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**Health Policy Commission  
Bulletin HPC-2015-04  
Intensive Care Unit Nurse Staffing Quality Measures**

**To:** Acute Hospitals subject to 958 CMR 8.00, *Patient Assignment Limits for Registered Nurses in Intensive Care Units in Acute Hospitals*; and Other Interested Parties

**From:** David M. Seltz, Executive Director, Health Policy Commission

**Date:** November 6, 2015

**Re:** ICU Nurse Staffing Quality Measures

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This bulletin, Bulletin HPC-2015-04, specifies intensive care unit (ICU)-related quality measures to be collected and reported by acute hospitals to the Department of Public Health (Department), pursuant to M.G.L. c. 111, § 231 and 958 CMR 8.00: *Patient Assignment Limits for Registered Nurses in Intensive Care Units in Acute Hospitals*. Section 8.11 of the regulation requires each acute hospital (as defined in 958 CMR 8.02) to measure and report ICU-related quality measures specified by the Health Policy Commission (Commission) for each ICU to the Department in the form and manner to be specified by the Department, and to post those reports on the acute hospital's website.

In developing 958 CMR 8.00, the Commission solicited information and engaged in extensive research to identify standardized nursing-sensitive quality measures that are evidence-based, nationally-accepted, currently collected and reported, and applicable across ICU types. On March 4, 2015, the Commission's Quality Improvement and Patient Protection (QIPP) Committee released proposed quality measures for public comment. The QIPP Committee endorsed final quality measures in connection with the recommended final regulation 958 CMR 8.00 on May 20, 2015. On June 10, 2015, the Commission finalized the quality measures to be specified in guidance of the Commission in the form of a bulletin.

**Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 111, § 231 and 958 CMR 8.11(1), the Commission hereby releases this bulletin, Bulletin HPC-2015-04, specifying the quality measures required to be collected and reported by acute hospitals:**

- 1. Central line-associated blood stream infection (CLABSI) – National Quality Forum #0139**
- 2. Catheter-associated urinary tract infection (CAUTI) – National Quality Forum #0138**
- 3. Pressure ulcer prevalence (hospital acquired) – National Quality Forum #0201\***
- 4. Patient falls with injury – National Quality Forum #0202**

Inquiries regarding the reporting of the quality measures may be directed to the Department of Public Health's Bureau of Health Care Safety and Quality by emailing [Eileen.McHale@state.ma.us](mailto:Eileen.McHale@state.ma.us).

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\* Due to a recent decision by the measure steward to relinquish its stewardship, #0201 is not currently endorsed by NQF. The HPC understands that despite the lack of endorsement, hospitals will continue to collect and report the measure.