# Antimicrobial Resistance Option Read Me First

# CDA… where to start?

The HL7 Clinical Document Architecture (CDA) is an XML-based markup standard intended to specify the encoding, structure, and semantics of clinical documents for exchange. CDA is an ANSI-certified standard from Health Level Seven International (HL7.org). Due to National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) protocol changes, CDA imports for specific events and summary reports must be created per specific NHSN HAI Implementation Guides (IG). The CDA contains required template identifiers, specific vocabulary, specific constraints, etc., that are detailed in the IG. The creation of CDA is more complicated than the creation of CSV files, is not HL7 2.x, and is usually mediated by a software system that packages the data into the correct format.

## Contents of NHSN Antimicrobial Resistance (AR) Option Tool Kit:

1. Read me first\_AR\_2025 – Contains a brief explanation of tool kit contents and usage.
2. AR CDA vendor samples – Contains Antimicrobial Resistance (AR) XML samples of various AR-numerator CDAs. These samples show the antibiotic panels required based on the reported organism. Two AR denominator XML samples are also included (inpatient and outpatient).
3. IDM for vendors – Information Data Model (IDM) is part of the NHSN requirements and is used for the development of the NHSN User Interface; however, it includes business rules, coding information, codes, and other important information useful in the development of the CDA.
   1. Refer to the following tabs for AR Event numerator related information:
      1. Location codes, Patient, AR Event, AR Drug, AR Drug Test, AR AST 2025, Pathogen Codes 2025 - Preferred, AntiP 2025, Specimen Source 2025
         1. Note for Pathogen Codes 2025 – Preferred tab: For 2025 AR Option reporting, please refer to the AR Option Pathogen Roll-up\_2025.xlsx for the complete list of eligible SNOMED codes for 2025.
         2. Note for referring to AntiP 2025 tab: Pay special attention the pathogens with the drug susceptibility included in the description. Even though the pathogens have a unique SNOMED CT code, they are saved in the NHSN database as the pathogen without the susceptibility description. Vendors will need to code for this as this may affect same day duplicates, 14-day rule for invasive specimen sources and the 1 per month rule for non-invasive specimen sources.
   2. Refer to the following tabs for AR denominator related information:
      1. Location Codes, Denom AR
4. AR Option Pathogen Roll-up\_2025.xlsx – Excel workbook that contains the list of all eligible SNOMED codes for AR Option reporting. Refer to the AR Option Pathogen Roll-up QRG for instructions on how to use.
5. AR Option Pathogen Roll-up QRG\_2025.doc – Word document that includes a description of and examples for using the AR Option Pathogen Roll-up Workbook to be used for 2025 AR Option reporting.
6. Important Links for AR CDAs\_2025 – Includes links to the NHSN AUR Module protocol, HL7 website to download the Implementation Guides, and schema information. Due to copyrights, the R3 Normative and R3-D4 IGs must be obtained from the HL7 website.
7. AR Option\_Helpful hints\_2025 – Contains helpful tips, explanations, and user FAQs.
8. 57.123\_AUR Micro Electronic Upload Tables\_Jan2025 – View of the AR Option form to offer a visual of data elements required for submission.
9. AR Option Overview for Vendors\_Jan2025 – Review of AR Option.

### We highly recommend you visit the NHSN CDA Submission Support Portal for important CDA information: [NHSN CDA Submission Support Portal (CSSP)](http://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/cdaportal/index.html).