



TITLE: Contact Precautions for Patients Previously Positive for Antibiotic Resistant Organisms: Guidelines

DATE: 05 January 2015

RESEARCH QUESTION

What are the evidence-based guidelines regarding the management of patients in acute care who have previously tested positive, but are currently negative for antibiotic resistant organisms?

KEY FINDINGS

No evidence-based guidelines were identified regarding the management of patients in acute care who have previously tested positive, but are currently negative for antibiotic resistant organisms.

METHODS

A limited literature search was conducted on key resources including PubMed, Medline, The Cochrane Library (2014, Issue 12), University of York Centre for Reviews and Dissemination (CRD) databases, Canadian and major international health technology agencies, as well as a focused Internet search. Methodological filters were applied to limit retrieval to health technology assessments, systematic reviews, meta-analyses, and guidelines. Where possible, retrieval was limited to the human population. The search was also limited to English language documents published between January 1, 2010 and December 17, 2014. Internet links were provided, where available.

SELECTION CRITERIA

One reviewer screened citations and selected studies based on the inclusion criteria presented in Table 1.

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Table 1: Selection Criteria

Population	Adult patients with repeated admissions to acute care, with a previous history of positive ARO status but with recent negative ARO status
Intervention	No isolation precautions
Comparator	Isolation precautions (standard of care)
Outcomes	Evidence-based guidelines
Study Designs	Health technology assessments, systematic reviews, meta-analyses, evidence-based guidelines

RESULTS

No health technology assessments, systematic reviews, meta-analyses or evidence-based guidelines were identified regarding the management of patients in acute care who have previously tested positive, but are currently negative for antibiotic resistant organisms.

References of potential interest are provided in the appendix.

OVERALL SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

No relevant evidence-based guidelines were identified regarding the management of patients in acute care who have previously tested positive, but are currently negative for antibiotic resistant organisms; therefore, no summary can be provided.

REFERENCES SUMMARIZED

Health Technology Assessments

No literature identified.

Systematic Reviews and Meta-analyses

No literature identified.

Guidelines and Recommendations

No literature identified.

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APPENDIX – FURTHER INFORMATION:

Guidelines and Recommendations - Screening

1. Antibiotic resistant organisms prevention and control guidelines for healthcare facilities: reference document for use by health care organizations for internal policy/protocol development [Internet]. Vancouver (BC): Provincial Infection Control Network of British Columbia; 2013 Mar [cited 2014 Dec 23]. Available from: https://www.picnet.ca/wp-content/uploads/PICNet_ARO_Guidelines_March2013.pdf
See: *Section 7 General Principles for the Prevention and Control of Antibiotic Resistant Organisms, pages 9-15*

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2. Annex A: screening, testing and surveillance for antibiotic-resistant organisms (AROs) in all health care settings [Internet]. Toronto (ON): Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion, Provincial Infectious Diseases Advisory Committee (PIDAC); 2013 [cited 2014 Dec 23]. Available from: http://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/eRepository/PIDAC-IPC_Annex_A_Screening_Testing_Surveillance_AROs_2013.pdf
See: *Recommendation #38, page 37*
3. Best practice guidelines for reducing transmission of antibiotic resistant organisms (AROs) in acute & long term care settings, home care & prehospital care [Internet]. Halifax (NS): Department of Health and Wellness, Infection Prevention and Control Nova Scotia (IPCNS); 2012 Mar [cited 2015 Jan 2]. Available from: <http://ipc.gov.ns.ca/sites/default/files/BestPracticesGuidelineforAROsAcuteandLTCSettings.pdf>
See: *Number 6 – “De-flagging,” page 20*
4. Guidelines for management of antibiotic resistant organisms across the continuum of care. St. John’s (NL): Department of Health & Community Services (NL), Disease Control Division; 2012 Jan 26 [cited 2014 Dec 23]. Available from: http://www.health.gov.nl.ca/health/publichealth/cdc/infectioncontrol/aro_policy_2012.pdf
See: *Discontinuing Precautions, pages 10-11*
5. Guidelines for the prevention and control of multi-drug resistant organisms (MDRO) excluding MRSA in the healthcare setting [Internet]. Dublin (IE): Royal College of Physicians of Ireland; 2012 [cited 2014 Dec 23]. Available from: <http://www.hpsc.ie/A-Z/MicrobiologyAntimicrobialResistance/InfectionControlandHAI/Guidelines/File,12922,en.pdf>
See: *1.6 Discontinuation of Isolation Precautions in Acute Hospitals, page 11; Decolonization, page 23*