

HAI vs CAI Definitions

A **hospital-acquired infection** (HAI), also known as a **nosocomial infection**, is an **infection** that is acquired in a hospital or other health care facility. ...**Infection** is spread to the susceptible patient in the clinical setting by various means. If an infection becomes manifest 48 hrs. or later after admission, a nosocomial infection is likely. (This is what is generally used as a time frame)

Community Acquired is an **infection** contracted outside of a health care setting or an **infection** present on admission. **Community-acquired infections** are often distinguished from nosocomial, or hospital-**acquired**, diseases by the types of organisms that affect patients who are recovering from a disease or injury.