Infection Control Program

The ACHC Standard HH6-4A.02

This Standard states that Performance Improvement (PI) activities will include an assessment of processes that involve risks, including infections and communicable diseases.

Interpretation: A review of all infections, incidents, complaints/grievances, are conducted at least quarterly to detect trends and create an action plan to decrease occurrences.

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Reporting Infections

- When an Infection is identified, an Infection Control Patient report form is to be completed by the Clinician and submitted within 24 hours of discovery.

- This covers infections that are high-risk, high volume, problem-prone for frequent complications, have high potential for adverse patient outcomes, and are preventable.

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Definitions of Infections

- **Infection:** The transmission of a pathogenic microorganism to a host, with subsequent invasion and multiplication, with or without resulting symptoms of disease.

- **New Infection:** Any infection that was not documented as present at the time that the patient was admitted to the agency, or an infection that occurs 48 hours after admission to the agency.

- **Suspected Infection:** A situation in which clinical observations strongly suggest the presence of an infection but empirical data to support the suspicion is not possible or not available at the time of the report.

- **Reportable Communicable Disease:** Suspected or positively identified communicable diseases that must be reported to Public Health Agencies.

Types of Infections that need Reported

- A new, actual or suspected infection observed by home care clinician.
- Results of an ordered culture is positive.
- Hospital admission due to an active/suspected infection.
- Patient expires due to active/suspected infection.
- Identification of a reportable, communicable infection.
- Clean surgical wound infections/Wound infections.
- Device-related infections, including those that address intravascular devices, tube feeding and urinary catheters.
- Tuberculosis, Hepatitis B and C and other communicable diseases, particularly vaccine preventable infections.
- Clustering of infections.
- Bacteremia.
- Unusual organisms.

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Infection Control Reporting

This can now be done TWO ways:

1. Paper form

2. Infection Reporting can NOW be submitted Online via http://www.homecareforyou.com for Field Staff and via Sharepoint for Office Staff.

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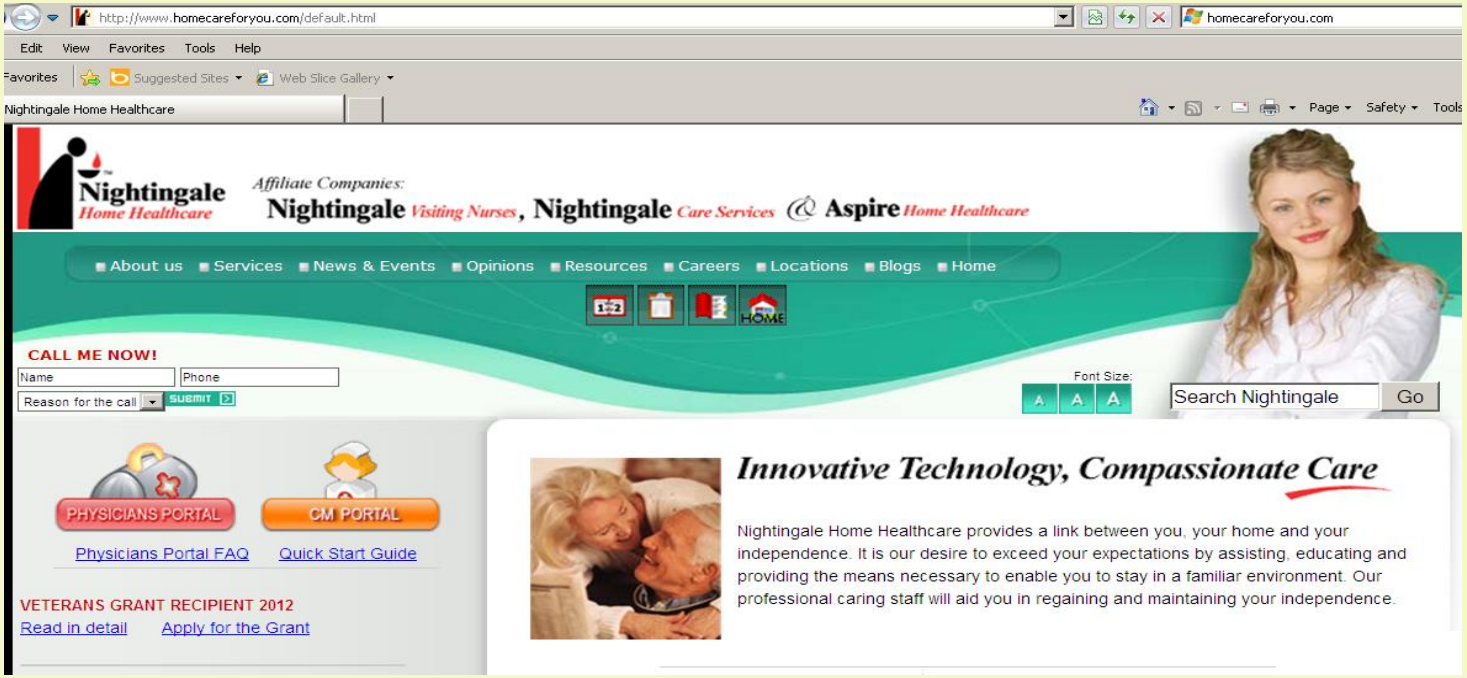
Online Reporting for Field Staff

http://www.homecareforyou.com



Click on Intranet at the bottom of the screen.

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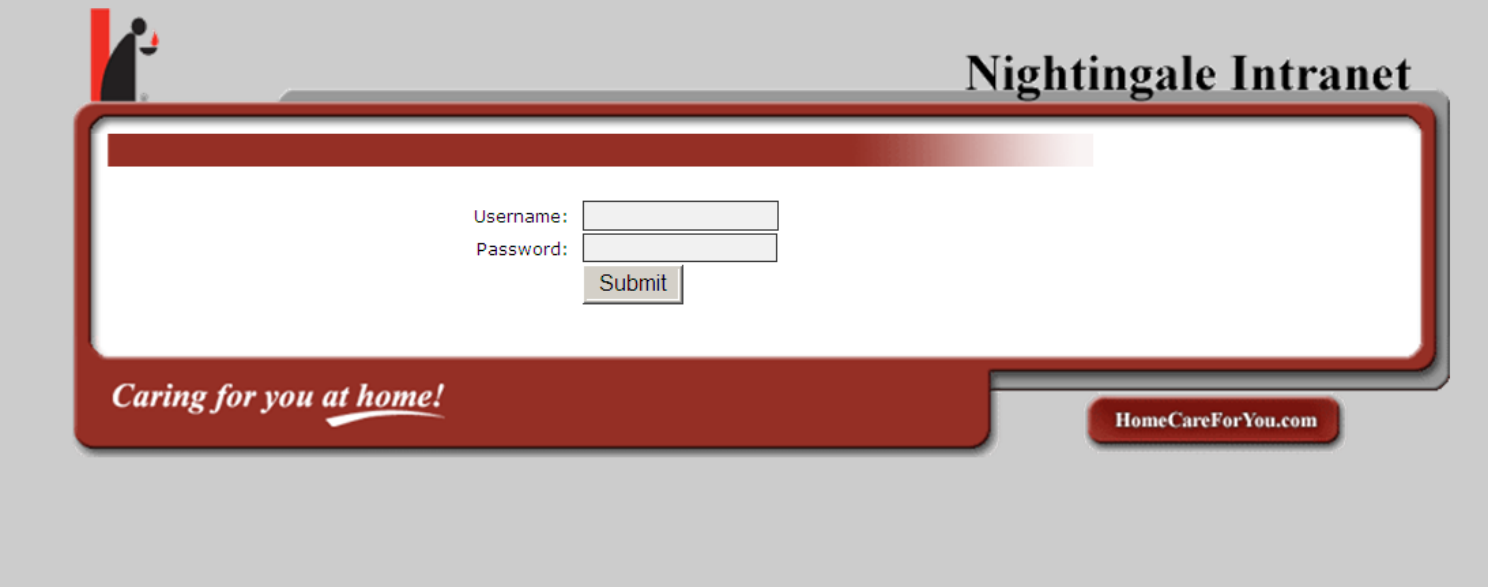
Field Staff Enter your Username and Password



If you do not have your Username and Password contact Human Resources.

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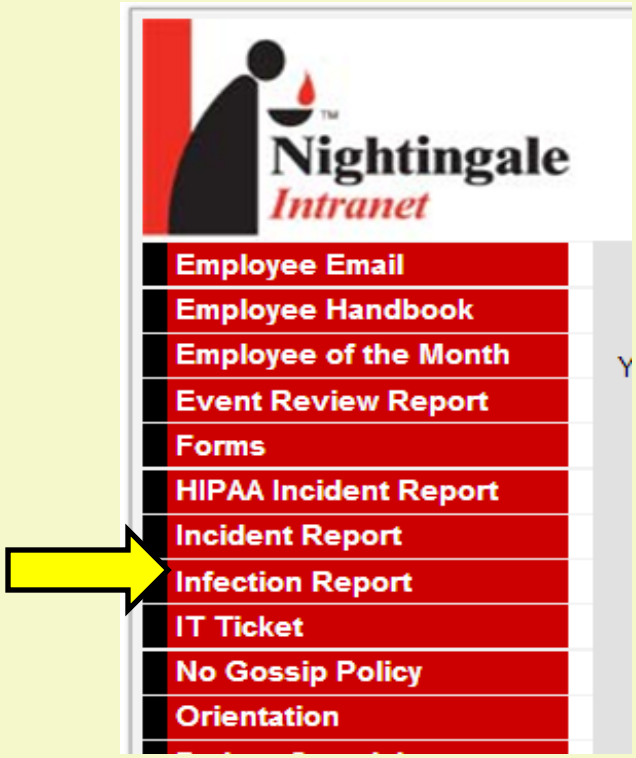
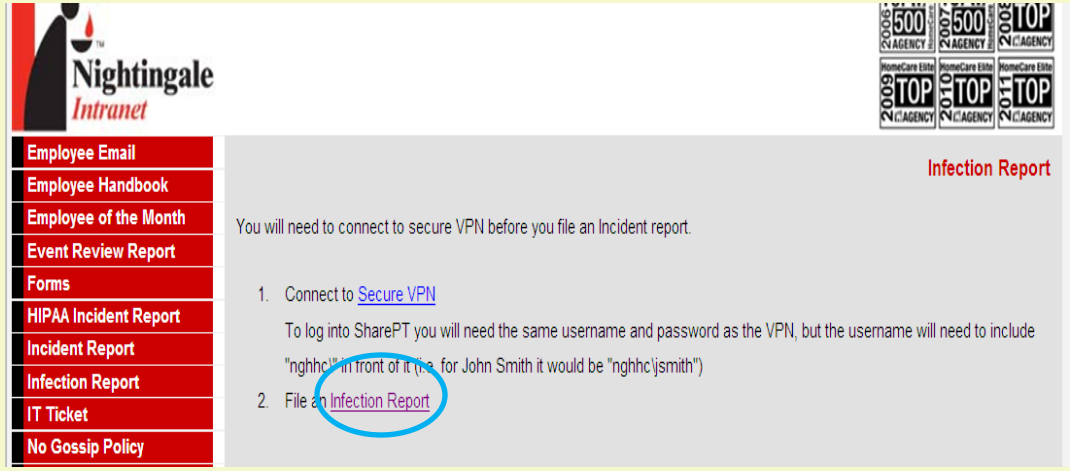
A. Field Staff - Click Infection Report



B. Field Staff - Then follow the steps below:



1. Click on Infection Report.
2. On the next screen: Choose your Agency.
3. On the next screen: Click on *Add New*
4. Fill out the form. Make sure all Required Fields denoted by an * are complete.
5. Click Submit.

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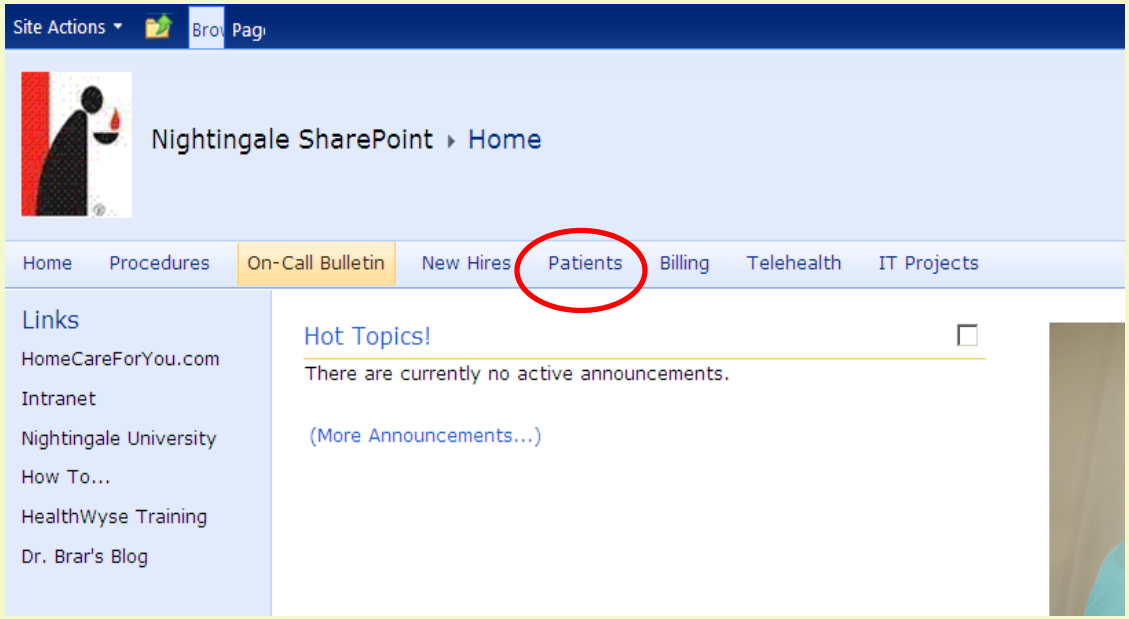
Online Reporting for Office Staff

Go to Sharepoint



Click on Patients, Infection Control and *Add New*

Attach any Infection Control Report received by the clinician, or any other pertinent information.

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After the Infection Report is submitted

- Update Medication Profile in the patient chart as applicable.
- Update Safety Measures on 485.
- Update Plan of Care and Goals for Skilled Disciplines.
- Update Plan of Care and Goals for Home Health Aide.

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Medication List

1. Update Medication Profile in the 485 as applicable.
2. Update Medication Form in the patient's home.

Safety Measures

Make sure and update Safety Measures on the 485 to coincide with reported infection.

Examples Safety Measures that should be used:

- Standard Universal Precautions
- Blood and Body Fluid Precautions
- Needle Precautions
- You can also free form Precautions in: MRSA Precautions and VRE Precautions

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Resources

Resources for Infection Control can be found at:

1. http://www.homecareforyou.com
2. **Click on Nightingale University at the bottom of the page.**
3. **Login using the same Username and Password as Intranet. If you do not have these contact Human Resources.**
4. **Under Resources, Click Check it out…**
5. **Click Infection Control Program.**

Skilled Discipline Plan of Care Interventions

Examples of Plan of Care Interventions to use include:

- Teach Signs and Symptoms of Infections
- Teach Signs and Symptoms of Wound Infection
- Teach Signs and Symptoms of Infection – UTI
- Teach Urinary Disease Process
- Teach Signs and Symptoms of Respiratory Infection

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Skilled Discipline Plan of Care Goals

Examples of Plan of Care Goals to use include:

- Aseptic Management of Signs and Symptoms
- Knowledge Infections
- Surgical Incision will heal without Signs and Symptoms of Infection

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Home Health Aide Plan of Care and Goals

Examples of Plan of Care Interventions to use include:

- Standard Universal Precautions
- Infection Control Precautions
- MRSA Precautions
- Wound Precautions
- Catheter Care

Examples of Plan of Care Goals to use include:

- Maintain Infection Control

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