WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT MRSA

OVERVIEW

Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) is a type of bacteria that can cause skin infections. It is often found on the skin or in the nose of healthy people. However, if MRSA enters the body, it can cause infection.

BEWARE OF MRSA

- MRSA once it migrates into the blood can be deadly.
- Infections caused by MRSA are usually more serious than those caused by other types of Staph infections.
- MRSA infections can be difficult to treat because they are resistant to most antibiotics.

GLOBAL IMPACT

Hot spots
- UK 1961
- Japan 1960s
- South Korea 2003
- U.S. late 1980s
- Europe late 1970s
- Asia late 1980s
- South Africa 1978

MRSA HOT SPOTS

Athletic settings
- Atlanta
- Seattle
- Chicago

Hospitals
- Michigan 1997
- Boston 1968

Schools
- Kimberley 1980s
- Sydney 1965

RISK FACTORS

- Advanced age
- Male gender
- Wounds
- Exposure to infected or colonized patient
- Prior and prolonged antimicrobial use

IMPANT FACTS

- Starting in 2017, the US federal government will penalize hospitals for every case of MRSA, in an effort to address poor performance.

MRSA was initially a hospital-acquired infection, but over the past years, community-acquired MRSA has become a major problem.

MRSA HOT SPOTS

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- Atlanta
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Hospitals
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RECOMMENDATIONS

- Wash your hands often
- Keep cuts, scrapes, and wounds clean and covered until healed
- Wipe down shared equipment (athletic, medical, etc.) before and after use
- Do not touch other’s wounds or bandages
- Do not share personal items like towels, razors, or clothing
- No bar soaps, use bottle soap

GLOBAL IMPACT

- Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus among infection rates in the United States and other countries

MRSA TOTAL ANNUAL COST (USA)

$9.7 billion

COST

- Hospital stays
- Extra in-hospital annual costs
- Community-associated MRSA annual cost on society
- MRSA community-associated annual cost on third-party payers

PREVENTION

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