



衛生防護中心
Centre for Health Protection

Infection Control Branch

**Infection control advice on
Multi-Drug Resistant Organisms (MDROs) for
Residential Care Homes for the Elderly (RCHEs)**

Infection control measures for ALL residents

Key elements on infection control measures for ALL residents in several aspects are listed as below:

- (a) Hand hygiene
 - (i) Clean hands with liquid soap and water when visibly soiled or likely contaminated with blood and body fluid.
 - (ii) When hands have touched contaminated material but are not visibly soiled, 70-80% alcohol-based handrub may be used instead.
 - (iii) Assign one container of alcohol-based handrub in close proximity to each resident.
 - (iv) Perform hand hygiene before providing care to any resident.
- (b) Changing diapers
 - (i) Ensure the following are readily available for each resident: alcohol-based handrub; gloves; wet-wipes; clean diaper; non-touch waste bin.
 - (ii) Use one wet-wipe per cleaning action.
 - (iii) For females, always wipe from front to back to avoid contamination of genitalia with faecal material.
 - (iv) Dispose of all contaminated materials (soiled diaper, used wet-wipes, contaminated gloves) into non-touch waste bin.
 - (v) Perform hand hygiene before putting on clean diaper for resident.



- (c) Maintain environmental hygiene
 - (i) At least once daily: Disinfect all accessible surfaces with 1 in 99 diluted household bleach (mixing 1 part of household bleach containing 5.25% sodium hypochlorite with 99 parts of water).
 - (ii) Metal surfaces: Use 70% alcohol instead.
- (d) Laundry (clothing and linen)
 - (i) Use hot water cycle in washing machine if available (at least 65°C).
 - (ii) If hot water washing machine is not available, dry all laundry in drying machine (at least 65 °C). [Remark: According to the Code of Practice promulgated by the Social Welfare Department, all RCHEs should have at least one drying machine.]
 - (iii) For cold water laundry, when drying machine is not available, soak laundry items in diluted household bleach (mixing 1 part of 1 in 99 diluted household bleach with 4 parts of water) for at least 30 minutes prior to laundering.
- (e) Eating utensils
 - (i) After thorough cleansing, disinfect by immersion in near-boiling water for at least 1 minute, OR
 - (ii) Clean and disinfect by dish washer following manufacturer's recommendations
 - (iii) Followed by air drying and storage.

Additional infection control measures for residents with MDRO

2. The following infection control measures are applicable to residents with any of the MDRO below:

- (a) Vancomycin-Resistant *Enterococcus* (VRE)
- (b) Carbapenemase-Producing Enterobacteriaceae (CPE)
- (c) Carbapenem-Resistant *Acinetobacter* (CRA) / Multi-drug Resistant *Acinetobacter* (MDRA)
- (d) Multi-drug Resistant *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* (MRPA)
- (e) Methicillin-Resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) / Vancomycin-Intermediate / Resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (VISA / VRSA)
- (f) *Candida auris*

3. Key elements on infection control measures in several aspects are listed as below:

- (a) Placement
 - (i) The resident should be placed in a single room if available.
 - (ii) Otherwise, residents with the same MDRO type should be cohorted in the same room or partitioned area.
- (b) Infection control precautions
 - (i) Gown and gloves should be worn before entering the room if the staff will have direct contact with the resident or contaminated objects.
 - (ii) Disinfect all accessible surfaces with 1 in 49 diluted household bleach at least twice daily (mixing 1 part of household bleach containing 5.25% sodium hypochlorite with 49 parts of water). Metal surfaces: Use 70% alcohol instead.
- (c) Dedicated equipment
 - (i) Dedicate the specific use of non-critical items (such as wheelchairs, blood pressure cuffs) and cleansing tools.
 - (ii) Otherwise they should be disinfected thoroughly after use.
- (d) Dedicated facilities
 - (i) Dedicated toilet and bath facilities are preferred.
 - (ii) Otherwise, assign MDRO carriers as the last one in the nursing care rounds (such as diaper or bath rounds). Disinfect the facilities thoroughly after use.

(Remarks: Upon transferal between RCHEs, please inform the staff of the receiving RCHE about the MDRO status of the resident.)

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