

HAEMODIALYSIS ACCESS RELATED BLOOD STREAM INFECTIONS

Executive Summary

An additional collection of haemodialysis (HD) access related blood stream infection date and the causative organism/s will be introduced for the 2025 survey. The inclusion criterion is the presence of positive blood culture/s where the cause is deemed by the treating clinician to be the vascular access.

The ANZDATA Advisory Committee and Haemodialysis Working Group agreed to this new data collection element and are to implement this within the Online Electronic Data Collection tool (<https://services.anzdata.org.au>) and the A3 Survey Paper Form from Survey 76 - 2025.

Background

The haemodialysis process necessitates frequent use of catheters or insertion of needles to access the bloodstream, which places these patients at a high risk of infection. Haemodialysis access related bloodstream infections are an important indicator of quality of care.

Data Element

The data element will include the date of infection, the dialysis vascular access thought to be the source of the infection (catheter, AV fistula or AV graft) and the causative organism. It will be collected for all patients on haemodialysis.

Collection of Data Element

Data is reported at diagnosis of infection in real-time, or at the end of a survey period if previously not reported.

The online data entry screen labelled 'HD Access BSI' can be located inside the patient record screen, by clicking on the 'More' dropdown in the grey banner (see figure 1A).

The three data variables to be collected via this screen are listed below:

- Date of Infection
- Causative Organism/s (drop down list)
- Access related to the blood stream infection (drop down list)

The total number of HD access bloodstream infections already reported will be visible on the 'Dialysis' screen, also available in the grey banner (see figure 1B).

Data can be submitted via the usual data collection methods (Paper form, Online data entry, File import or API). **Units are encouraged to report access related blood stream infections when they occur.**

Paper submission will be available via the A4 form. This will be available on the website. A copy can also be requested from the general enquiries email anzdata@anzdata.org.au

For File import and API data submission the format for the date field is **DD/MM/YYYY**. More technical specifications can be located from the ANZDATA Registry website:

<https://services.anzdata.org.au/webservices>

