



## **How to Use the *MRSA* Toolkit for Medical Facilities**

This toolkit has been designed to help staff at medical facilities prevent, diagnose, treat and reduce the transmission of Methicillin resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA). It contains new educational materials for everyone including staff, health care providers and patients. (A CD with these materials, in the order they are presented here, is enclosed.)

### **For All Acute Care Staff**

#### Suggestions for Use

1. Use the Policy/Procedure Check-off List to determine if your facility has the basic policies and procedures for infection control in place.
2. Check to see if facility policies and procedures are being followed. Perform routine assessments of facility staff's behaviors using the Assessment of Clinical Practice tool. Perform these assessments on a regular basis to track success in changing and implementing policy/procedures and motivating staff to use infection control and prevention measures.
3. Ask all staff to attend the PowerPoint presentation (provided), followed by a question and answer session.
4. Review all toolkit materials with staff so they will know what is available to educate/update clinic staff, medical providers and patients.
5. Decide how and when to use staff educational materials and where to hang posters targeted to staff.
6. Decide how and when to use patient education materials, where to hang posters and where to store materials targeted to patients so that it can be accessed easily. Determine who will be responsible for printing educational materials for patients and staff from the CD that is provided and where that CD will be kept when it is not being used.

## Materials Available

**Staff-1 (Policy) Policy and Procedure Check-off List:** Tool that assists personnel to determine if they have key infection control policies and procedures in place.

**Staff-2 (Policy) Assessing Clinical Practice:** Tool that assists personnel as they perform a walk-through observational assessment of facility compliance with key infection control indicators. Progress may be measured through routine assessments, comparing the results of the last one with the one before it.

**Staff-3 (Policy) Infection Control Manual:** Infection control procedures in table format include information on contact precautions, wound care, culturing, irrigation and the use of barriers as well as guidelines on environmental cleaning. *(May be adopted as facility procedures or may be used to develop policies/procedures.)*

**Staff-4 (Policy) Quick Reference for Environmental Cleaning/Guide to Sterilization and Disinfection of Equipment and Surfaces:** Laminated three-page poster *(9x12 inches)* from the toolkit's *Infection Control Manual*

**Staff-5 (Education) PowerPoint Presentation:** Basic information on MRSA and infection control for the staff provided in a *chain of infection* framework (infectious agent, reservoir, means of transmission and susceptible persons). This PowerPoint presentation may take between 20 and 25 minutes to present when you allow approximately five minutes for questions.

**Staff-6 (Education) How to Break the Chain of MRSA infections in Acute Care Facilities:** Poster *(11x17 inches)* targeted to medical personnel with an explanation of risk factors, prevention, treatment and how to stop transmission. *(May also be used in patient areas to provoke discussion)*

**Staff-7 (Education) How Should I Wash my Hands?** Poster *(9x12 inches)* showing the six steps of hand washing, targeted to patients and staff. *(Hang over sinks in rooms, kitchens and bathrooms.)*

**Staff-8 (Education) Hand Sanitation with Alcohol Gel:** Poster *(9x12 inches)* to remind patients and staff to use alcohol gel *before* going into patient rooms to prevent/stop transmission of disease. *(Hang by wall dispensers.)*

**Staff-9 (Evaluation) Evaluation of Toolkit:** This is one way of letting us know what you think we did well, what you think we should change, and/or what future toolkits should contain. Alternatively, tell your public health nurse consultant what you think about this toolkit. You may fill out the enclosed evaluation and mail or fax it to us at:

Office of Public Health, Region VI

Attention: Cenla SOS

5604 B Coliseum Blvd

Alexandria, LA. 71303

Fax 318-487-5338

## **For Patients**

### **Suggestions for Use**

1. Educate patients (and their parents/care givers) about the appropriate use of antibiotics and about recognizing, treating and preventing transmission of skin and soft tissue infections. Talk with them, answer questions and teach them while you are providing treatment; follow up with patient-targeted educational materials. Remind them that frequent, thorough hand washing is the best way to prevent infections.
- 2 Provide information that is specifically targeted to patients. Hang informational posters in the waiting areas and examination/treatment or patient rooms. Provide pamphlets patients can take with them to reinforce what they have just learned, to share information with others. Give “Living with MRSA” to patients and families who are dealing with MRSA infections to help them care for themselves appropriately and prevent/stop transmission of MRSA.

### **Materials Available**

**Patients-1 (Education) Antibiotics and Skin Infections Pamphlet:** Describes when to use and when not to use antibiotics with skin and soft tissue infections (SSTI).

**Patients-2 (Education) Living with MRSA Booklet-ENGLISH:** New English version field-tested through a focus group discussion (FGD) of persons who have/had MRSA infections. (*Hand out to patients infected with MRSA and their families.*)

**Patients-3 (Education) Living with MRSA Booklet-SPANISH:** The original booklet is still available in Spanish. (*Hand out to patients infected with MRSA and their families.*)

**Patients-4 (Education) Poster on MRSA-LARGE:** Quick reference on MRSA skin and soft tissue infection (SSTI) – what it is, how to prevent it, how it presents, how to treat it and how to stop transmission, large poster (11x17). (*Primarily targeted to patients, but suitable for placement in staff as well as patient areas.*)

**Patients-5 (Education) Fact Sheet on MRSA-SMALL:** Quick reference on MRSA skin and soft tissue infection (SSTI) – what it is, how to prevent it, how it presents, how to treat it and how to stop transmission, small fact sheet (9 x 12). (*This small version may be used as a handout for patients*)

**Patients-6 (Education) How Should I Wash my Hands?** Poster (9x12 inches) showing the six steps of hand washing, targeted to patients and staff. (*Hang over sinks in exam/treatment rooms, kitchens and bathrooms.*)

**Patients-7 (Education) Hand Sanitation with Alcohol Gel:** Poster (9x12 inches) to remind patients and staff to use alcohol gel *before* going into examination/treatment rooms to prevent/stop transmission of disease. (*Hang by wall dispensers.*)

### **For Medical Providers**

#### Suggestions for Use

1. Review and use the materials (listed below) as you find a need for them. We hope they will help you in your clinical practice.
2. Encourage the staff to use the *Infection Control Manual* and the *Quick Reference to Environmental Cleaning* that is found in the *All Staff* section of this toolkit.
3. Review the patient education materials included in this toolkit. A CD with all materials is included with this toolkit so that staff may make their own copies and do not have to worry about having enough patient educational materials available.

## Materials Available

**Providers-1 (Protocols) SSTI Wound Culture Protocols:** Culturing guidelines that have been reviewed for accuracy by Rapides Medical Society.

**Providers-2 (Guidelines) Interim Guidelines for Management of SSTI:** These guidelines were reviewed and approved by the Rapides Medical Society.

**Providers-3 (Algorithm) Colored SSTI Treatment Algorithm (2-sided, 9x12):** Companion piece to the Interim Guidelines for Management of SSTIs (above).

**Providers-4 (Education) CDC Strategies for Clinical Management of MRSA in the Community):** Summary of the history, current knowledge and strategies for treating/controlling CA-MRSA. It was downloaded from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) website for your convenience. It may also be found at:

**[www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dhqp/ar\\_mrsa\\_ca\\_prevention.html](http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dhqp/ar_mrsa_ca_prevention.html)**

**Please note:** This document is divided into three sections, one for each of the three groups targeted, (1) for all staff, (2) for patients and (3) for medical providers. The appropriate section of this “how to” document is also included as the first document in the folders for each target group (on the CD and on our website).



## **How to Use the MRSA Toolkit for Medical Facility Staff Education**

This toolkit has been designed to help staff at Medical Facilities prevent, diagnose, treat and reduce the transmission of Methicillin resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA). It contains educational materials for everyone: staff, health care providers, and patients. (A CD with these materials, in the order they are presented here, is enclosed.)

### **Suggestions for Use**

1. Use the Policy/Procedure Check-off List to determine if your facility has the basic policies and procedures for infection control in place.
2. Check to see if facility policies and procedures are being followed. Perform routine assessments of facility staff's behaviors using the Assessment of Clinical Practice tool. Perform these assessments on a regular basis to track success in changing and implementing policy/procedures and motivating staff to use infection control and prevention measures.
3. Ask all staff to attend the PowerPoint presentation (provided), followed by a question and answer session.
4. Review all toolkit materials with staff so they will know what is available to educate/update staff, medical providers and patients.
5. Decide how and when to use staff educational materials and where to hang posters targeted to staff.
6. Decide how and when to use patient education materials, where to hang posters and where to store materials targeted to patients so that it can be accessed easily. Determine who will be responsible for printing educational materials for patients and staff from the CD that is provided and where that CD will be kept when it is not being used.
7. Fill out the enclosed evaluation form, if you would like, and mail or fax it to us. This is one way of letting us know what you think we did well, what you think we should change, and/or what future toolkits should contain. Alternatively, tell your public health nurse consultant what you think about this toolkit.

## Materials Available

**Staff-1 (Policy) Policy and Procedure Check-off List:** Tool to assist personnel to determine if they have key infection control policies in place.

**Staff-2 (Policy) Assessment of Clinical Practice:** Tool that assists personnel as they perform a walk-through observational assessment of facility compliance with key infection control indicators. Progress may be measured through routine assessments, comparing the results of the last one with the one before it.

**Staff-3 (Policy) Infection Control Manual:** Infection control procedures in table format include information on contact precautions, wound care, culturing, irrigation and the use of barriers as well as guidelines on environmental cleaning.

**Staff-4 (Policy) Quick Reference for Environmental Cleaning/Guide to Sterilization and Disinfection of Equipment and Surfaces:** Laminated three-page poster (9x12 inches) from the toolkit's *Infection Control Manual*.

**Staff-5 (Education) PowerPoint Presentation:** Basic information on MRSA and infection control for the clinic staff provided in a *chain of infection* framework (infectious agent, reservoir, means of transmission and susceptible persons). This PowerPoint presentation may take between 20 and 25 minutes to present when you allow approximately five minutes for questions.

**Staff-6 (Education) How to Break the Chain of MRSA Infections in Acute Care Facilities:** Poster (11x17 inches) targeted to medical personnel with an explanation of risk factors, prevention, treatment and how to stop transmission. (*May also be used in patient areas to provoke discussion.*)

**Staff-7 (Education) How Should I Wash my Hands?** Poster (9x12 inches) showing the six steps of hand washing, targeted to patients and staff. (*Hang over sinks in exam/treatment rooms, kitchens and bathrooms.*)

**Staff-8 (Education) Hand Sanitation with Alcohol Gel:** Poster (9x12 inches) to remind patients and staff to use alcohol gel *before* going into examination/treatment or patient rooms to prevent/stop transmission of disease. (*Hang by wall dispensers.*)

**Staff-9 (Evaluation) Evaluation of Toolkit:** This is one way of letting us know what you think we did well, what you think we should change and/or what future toolkits should contain. Alternatively, tell your public health nurse consultant what you think about this toolkit. You may fill out the enclosed evaluation and mail or fax it to us at:

Office of Public Health Region VI  
Attention: Cenla SOS  
5604 B Coliseum Blvd  
Alexandria, La. 71303  
Fax: 318-487-5338

**Please also refer to the two “how to” companion pieces:**

- **How to use this MRSA Toolkit for Patient Education, and**
- **How to use this MRSA Toolkit for Medical Providers.**



## How to use the MRSA Toolkit for Medical Providers

This toolkit has been designed to help Medical Facilities prevent, diagnose, treat and reduce the transmission of Methicillin resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA). It contains new educational materials for everyone: staff, health care providers and patients. **(A CD with these materials, in the order they are presented here, is enclosed.)**

The toolkit is also available by calling your public health nurse consultant.

### Suggestions for Use

1. Review and use the materials (listed below) as you find a need for them. We hope they will help you in your clinical practice.
2. Encourage the staff to use the *Infection Control Manual* and the *Quick Reference to Environmental Cleaning* that is found in the *Staff* section of this toolkit. These infection control procedures, in table format, have been developed and/or approved by the Rapides Medical Society.
3. Review the patient education materials included in this toolkit. A CD with all materials is included with this toolkit so that staff may make their own copies and do not have to worry about having enough patient educational materials available.

### Materials Available

**Providers-1 (Protocols) SSTI Wound Culture Protocols:** Culturing guidelines that have been reviewed for accuracy by the Rapides Medical Society. The laminated two-sided poster is from the *Infection Control Manual* (toolkit).

**Providers-2 (Guidelines) Interim Guidelines for Management of SSTI:** These guidelines were reviewed, approved and adopted by the Rapides Medical Society.

**Providers-3 (Algorithm) Colored SSTI Treatment Algorithm (2-sided, 9x12):** Companion piece to the Interim Guidelines for Management of SSTIs (above).

**Providers-4 (Education) CDC Strategies for Clinical Management of MRSA in the Community (March 2006):** Summary of the history, current knowledge and strategies for treating/controlling CA-MRSA. It was downloaded from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) website for your convenience. It may also be found at:

[www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dhqp/ar\\_mrsa\\_ca\\_prevention.html](http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dhqp/ar_mrsa_ca_prevention.html)

**Please also refer to the two “how to” companion pieces:**

- **How to use this MRSA toolkit for staff, and**
- **How to use this toolkit for patient education**



## How to Use the MRSA Toolkit for Patient Education

This toolkit has been designed to help staff in Medical Facilities prevent, diagnose, treat and reduce the transmission of Methicillin resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA). It contains new educational materials for everyone: staff, health care providers and patients. (**A CD with these materials, in the order they are presented here, is enclosed.**) This toolkit is also available by calling your public health nurse consultant.

### Suggestions for Use

**1. Educate patients (and their parents/care givers)** about the appropriate use of antibiotics and about recognizing, treating and preventing transmission of skin and soft tissue infections. Talk with them, answer questions and teach them while you are providing treatment; follow up with patient-targeted educational materials. Remind them that frequent, thorough hand washing is the best way to prevent infections.

**2 Provide information that is specifically targeted to patients.** Hang informational posters in the waiting areas and examination/treatment room. Provide pamphlets patients can take with them to reinforce what they have just learned and to share this information with others. Give “Living with MRSA” to patients and families who are dealing with MRSA infections to help them care for themselves appropriately and prevent/stop transmission of MRSA.

### Materials Available

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**Patients-7 (Education) Hand Sanitation with Alcohol Gel:** Poster (9x12 inches) to remind patients and staff to use alcohol gel *before* going into examination/treatment/patient rooms to prevent/stop transmission of disease. (*Hang by wall dispensers.*)

**Please also refer to the two “how to” companion pieces:**

- **How to use this MRSA toolkit for clinic staff education, and**

- **How to use this MRSA toolkit for Medical Providers**

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