



Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center

ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY AND PROCEDURE

SUBJECT: ADMISSION MRSA SCREENING

Policy No.: B853

Supersedes: August 7, 2018

Revision Date: May 2, 2022

Page: 1 of 2

PURPOSE:

This policy is intended to prevent the spread of infection by identifying the case as soon as possible and placing the patient on appropriate isolation precautions. This policy is in compliance with California Senate Bill SB1058.

POLICY:

All patients will have MRSA screening cultures of the bilateral nares within 24 hours of admission to Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center.

Each patient who is admitted to a health facility shall be tested for MRSA in the following cases, within 24 hours of admission:

- (A) The patient is scheduled for inpatient surgery and has a documented medical condition making the patient susceptible to infection, based either upon federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention findings or the recommendations of the committee or its successor.
- (B) It has been documented that the patient has been previously discharged from a general acute care hospital within 30 days prior to the current hospital admission.
- (C) The patient will be admitted to an intensive care unit or burn unit of the hospital.
- (D) The patient receives inpatient dialysis treatment.
- (E) The patient is being transferred from a skilled nursing facility.
- (F) Wound cultures for patients with open wound(s). If multiple wounds are present, culture only the major wounds.
- (G) Urine cultures for patients with indwelling urethral catheter on admission.
- (H) Culture of the tracheostomy site and sputum for patients with a tracheostomy.

1. If a patient is found to have MRSA colonization ONLY as a result of a nasal culture(s) then the patient does NOT need to be placed into Contact Precautions on admission or re-admission.
2. All other patient with MRSA found on any culture for ANY other reason must be placed on Contact Precautions. This includes:
 - a. Attending physician will inform the patient or patient's representative of the positive MRSA results as soon as practically possible.
 - b. Care provider will provide patient with oral and written instructions regarding after care and precautions prior to discharge to prevent the spread of the infection to others.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 22, 2003

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES • DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

APPROVED BY:

3. Active surveillance of all reported isolates of MRSA will be conducted by the Infection Prevention and Control Practitioner(s). Once identified, patients will be evaluated by the Infection Prevention and Control Practitioner(s) and the patient will be placed on the appropriate category of isolation as per Infection Prevention and Control Policy.

Patients will remain in isolation until three consecutive clearing cultures are obtained while off antibiotics and the Infection Prevention and Control Practitioner(s) discontinues isolation.

4. All patients with signs and symptoms of active infection(s) and draining wounds will be isolated in single rooms, if at all possible. Cohorting may be necessary to house these patients if clusters of cases occur. The Infection Prevention and Control Department should be notified for consultation.
5. Patients in isolation may go to Physical and Occupational Therapy and diagnostic areas when necessary, as per Infection Prevention and Control Policy.

Revised: March 26, 2009
Reviewed: October 2010 PM:ec
Revised: October 12, 2012 JT:jlm
Revised: June 24, 2013 JT:gg
Revised: April 19, 2016 AP
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