



# SIERRA.gov

*Your resource for governmental issues*

Sept 2007

## SOURCE: CACC PUBLIC POLICY UPDATE

9-6-07

### Definition: **Enrollment**

When a bill passes both Houses of the Legislature, it is ordered "enrolled". In enrollment, the bill is again proofread for accuracy and then delivered to the Governor. The "enrolled bill" contains the complete text of the bill with the dates of passage certified by the Secretary of the Senate and the Chief Clerk of the Assembly. A resolution, when enrolled, is filed directly with the Secretary of State.

### BILL NUMBER: AB 106 ENROLLED as of 9-10-07

This bill would require a general acute care hospital, pursuant to its own standardized procedures and if it has the vaccine in its possession, each year, commencing October 1 to the following April 1, inclusive, to offer, prior to discharge, immunizations for influenza and pneumococcal disease to its inpatients, aged 65 years or older.

### BILL NUMBER: AB 682 (Berg) ENROLLED as of 9-10-07

Revises the written and informed consent standards associated with testing blood for the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), including prenatal HIV testing, to no longer require affirmative approval prior to administering an HIV test. Establishes the new HIV testing consent standard as the right to decline the test, providing medical care providers present specified information to the individual about treatment options and the individual's right to decline the test, and the medical care provider notes in the chart when the patient declines to be tested. This bill would not apply to HIV testing at an alternative test site, as part of an autopsy, or when part of scientific research.

## CMS (FROM ICU 8-10-07)

Under new Medicare regulations finalized by CMS on August 1, hospitals will no longer receive higher payments for the additional costs of treatment associated with three types of hospital-associated infections (HAIs) and five medical errors. Beginning October 1, 2008, CMS will not assign a higher paying rate to patients who have one of the eight conditions, unless they are documented as present on admission. CMS' Inpatient Prospective Payment System final rule gives hospital's financial incentive to prevent HAIs and medical errors.

The eight conditions included in the rule are:

1. Catheter-associated urinary tract infection
2. Vascular catheter-associated infection
3. Surgical site infection-Mediastinitis after coronary artery bypass graft (CABG) surgery
4. Serious preventable event-Object left in surgery
5. Serious preventable event-Air embolism
6. Serious preventable event-Blood incompatibility
7. Pressure ulcers (decubitus ulcers)
8. Falls

CMS website:

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/AcuteInpatientPPS/IPPS/itemdetail.asp?filterType=dual.%20date&filterValue=7/d&filterByDID=-1&sortByDID=4&sortOrder=ascending&itemID=CMS1201726&intNumPerPage=10>

## DHS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The initial DHS HAI Advisory Committee mandated by SB739 has been appointed. The websites to check dates, locations, and meetings are listed below. Nothing is posted as of 9-6-07, but keep checking.

<http://www.dhs.ca.gov/ps/dcdc/dcdcindex.htm> DCDC

<http://www.dhs.ca.gov/Inc/default.htm> L&C

AB 16 / Hernandez / Effective July 1, 2009, requires the State Public Health Officer (PHO), in consultation with the California Conference of Local Health Officers (CCLHO), to create a list of diseases, and required doses, for which immunization would be required prior to entry into a private or public elementary or secondary school, child day care center, day care center, or child care and development center. / In Senate Appropriations Committee

AB166 / Bass / This bill adds methicillin resistant staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) skin infection to the list of disputable presumptions for workers compensation claims for public safety personnel / Held in committee under submission

## FEDERAL ISSUES

The Wicker Amendment did not pass, meaning the feds can now use monies to enforce annual fit-testing everywhere as mandated in the Federal OSHA TB Guidelines. Expect the issue of annual fit-testing to become a topic of discussion in the next year or so.

Many thanks to Mary Mendelsohn for preparing the material in this document for CACC and for not getting too concerned that I borrowed it for Sierra.gov

*To provide information for inclusion in the newsletter or ask questions, please contact:*

Robert Berg, MT(ASCP), CIC, MBA  
Sierra Chapter Legislative Representative  
[bergr@sutterhealth.org](mailto:bergr@sutterhealth.org)