

Infection Control Guidelines for Management of Multidrug-Resistant Organisms (MDROs) in Home Health and Home Hospice

Administrative Measures	Staff Education	Judicial Antimicrobial Use	Surveillance	Infection Control Precautions to Prevent Transmission	Environmental Measures	Decolonization
<p>Make prevention and control of MDROs an organizational priority, as appropriate, on the basis of past experience and local epidemiology.</p> <p>Identify experts who can provide consultation and expertise in analyzing data or devising effective control strategies, as needed.</p> <p>Implement systems to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assure that the presence of an MDRO is communicated to administrative point(s)-of-contact and staff providing direct patient care. ▪ Identify patients with MDROs upon initiation of home care and home hospice services. ▪ Communicate the presence of MDROs in patients prior to patient transfer or discharge to another healthcare facility/setting. <p>Provide data to providers and administrators on infections caused by MDROs, especially changes in their prevalence and incidence as part of a performance improvement (PI) plan.</p>	<p>Address MDRO prevention and control during staff orientation and as part of ongoing education for all healthcare and ancillary support staff.</p> <p>Emphasize compliance with standard precautions and hand hygiene.</p> <p>Educate staff about criteria for implementating additional precautions (e.g., contact precautions).</p>	<p>Implement a process to review clinicians' antibiotic prescribing practices and use this to provide feedback to encourage appropriate antibiotic use.</p> <p>Prepare and distribute antimicrobial susceptibility data to providers (e.g., antibiograms).</p> <p>Review bacterial culture and sensitivity reports to assess the appropriateness of antibiotic therapy.</p>	<p>Initiate and maintain a line listing or log of patients known to be colonized or infected with MDROs.</p> <p>Analyze surveillance data periodically (e.g., quarterly) to identify patients with MDROs, resistance trends and common referral sources (e.g., a particular hospital or provider).</p> <p>Identify, when possible, patients who become colonized or infected with an MDRO while receiving home health or home hospice services.</p> <p>If a home care-acquired MDRO is identified, consult with an infection control professional or healthcare epidemiologist with expertise in the prevention and control of MDROs to assist in assessment and planning activities.</p> <p>Implement appropriate measures to control the transmission of MDROs.</p>	<p>Observe standard precautions during all patient-care activities, assuming that any patient could potentially be colonized or infected with a MDRO.</p> <p>Perform hand hygiene whenever indicated.</p> <p>Implement contact precautions under circumstances that would normally indicate their use, such as during the care of patients with draining wounds or uncontrolled secretions/excretions.</p> <p>Monitor appropriateness of precautions initiated at time of admission, and during entire course of therapy/length of stay. Determine the appropriateness for discontinuation of these precautions.</p> <p>If possible, dedicate noncritical patient care items (e.g., stethoscope, blood pressure cuff and thermometer) to a single client known to be colonized or infected with a MDRO.</p> <p>Clean, disinfect and/ or sterilize equipment removed from the home before use on another patient.</p> <p>Minimize equipment taken into the home, such as nursing bags that are carried in and out of the home.</p>	<p>No special terminal cleaning of a patient's room in the home setting is required routinely, only as needed (e.g., in situations where a household member is severely immunocompromised).</p>	<p>Not routinely recommended. May consult with experts on a case-by-case basis.</p>

Additional Resources:

1. Management of Multidrug-Resistant Organisms in Healthcare Settings, 2006 (CDC), available at <http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dhqp/pdf/ar/mdroGuideline2006.pdf>
2. Investigation and Control of Vancomycin-Intermediate and –Resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (VISA/VRSA): A Guide for Health Departments and Infection Control Personnel (CDC), available at http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dhqp/pdf/ar/visa_vrsa_guide.pdf