# Antimicrobial Use Option Read Me First

# CDA…where to start?

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

# Contents of NHSN Antimicrobial Use (AU) Option Tool Kit:

1. Read\_me\_first\_AU\_Jan2025 – Contains a brief explanation of tool kit contents and usage.
2. 2025 AU Samples\_R1 and R6 – Contains two AU CDA samples that highlight the two different XML formats: individual location versus facility-wide inpatient (FacWideIN).
   1. Use the individual location file to report data from a single facility patient care location/unit (for example, 1 North Medical Ward).
   2. Use the FacWideIN file to report data for of a facility’s inpatient patient care locations/units combined.
   3. NOTE: The R6 IG sample files are also included in the sample file folder because R6 AU files are still accepted by NHSN. However, facilities should use the R1 Norm IG moving forward.
3. AU Option\_Helpful Hints\_Jan2025 – Contains helpful tips, explanations, and user FAQs.
4. IDM for vendors – The Information Data Model (IDM) is part of the NHSN requirements and 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 CDA files.
   1. Refer to the following tabs for AU related information:
      1. Locations, Denom AU, Antimicrobial Ingredients\_2025
5. Important links for R1Norm-AU CDA – Includes links to the NHSN AUR Module protocol, HL7 website to download the Implementation Guide, and schema information. Copyrights require the R1 Normative IG is obtained from the HL7 website.
6. 57.124\_AUR Pharm Electronic Upload Tables\_Jan2025 – View of the AU Option form to offer a visual of data elements required for submission.
7. SNOMED AU Routes of Administration – Reference this list of SNOMED CT codes for the roll up mapping of the antimicrobial routes of administration.

## We highly recommend you visit the NHSN CDA Submission Support Portal (CSSP) for important CDA information and how to get started: <http://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/cdaportal/index.html>

