

Cesarean Section Surgical Site Infection Surveillance Initiative (CS-SIMPI)

Facility Implementation Training

What is a Surgical Site Infection?

An infection related to an operative procedure that occurs at or near the surgical incision within 30 days of the procedure.

What are Some Common Causes of Surgical Site Infections?

1. Contamination before the surgery (traumatic injuries)
2. Contamination from the patient (normal/skin flora)
3. Contamination during the procedure (staff and equipment)

Why are SSI important?

- Surgical site infections of **the most common** healthcare-associated infections (HAIs) in India
- Surgical site infections cause substantial morbidity (**death**) and mortality (**suffering**)
- Surgical site infections are costly (**waste resources**)
- Many surgical site infections are **preventable** with adherence to recommended infection prevention and control strategies and good surgical practice

How Can SSIs Be Prevented?

Good Infection Prevention and Control (hand hygiene, environmental cleaning, sterilization of equipment, patient preparation, wound care)

Good Surgical Practice (maintain aseptic technique, limited access to theatre, antibiotic prophylaxis)

What is SSI surveillance?

The careful following of a plan or protocol for the collection, management, analysis and interpretation of data relevant to surgical infections

AS WELL AS the use of surveillance results to guide prevention action and interventions

SIMPI Results

What we expect and
How you can use it

Expect Results:

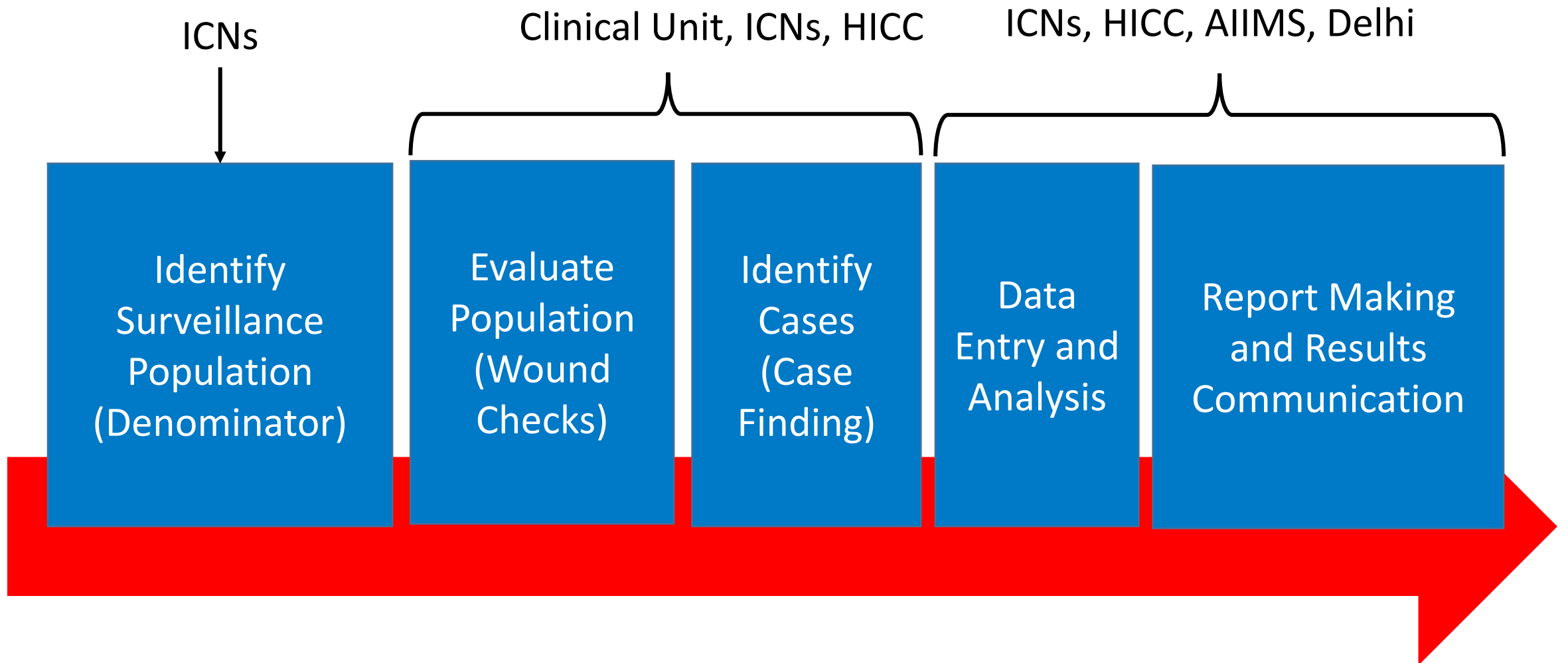
- **SSI rates over time**
- Counts of procedures performed
- Description of patient characteristics
- Discharge disposition rates
- Measures of select surgical safety items (checklist)

Use:

- **Facilitate IPC and SSI prevention efforts (practice change)**
- Describe and quantify SSI rates at select healthcare facilities
- Inform state and national IPC and surgical guidelines for India
- Inform additional HAI/SSI surveillance initiatives

SSI Surveillance Takes a TEAM:

Basic Roles and Responsibilities



SIMPI Steps:

Getting Surveillance Done!

1. Surgical / HICC Team completes the Surgical Safety Checklist / Surveillance Form for every C-section patients (denominator - surveillance population)
2. Day-3 (first) wound check – record findings on Surgical Safety Checklist/Surveillance Form
3. Discharge wound check – record findings on Surgical Safety Checklist/Surveillance Form
4. File Surgical Safety Checklist/Surveillance Form
5. Contact patient on or around day 30 for interview and record findings on Surgical Safety Checklist/Surveillance Form

SIMPI Steps:

Getting Surveillance Done!

6. Collect all completed Surgical Safety Checklist/Surveillance Forms
7. Enter data from completed Surgical Safety Checklist/Surveillance Forms into surveillance database
8. Review data in the surveillance database to find errors and/or missing information
9. When possible, fix data errors
10. Analyze data (calculate rates)
11. Report results

The Surgical Safety Checklist and Surveillance Form

A single form acting as a checklist & record of important safe surgical practices as well as the SIMPI SSI Surveillance data collection form

Case

Definition:

Uniform criteria
used to define a
disease for public
health surveillance

A patient within 30 days of the surgical procedure with the following observed or reported:

A purulent (pus) discharge in, or coming from, the wound (including evidence of an abscess)

OR

Evidence of fever with painful, spreading erythema surrounding the surgical site

OR

Any reopening of the surgical wound

Frequently
Asked
Questions

FAQ

Why focus on C-section procedures?

- C-sections procedures have a **low procedure-level risk** of infection (CLEAN Wound Type)
- Women having a C-section are generally healthy with a **low patient-level risk** of infection
- **Most** surgical site infections after C-section are **preventable**
- Mothers and their infants are an important and **vulnerable patient population**

Why does the SIMPI protocol and case definition not include laboratory findings?

- The diagnosis of wound infection does not require bacteriology / laboratory confirmation
- Because multiple organisms are often found in a single infected wound, it is often unclear which caused the infection
- While often valuable for patient care, bacteriology is expensive and difficult – for SSI surveillance this added expense is not justified

To be used for surveillance, bacteriologic lab results must be of reliable and consistent quality – some clinical labs available are not quality assured

Cesarean Section Surgical Site Infection Surveillance Initiative (CS-SIMPI)

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Purpose of this Presentation

- Highlight elements of protocol for surgical site infection (SSI) surveillance in order to:
 - Provide the opportunity to actively discuss elements of surveillance

Situational Analysis

SSI Surveillance in India (Fall 2019)

- Lack of standardized patient charting / record keeping
 - Limits use of existing patient data for surveillance
- Role of Infection Prevention and Control Focal Persons not clearly defined
 - Capacity for SSI surveillance limited by other important duties
- Recognition of IPC improvements
 - Staff able to identify relevant IPC areas (often multiple areas) that need improvement

Surveillance Objectives

1. Provide a cost-effective methodology for the systematic collection, analysis, and presentation of actionable information on the occurrence of SSIs
2. Provide data to implement targeted infection prevention and control (IPC) activities
3. Provide a platform for measuring the impact of IPC activities
4. Provide a safer surgical context for patients

Surveillance Settings

Surveillance of surgical patients will occur in inpatient and/or outpatient settings where C-sections are performed.

- Each facility should review the resources available for surveillance
- Designate a dedicated staff nurse to lead the SSI surveillance in the healthcare facility, a ICN will be preferable.
- Have an engaged healthcare facility administration and a HICC
- Have an IPC Program that can take action based on surveillance results would be an added advantage.

* Sites should preferably have a written policy of single dose of prophylactic antibiotic prior to the C-section/ or recognized alternative based on relevant locally developed antibiograms/antibiotic policy.

Case

Definition:

The case definition is for the purpose of surveillance and is not meant to serve as a clinical definition

* Sites, based on capacity, may also collect bacteriology culture and sensitivity results to aid with the clinical diagnosis of SSI, but this information will not be included as part of this surveillance protocol

A patient within 30 days of the surgical procedure with the following observed or reported:

A purulent (pus) discharge in, or coming from, the wound (including evidence of an abscess)

OR

Evidence of fever with painful, spreading erythema surrounding the surgical site

OR

Any reopening of the surgical wound

Surveillance Methods

Wound Assessments

Infection Surveillance Section – Surgical Safety Checklist and Surveillance Form

[Infection Surveillance]

	First Check	Discharge	Final Check
Days after procedure	_____ Days	_____ Days	_____ Days
Purulent Drainage / Abscess	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Wound Reopened	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Fever & Wound Redness	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Fever & Wound Swelling	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Fever & Increased Wound Pain	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Infection was Diagnosed:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Surveillance Methods

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1. Baseline Infection Control Assessment

Identify relevant gaps in infection control policies and practices before surveillance started

2. Identify Surveillance Population

Patients undergoing a surgical procedures of interest

- C-section

Surveillance Methods

Surgical Safety and Checklist and Surveillance Form

- The surveillance population is established when the surgical team starts the Surgical Safety Checklist and Surveillance Form
 - This form will be maintained throughout the follow-up period and will be used to document case finding and establish denominators
 - Designed as a combined clinical checklist (patient safety) and surveillance form:

Surveillance Methods

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3. Case finding

Clinical and/or surveillance staff shall systematically evaluate all hospitalized patients (in-patient) in the surveillance population as possible cases and document findings for surveillance as described.

Existing clinical assessment and documentation for post-surgical patients can remain unchanged

Methods for in-patient case finding may include:

- **Surgical wound assessment (Day 3 and at Discharge),**
- Review of surgery notes/records (if available/feasible)
- Review of nurses/physicians' notes (if available/feasible)
- Verbal review with the clinical/surgical care team

Surveillance Methods

Wound Assessments

Infection Surveillance Section – Surgical Safety Checklist and Surveillance Form

[Infection Surveillance]

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Surveillance Methods

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Post-discharge Case Finding: Telephone Interview

The method of post-discharge case finding recommended is:

- Telephone interview with patients

All patients are be contacted at least once (on or around day 30) and interviewed to determine if the case definition has been met.

An example script for post-discharge case finding interviews are provided as Appendix 2 of the protocol.

Post-Discharge Patient Interview Script

Hello, this is [YOUR NAME] from [HEALTH FACILITY]. My records show that you had a [NAME OF PROCEDURE] on [DATE OF OPERATION]. Is this correct?

Yes Corrected information:

No (specify)

Report that patient has died (date of death: ___/___/___)

Thanks for that, I am calling today to check that you are doing well and that your wound has healed as it should. Do you have 5 to 10 minutes to answer a few questions?

If not a good time, note a better time to call: _____

Your answers are very important to us and combined with hundreds of others will help to improve the quality care at [HEALTH FACILITY]. I want to assure you that all your responses will be kept confidential.

I would like to start with asking about fluid that may have come from your wound. A small amount of clear or bloody fluid from a healing wound is normal. I am interested in fluid we call **pus** that is a sign of an infection in your wound. Pus is usually thick and cloudy or milky and can sometimes have an unpleasant smell.

1. At any point did you see pus coming from your surgical wound? [[symptom_pus]]

Yes*

No [SKIP TO QUESTION 5]

2. What color was the pus?

Clear [clarify: puss is typically not clear]

Cloudy

Yellow

Green

Red/bloody [clarify: pus is not usually described as mainly bloody]

3. Did the pus have a bad smell?

Yes

No

4. What was the date when you noticed the pus coming from the surgical wound? [[ssi_date]]

(dd/mm/yyyy) ___/___/_____

I am now going to ask you about redness, swelling, and pain around your wound.

5. Did you notice redness around your wound that got worse instead of better? [[symptom_erythema]]

Yes*

No

FAQ - If the Surveillance Team finds an SSI before 30 days, do we still need to call the patient at 30 days?

- No
- If a surgical site infection is noted during the suture removal or during the follow up visit before 30 days, then the case forms will be closed as a case of SSI.

FAQ - If the Surveillance Team is unable to contact a patient after discharge how should the case be recorded?

- If post-discharge case finding is not being done or is lost to follow-up (e.g. patient phone number not reachable or patient moved to a different state)
- The discharge assessment will be the final wound assessment
 - For example - If there was no evidence of a SSI at discharge, then the case will be recorded as No SSI.

Surveillance Methods

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4. Denominator Data

First Day of Surveillance Period	Last Day of Surveillance Period	Number of <u>ALL</u> Procedures* Performed	Number of <u>Emergent</u> Procedures* performed	Number of <u>Elective</u> Procedures* Performed
DD/MM/YYYY	DD/MM/YYYY			
DD/MM/YYYY	DD/MM/YYYY			
DD/MM/YYYY	DD/MM/YYYY			
DD/MM/YYYY	DD/MM/YYYY			

Surveillance Methods

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6. Case reporting will be done through completion of the Surgical Safety Checklist and Surveillance Form. No additional documentation will be needed.
7. Data Management and Analysis
 - Regularly enter surveillance patient data and denominator data into a surveillance database
 - Periodically submitted data to public health authority (MOH/NIPCU) via a secure tablet computers
 - Public health authority: Data cleaning, validation, analysis and dissemination of surveillance reports

Surveillance Methods

Data Analysis

SSI rate: SSI per 100 procedures. Divide the total number of SSI recorded by the number of procedures performed and then multiply by 100.

Surveillance Methods

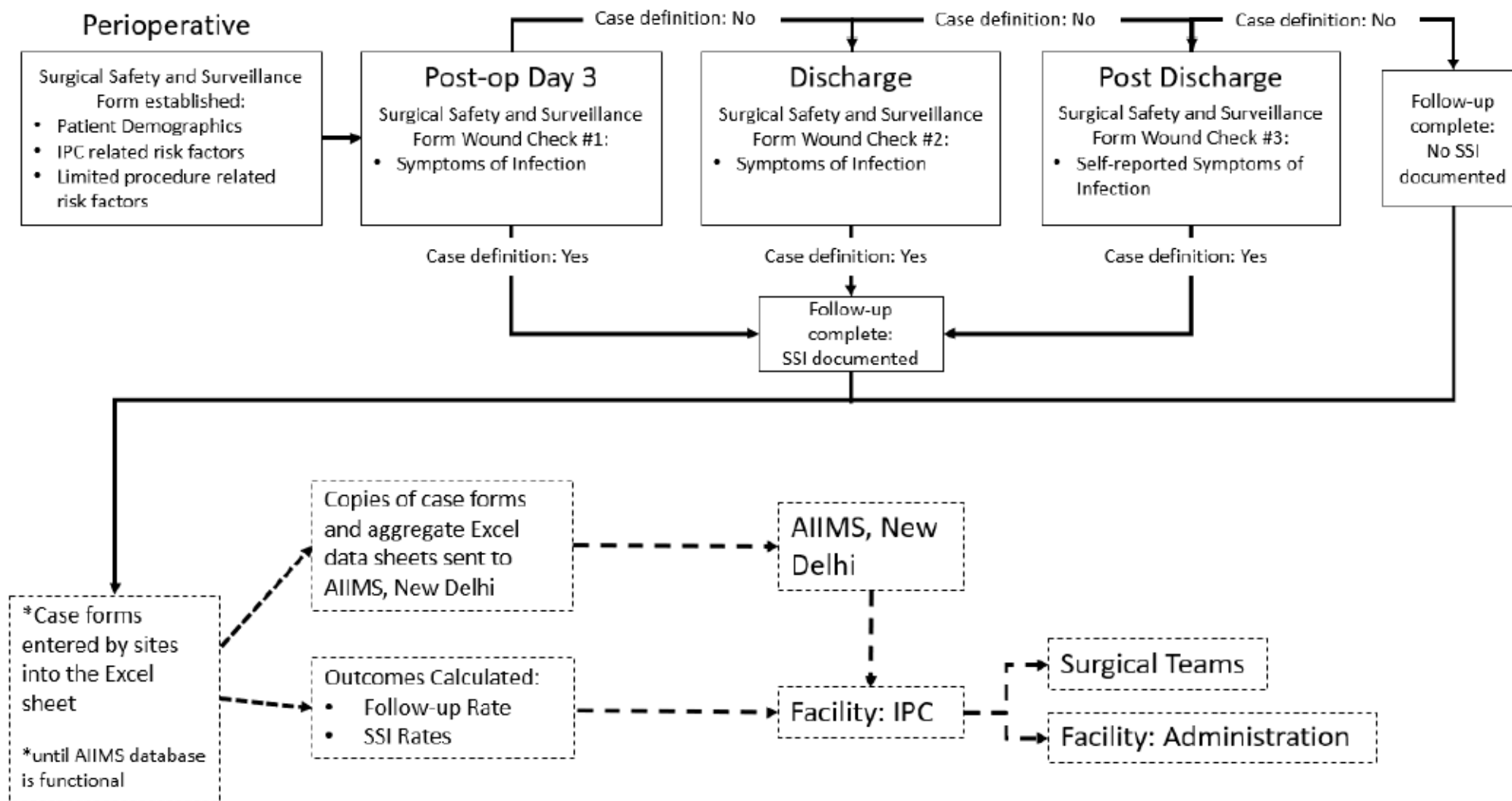
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8. Monitoring and Evaluation

9. Data Usage and Ownership

- Data generated as part of this surveillance are intended for internal use within sites and AIIMS to define the scope and magnitude of SSI/HAIs.
- Facility-level data may be used to implement infection control and as quality improvement measures at individual facilities.
- Data ownership will reside at sites and AIIMS

Figure 2: Recommended data flow of C-Section SSI surveillance System



Solid Lines: Physical/Form data flow
Broken lines: Digital information flow

Roles and Responsibilities

Participating Hospitals (page 12)

1. Site PIs:

- Will oversee implementation of the SSI protocol and ensure results are reported and used to improve patient outcomes.

2. Infection Control Nurse or staff nurse focal point:

- Work with surgical staff to ensure completion of surveillance Form
- Follow-up to reconcile missing or conflicting data
- Disseminating surveillance reports to relevant stakeholders

3. Clinical units: One investigator from the obstetrics department

- Will coordinate with the Microbiology department and ICN to facilitate identification and reporting of SSIs.

Roles and Responsibilities

Participating Hospitals (page 12)

4. AIIMS, New Delhi Trauma Center Team and CDC Staff :

- Will provide technical assistance

- Assist with creation of summary reports .

- May participate in initial facility practice/surveillance assessments

- Can provide access to subject matter expertise on SSI/HAI surveillance and prevention.

Ethical Consideration and Review

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- This protocol describes a public health surveillance activity, which is considered public health practice and not research.
- Individual patient consent will not be collected as a prerequisite of collecting necessary data to monitor SSI incidence.