



Wirral Community
NHS Foundation Trust

IPC NEWS

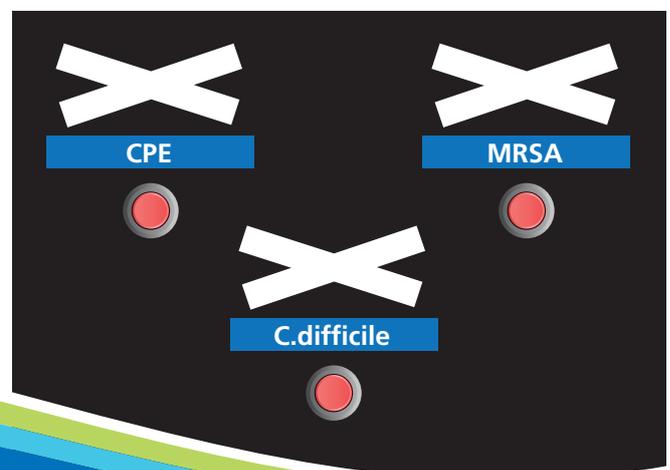
March 2019

Edition 6 Bugs got no Talent



Patients and residents who are at high risk of acquiring an infection are increasingly being cared for in primary and community care settings. Therefore, it is important that high standards of infection prevention and control are embedded in these settings to protect patients/residents.

Poor practices can expose patients/residents to microorganisms (bugs); this can lead to patients/residents acquiring an infection and in some cases may result in death. **Remember... infection prevention and control (IPC) is everybody's responsibility!**



Bugs got talent they can:

- **spread easily** through direct person to person contact, coughing and sneezing or contaminated food/water
- **be spread easily** by poor standards of environmental cleaning or through contaminated equipment and non-adherence to standard precautions
- **survive** in the environment for days/months
- **get into** the blood stream through urinary catheters, intravenous lines and wounds

Bugs got NO talent when you:

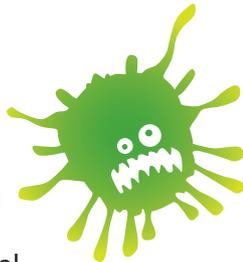
- **wash your hands** - remember always follow the WHO 5 moments of hand hygiene using the Ayliffe technique
- **use personal protective equipment (PPE) correctly** - aprons and gloves should only be worn when there is a potential risk of contact with blood or body fluids
- **remove PPE** after providing care and always remember to wash your hands
- **follow best practice** guidance and ensure you are up to date with training

Remember...

It's vital to ensure that environmental cleaning standards are consistently high to prevent the spread of infections. Routine daily cleaning of hard surfaces and equipment should be carried out wearing gloves /aprons and by using warm water and detergent or disposable wipes. Where disinfection is required, ensure cleaning with detergent and warm water is undertaken prior to disinfection.

Be a bug buster!!!

Multidrug-resistant organisms (MDROs) are bacteria that have become resistant to certain antibiotics, and these antibiotics can no longer be used to control or kill the bacteria. Widespread use of antibiotics, plus the natural growth of bacteria over time, has created a number of MDROs. Preventing infections will reduce the burden of MDROs in health and care settings.

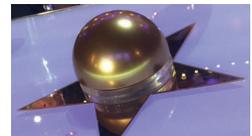


Things you can do:

- always use antibiotics appropriately, follow the course as directed and explain to patients/residents why this is important to do so
- don't prescribe antimicrobial therapy unless there are clinical signs of infection
- become an antibiotic guardian... visit www.antibioticguardian.com
- promote vaccines/immunisations and maintain accurate records

We can out talent the bugs by using our golden buzzer

- don't be a sinner, be a bug busting winner... use infection control standard precautions for patient/resident care



What would you like to see in our next newsletter?

Let us know by email to IPC.wirralct@nhs.net or call 0151 604 7750.

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