

What is Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA)?

Staphylococcus aureus (**S. aureus**) is a bacteria that sometimes lives on the skin of healthy adults without causing illness. Occasionally, **S. aureus** might cause some infections or diseases. **S. aureus** is the most common cause of hospital-associated infections. Some **S. aureus** develop a resistance to certain antibiotics and are named Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus aureus (**MRSA**).

How is MRSA calculated?

MRSA is calculated at a rate per 1,000 patient days.

Trillium Health Centre's MRSA Data:

Trillium-Mississauga	Target	Q1 2010/11
MRSA Cases		0
MRSA Rate	0.5	0.00

Trillium-West Toronto	Target	Q1 2010/11
MRSA Cases		0
MRSA Rate	0.5	0.00

What is Trillium Health Centre doing to prevent MRSA?

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. Patients and visitors are provided education on their own hand hygiene.

What can patients and their families do to help reduce their chances of infection?

Patients and visitors can help reduce the spread of infection by performing hand hygiene. Hand sanitizer is conveniently located throughout the hospital. For more information please read about the Clean Hands Protect Lives campaign at www.oha.com/cleanhandsprotectlives.

What is Trillium Health Centre doing to improve patient safety?

At Trillium Health Centre, we are always looking at how we are performing and use different *performance indicators* to get a sense of where we excel and where improvements could be made. This information is essential to Trillium's commitment to providing quality and safe care for its patients.

Our Board of Directors and Management Team believe it is important that the community we care for has access to this performance information. Trillium strongly supports the provincial government's new public reporting regime because we believe it will inspire improved performance, enhance patient safety, and strengthen the public's confidence in Ontario's hospitals.

