To better understand the heavy tailed behavior in the networks, we plotted average patient transfers and hospital connectedness or degree using the following formula given by Barrat et al.\textsuperscript{1}:

\[ s(k) \sim k^\beta \]

The general healthcare network’s average strength given as a function of degree \( k, s(k), \) varied with a power \( \beta \) of 1.51 (S1 Fig). For the suspected-HAI networks and the HAI-specific network average strength varies by a power of 1.36 and 1.26 as a function of degree respectively (S2 Fig, S3 Fig). Therefore, in these healthcare networks, the number of patients transferred by a hospital increased at a higher rate than that of the hospital’s connections and was most high in the general network.