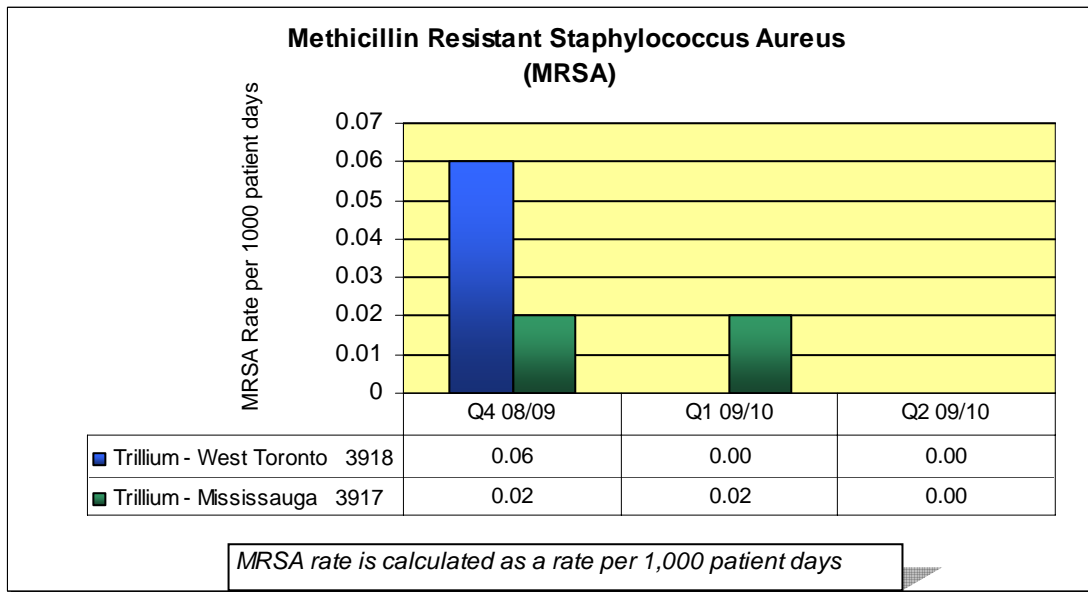


Trillium-West Toronto	Sept-Nov 2008	Jan – Mar 2009	Apr-June 2009	July-Sept 2009
Number of new MRSA cases	0	<5	0	0
Rate per 1000 patient days	0.00	0.06	0.0	0.00
Trillium-Mississauga	Sept-Nov 2008	Jan – Mar 2009	Apr-June 2009	July-Sept 2009
Number of new MRSA cases	<5	<5	<5	0
Rate per 1000 patient days	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.00

Acquired in Hospital MRSA Bloodstream Infections Rate



MRSA rate is calculated as a rate per 1,000 patient days

Trillium's goal is to reduce the number of MRSA hospital acquired infections including bloodstream infections.

Trillium's comprehensive MRSA Prevention Program includes:

- Testing high risk in-patients for MRSA
- Placing MRSA positive patients on Contact Precautions
- As appropriate treat MRSA patients with medication
- Adherence to hand hygiene protocols
- Education for patient and visitors regarding Contact Precautions and hand hygiene
- Enhanced cleaning of the equipment and the environment.

Hand hygiene remains the single most effective measure to reduce health care associated infections.

Trillium is launching the provincial hand hygiene campaign Just Clean Your Hands throughout the hospital in 2009, in conjunction with the Ontario Hospital Associations campaign Clean Hands Protect Lives.

For more information:

The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care is reporting all Ontario hospitals' MRSA information at www.ontario.ca/patientsafety.

To contact Trillium Health Centre:
publicrelations@thc.on.ca

Blood Stream Infections

Trillium is providing statistics on hospital acquired Methicillin Resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) bloodstream infections to the public as a patient safety indicator. Sometimes MRSA can cause infections in our blood. This can lead to serious outcomes for patients if not treated appropriately.

What is Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA)?

Staphylococcus aureus is a bacteria that sometimes lives on the skin and mucous membranes of healthy adults without causing illness. Occasionally, *S. aureus* might be the cause of infections such as impetigo, carbuncles and abscesses or more invasive disease. *S. aureus* is the single most common cause of hospital-associated infections. Some *S. aureus* develop resistance to certain antibiotics and are named Methicillin-Resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA).

What is MRSA Colonization?

Sometimes bacteria are present on our bodies but do not cause any harm to our health. The patient is said to be colonized by the bacteria

What is a Hospital Acquired MRSA Bloodstream Infection?

Sometimes the MRSA can get into our blood. This means it is making the patient sick. Hospital acquired infections mean the patients were in hospital for more than 72 hours before they presented with symptoms of infection.

Who is at risk for MRSA?

Increased risk for acquiring MRSA is related to the patient's own health and immune status, as well as the length of stay in a setting where they are exposed to MRSA. Risk factors for MRSA acquisition include invasive procedures, prior treatment with antibiotics, prolonged hospital stay, stay in an intensive care or burn unit, surgical wound infection and close proximity to a colonized patient.

How is MRSA Spread?

The single most important mode of transmission of MRSA in a health care setting is by the hands of health care workers who acquire it from contact with colonized or infected patients, or after handling contaminated material or equipment. Hand hygiene for health care providers, patients, and visitors and environmental cleaning are important measures to prevent spread.

What precautions are used to prevent the spread of MRSA in the hospital?

Patients who are at high risk of having MRSA or have been found positive for MRSA are placed on Contact Precautions. Patients may be moved to a more appropriate room and health care providers will wear gloves and gowns when providing direct patient care. Proper hand hygiene practices will be strictly adhered to. Patients and visitors are provided education on their own hand hygiene.