

## Steps in Evaluating Electronic Surveillance Systems for Potential Incorporation into a Facility

Step #	Description
1	Involve all key stakeholders in the evaluation process.
2	Develop a list of requirements a system must have and a list of requirements that would be nice to have.
3	Interview vendors who develop facility-specific systems.
4	Ask the different vendors to demonstrate a standard scenario, such as retrieving all positive cultures for a specific organism for a specific unit within a designated time frame.
5	Ask other users of the systems under evaluation whether they are satisfied with the system.
6	Create side-by-side vendor comparisons of the specific functions of the systems (for example, event alerts, rate and trending analyses, messaging/data collection transfer to the National Healthcare Safety Network).
7	Determine the resources and time that would be needed to implement and maintain each system.
8	Evaluate the flexibility of the system and its ability to adapt to changing needs.
9	Evaluate the systems' abilities to keep data secure and confidential.
10	Assess the business case.
11	Decide which system will be selected and work through the ordering and installation process.

**Source:** Greene LR, et al. APIC position paper: The importance of surveillance technologies in the prevention of health care–associated infections (HAIs). *Am J Infect Control*. 2009 Aug;37(6):510–513. Accessed Mar 26, 2013. [http://www.apic.org/Resource\\_/TinyMceFileManager/Position\\_Statements/Surveillance-Technologies-position-paper-2009.pdf](http://www.apic.org/Resource_/TinyMceFileManager/Position_Statements/Surveillance-Technologies-position-paper-2009.pdf).