

Multi-drug Resistant Organism (MDRO) Health Advisory November 23, 2022

Situational Update

Multiple healthcare facilities are experiencing outbreaks of multi-drug resistant organisms (MDRO). This advisory provides guidance on inter-facility communication and transfers in order to reduce the spread of MDRO.

Communication between Healthcare Facilities

All MDRO should be clearly communicated between facilities, especially when patients are colonized or infected with unusual organisms like carbapenemase-producing (NDM) carbapenem-resistant *A. baumannii* (CRAB).

- Inter-facility transfer forms should be used any time patients colonized or infected by MDRO are transferred between healthcare facilities. The CDPH Interfacility Transfer Form is [here](#) for reference.
- **If your facility is transferring a patient who is known to be colonized or infected with an MDRO your staff should make a call to the receiving facility to make sure they are aware of the patient's status.**

Case managers should also be informed of the importance of clear communication regarding the organism.

Admission Recommendations

Please carry out the following steps if your facility admits a patient from a high-acuity post-acute care setting such as long-term acute care hospitals or ventilator units of nursing homes:

- **Confirm the patient's MDRO status** with the transferring facility.
 - If positive, place patient on Contact precautions, place in a single room if possible, and flag the patient's chart.
 - If negative or unknown status, place patient on empiric Contact precautions, and in a single room (if possible) until screened and result returns negative.
- **Facilities can screen patients** for MDRO by:
 - Collecting respiratory (if vented or trached), urine (if catheter), wound (if present), or axilla/groin cultures, and if positive for a carbapenem-resistant organism, obtaining carbapenemase testing; OR
 - Collecting surveillance swabs (e.g., rectal) and obtaining carbapenemase testing.
 - If the options above are not available, contact Sacramento County Public Health (SCPH) for further guidance.
- Once a patient has been identified with an MDRO, it is not necessary to re-screen them.
- If the patient is discharged before screening has taken place, please inform the receiving facility of the need for empiric Contact precautions, and contact SCPH to report the patient has been transferred.

Resources:

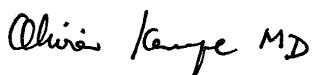
1. CDPH:

https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCO/HAI/Pages/CRE_InfectionPreventionStrategies.aspx

2. CDPH Healthcare Facility Transfer Form:

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCO/HAI/CDPH%20Document%20Library/Interfacility%20Transfer%20Form%20061417.pdf>

Sincerely,



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