

Summary and Future Directions

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Potential problems with SAB reporting

- Because of funding implications
 - now highly political
 - Accurate lab data vs ICD-10 data
- If lab data, which denominator?
 - Occupied bed days vs patient discharges
 - Some States currently vary
- Silly details
 - Does a pregnant woman = 1 or 2 admissions?
- System of national SAB data progressing
 - but some delays in nationwide definitions
 - Sense of political anxiety in some States

Future steps

- National system of standardised SAB reporting
 - As an outcome measure of interventions (e.g. HH)
 - Blue-print for other important HAIs – e.g. *C. difficile*
- How best to achieve this?
 - Be logical/sensible – Western Australia
 - Be practical – Tasmania
 - Be anxious – all other States
- Who should lead this?
 - Not Public Health – gen. too bureaucratic and scared of hospitals
 - Infectious Diseases/Infection Control