide official information relative to Hospital Accreditation, Certification, and Compliance activities. Should you have any questions about the content of this notice, please e-mail dnvclientdropbox@dnvgl.com.

DATE: February 26, 2019

SUBJECT: Modification to MM.8, Antimicrobial Stewardship, NIAHO® Accreditation Requirements, Interpretive Guidelines and Surveyor Guidance Revision 18-2

DISTRIBUTION All DNV GL Healthcare Accredited or Certified Hospitals, Applicant Hospitals, DNV GL Healthcare Employees, and Interested Parties

APPROVED BY: Patrick Horine, Chief Executive Officer

DNV GL is providing notice to DNV GL Healthcare Accredited Organizations of clarification regarding the survey of antimicrobial stewardship.

NIAHO® Accreditation Requirements, Interpretive Guidelines and Surveyor Guidance, Revision 18-2, was submitted to CMS for approval in June 2018. CMS approved the revision in the 4th quarter of 2018. In the intervening months that it took CMS to approve the requirements, we were made aware of a shift in focus from our colleagues at the CDC. Revision 18-2 includes the following requirement for antibiotic review:

MM.8, SR.5:
The hospital has a formal procedure for all practitioners to review the appropriateness of any antibiotics prescribed after 48 hours from the initial orders (e.g., antibiotic time-out).

CDC has shared new research with DNV GL indicating that the antibiotic time-out alone is not likely to have much impact on antibiotic use. As a result, CDC is shifting emphasis from the antibiotic time-out to two other specific interventions that have demonstrated benefit in published studies:

• Post-prescription review of antibiotic selection with feedback
• Prior authorization of antibiotics

CMS has made recommendations regarding antimicrobial stewardship but has not elevated these recommendations to a Condition of Participation at this time. DNV GL elected to include antimicrobial stewardship requirements as part of our participation in the CDC AMR Challenge (See Advisory Notice 2019-HC05). As the CDC emphasis has evolved, we want to share the most current evidence-based practice with our customers.

DNV GL will make appropriate revisions in Revision 19-0 to reflect the CDC recommendations. In the interim, please be advised that surveyors will not cite a nonconformance to MM.8, SR.5 as a finding. While hospitals are not discouraged from following an antibiotic time-out procedure if desired, they are encouraged to consider post-prescription review of antibiotic selection, with feedback, as well as prior authorization of antibiotics in the implementation of their antimicrobial stewardship programs.
RESOURCES

- Impact of a Prescriber-driven Antibiotic Time-out on Antibiotic Use in Hospitalized Patients.

Any questions/ comments can be forwarded to the DNV GL Client Drop Box: DNVclientdropbox@dnvgl.com

Regards,
For DNV GL Healthcare USA, Inc.

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