TITLE: Risk Factors and Carriage of Methicillin-Resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*: Clinical Evidence

DATE: 07 May 2012

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

1. What is the evidence regarding the risk factors for patient carriage of Methicillin-Resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA)?

2. What is the evidence regarding the risk of infection in patients who are carriers of MRSA?

3. What is the evidence regarding the risk of long-term carriage in patients who are colonized or infected with MRSA?

4. What is the evidence regarding the length of time patients remain carriers of MRSA?

KEY MESSAGE

Fifty-five non-randomized studies were identified regarding the risk factors and carriage of MRSA: thirty-eight studies were identified regarding the risk factors for patient carriage, twelve studies regarding the risk of infection in patients who are carriers, two studies regarding the risk of long-term carriage in patients who are colonized or infected, and three studies were identified regarding the length of time patients remain carriers of MRSA.

METHODS

A limited literature search was conducted on key resources including PubMed, The Cochrane Library (2012, Issue 3), University of York Centre for Reviews and Dissemination (CRD) databases, Canadian and abbreviated lists of major international health technology agencies, as well as a focused Internet search. No filters were applied to limit the retrieval by study type. Where possible, retrieval was limited to the human population. The search was limited to

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RESULTS

Rapid Response reports are organized so that the higher quality evidence is presented first. Therefore, health technology assessment reports, systematic reviews, and meta-analyses are presented first. These are followed by randomized controlled trials and non-randomized studies.

Fifty-five non-randomized studies were identified regarding the risk factors and carriage of MRSA: thirty-eight studies were identified regarding the risk factors for patient carriage, twelve studies regarding the risk of infection in patients who are carriers, two studies regarding the risk of long-term carriage in patients who are colonized or infected, and three studies were identified regarding the length of time patients remain carriers of MRSA. No relevant health technology assessment reports, systematic reviews, meta-analyses, or randomized controlled trials were identified.

Health Technology Assessments
No literature identified.

Systematic Reviews and Meta-analyses
No literature identified.

Randomized Controlled Trials
No literature identified.

Non-Randomized Studies

Risk factors for patient carriage of MRSA


Risk of infection in patients who are carriers of MRSA


Risk of long term-carriage in patients who are colonized or infected with MRSA


Length of time patients remain carriers of MRSA

