### Your Health Connection





Antibiotic Resistant Organisms (ARO's) How You Can Prevent and Control the Spread



## Objective

Learn about Antibiotic Resistance

 Learn about different Antibiotic Resistant Organisms (AROs) and how they are spread

 Discuss how we can stop the spread of ARO's by using Routine Practices



## **Resistance to Antibiotics**

- 1. Miscoded genetic information: errors create mutations
- 2. Natural defensive mechanism passed down
- Transfer antibiotic resistant genes to the next bacteria via plasmid transfer (bridge between two bacteria)
- Pick up DNA released into environment from dying bacteria (same species)
- Insertion of (gene with code) into DNA
- 3. Antibiotic use



# **Creating Resistance**





## **Resistance to Antibiotics**

The antibiotic
is inactivated
before reaching
the cell

(5) The cell acquires alternative metabolic pathway, by-passing the antibiotic's site of action



Cell becomes
impermeable so
the target cannot
be reached

③ The cell acquires the ability to pump back out the antibiotic

④ The target is altered, no longer recognizable by the antibiotic



## Some Definitions

Colonization

Bacteria is in or on our body without causing injury to tissue or cells.

Infection

Bacteria entry and multiply in the body and cause infections.

Decolonization

• Use of antimicrobial ointments/body wash and oral antibiotics to remove colonization of resistant bacteria.

Who should be decolonized?

- During outbreaks with the same strain that has caused the outbreak
- Staff who are linked and colonized with an outbreak strain.
- PIDAC: Routine decolonization is not currently recommended



# Resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA)

- 60 % of us are colonized with Staphylococcus aureus (NOSE, SKIN)
- Infections of skin (iGAS), and lungs (pneumonia)
- Some Staph carry resistance to Beta-lactum classes: Penicillin and Cephalosporin's
- Spread via colonized hands of people who come in direct contact with infected patients or contaminated equipment/surfaces
- Hand hygiene and environmental surface cleaning



# Resistant Enterococci (VRE)

Enterococcus faecium or Enterococcus faecalis

Naturally live in the gastrointestinal track

Resistant to Vancomycin

Infections of wounds, ulcers and medical devices

 Spread via colonized hands of people from colonized or infected patients or after handling equipment

Hand hygiene and environmental cleaning



# Extended-Spectrum Beta Lactamase (ESBL)

- Enterobacteriaceae Escherichia coli (E.coli) and Klebsiella pneumoniae
- Found in the gastrointestinal tract
- Causes infections in the urinary tract (UTI) and blood (bacteraemia)
- Produce enzymes (beta-lactamase) that break down the antibiotic (i.e. penicillin, cephalosporin, carbapenem)
- Spread via hands
- Hand hygiene



## Carbapenemase-producing Enterobacteriaceae (CPE)

- Escherichia coli (E.coli) and Klebsiella pneumoniae
- Found in the lower gastrointestinal tract
- Produce carbapenemase enzymes hydrolyzing the antibiotic. (also all first, second and third generation penicillin's)
- Spread via direct and indirect contact

Hand hygiene



## Clostridium difficile (CDI)

- Ingestion of C. difficile spores
- In the environment and colonizes up to 3-5% of adults without causing symptoms.
- Risk = loss of normal flora (antibiotics, GI surgery, proton pumps, drugs that suppress the anti toxin antibody)
- Spores become living bacteria and toxins are released that damage colon and cause watery diarrhea.
- Appropriate and adequate treatment reoccurrence will occur.
- Hand hygiene after glove use and environmental cleaning using a sporicidal disinfectant



## Who is at Risk of getting ARO's

- Residents of LTC facilities
- Clients with a history of long/frequent hospital stays
- Babies admitted to the nursery from other hospitals will be screened for MRSA, VRE and Serratia.
- Patients previously identified as positive for ARO's or exposed from previous admissions are flagged electronically.
- Health Care Workers
- Prior use of antibiotics
- People with existing surgical wounds, or devices



### Routine Practices and Additional Precautions for ARO's

#### Hand Washing

Hand hygiene to be conducted:

- Before entering a patient's environment and after (ground, vehicle, house, back of ambulance)
- Before direct contact with the patient and after (skin, fluids, devices)
- before and after glove/PPE
- ✓ Have ABHR at Point of Care

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- Gloves and gowns at Point of Care-symptomatic
- Taken off when care is complete, immediately discard and hand hygene conducted

#### <u>Laundry</u>

- Regular wash/dry cycles are sufficient to destroy ARO's
- Soiled linens must be bagged wearing gloves



### **Routine Practices and Additional Precautions**

#### <u>Equipment</u>

- Disposable items/dedicated equipment
- Response bags cleaned/disinfected after each use or sent to laundry if heavily soiled or contaminated with blood/body fluids
- CLEAN items with soap and water and then DISINFECTED with an approved disinfectant. (Pressure cuffs, Stethoscopes, stretchers, mattress and belts, clip boards)

#### Environment

- All high touched and horizontal surfaces: routine cleaning with a board spectrum bactericide (follow contact time)
- Handle garbage as per routine use gloves
- For CDI and norovirus the back of the vehicle is cleaned twice
- VRE no double dipping of cloth
- Ensure a "cleaning" checklist is used to adequately clean and disinfect the vehicle after each and every client transport
- All items (cloths, mops) laundered or discarded



### Citations

- Public Health Agency of Canada Routine Practices and Additional Precautions for Preventing the Transmission of Infection in Healthcare Settings 2012
- Ontario Public Health PIDAC Annex A: Screening, Testing and Surveillance for Antibiotic-Resistant Organisms (AROs) In all Health Care Settings 2013
- Ontario Public Health PIDAC Best Practices for Environmental Cleaning For Prevention and Control of In all Health Care Settings 2012
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- Alberts, B; Johnson, A.; Lewis, J; Raff, M.; Roberts, K. & Walter, P. (2002) <u>Molecular</u> <u>Biology of the Cell</u>, (4<sup>th</sup> ed). London: Taylor & Francis Group. p. 1261.



### **Public Health Ontario**

- Crown corporation dedicated to protecting and promoting the health of all Ontarians and reducing inequities in health
- They provide expert scientific and technical advice and support relating to: infectious diseases, infection prevention and control, surveillance and epidemiology, health promotion, chronic disease and injury prevention as well as environmental and occupational health, emergency preparedness and incident response
- They operate the public health labs
- Main clients are local public health units, government and health care providers and institutions.



## **Public Health Ontario**

## http://www.publichealthontario.ca

#### Important Topics

- Hand Hygiene: Just clean your hands program
- PIDAC: Best Practice Documents
- Regional Infection Control Networks Located in Orillia
- IPAC Core Competencies Online Learning Course
- Ontario Health Profiles –using data to describe the health status of Ontarians

