

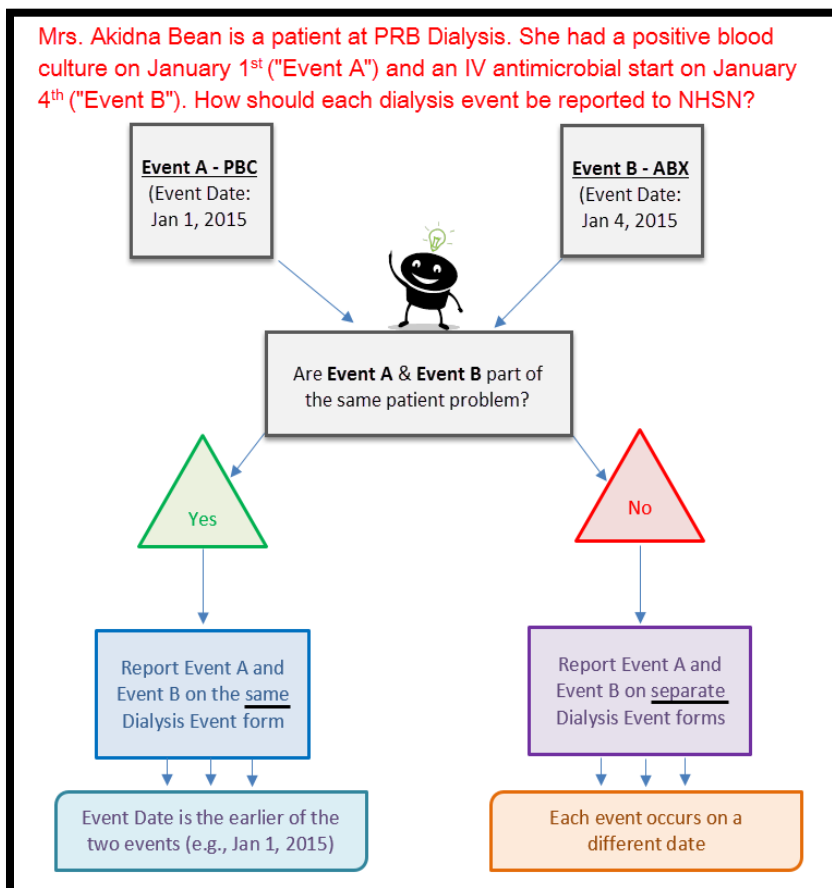
News from the NHSN Help Desk

Reporting Related Dialysis Events Together in NHSN

Don't report more events than necessary! If several dialysis events occurred on different dates but were related to the same patient problem, the events can be reported on a single dialysis event form. The flow chart below shows an example of how to report related events of different types to NHSN:

Per the Dialysis Event Surveillance Protocol...

“Multiple Dialysis Events: If multiple dialysis events occur together, as a **part of the same patient problem**, they should be reported on the same Dialysis Event form. For example, if a patient has a positive blood culture and begins IV antimicrobials, these two events would be recorded together on one form. When reporting multiple dialysis events together, the “date of event” is **always** the date that the first event occurred.”



| Event Type | Date of Event Criterion |
|---|---|
| IV antimicrobial start | Date of first outpatient dose of an antimicrobial |
| Positive blood culture | Date of specimen collection |
| Pus, redness or increased swelling at vascular access | Date of onset |
| ★ Combination | Earliest date of the three types |

Remember to keep the 21 day rule in mind when reporting related events of the same type to NHSN.

For more information about reporting dialysis events to NHSN, reference the Dialysis Event Protocol: <http://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/PDFs/pscManual/8pscDialysisEventcurrent.pdf>.



Questions about NHSN? Email the NHSN helpdesk at nhsn@cdc.gov with “Dialysis” in the subject line and we will respond to your inquiry within 5 business days.