

Infection Control

Pathogen Primer

HAI (Healthcare Acquired Infection)

HAI explained

HAI stands for "Healthcare Acquired Infection;" they are also known as nosocomial infections. This means that a patient in a healthcare institution contracts an illness or disease while being treated for an unrelated illness. Common HAI's include MRSA, VRE, bloodborne pathogens, Influenza, and Clostridium Difficile, to name a few.

How you get sick from HAI's

HAI's are spread by contact with infected patients or surfaces. HAI's are most often spread through the hands of healthcare workers, who unintentionally carry HAI's from one room to the next. HAI's can also be spread when a patient leaves the hospital and the next occupant enters the same hospital room.

Information about HAI's

- HAI's kill 99,000 people each year.
- o Fourth leading cause of death in the U.S.
- o More than AIDS, breast cancer, and auto accidents combined.
- 1.8 million patients contract HAI's each year.
- Nearly 3/4 of patient rooms are infected with MRSA or VRE.
- HAI's account for \$40 billion in healthcare costs each year.

Other Information

The Affordable Care Act (Obamacare) is now incentivizing the control of HAI's. Facilities where patients contract certain HAI's will not be reimbursed the same as facilities that have lower incidence rates of HAI's.

More info on the Affordable Care Act Webpage.

Infection Control Strategies

Proper hand hygiene, especially among healthcare workers, regular cleaning and disinfecting of surfaces, and focus on high-touch surfaces. These surfaces include any surface in reach of a patient: bed rails, counters, tables, cabinets, and restrooms.

More info on the CDC HAI Webpage.

Multi-Clean Disinfectants with MRSA, VRE, Norovirus, and Influenza claims

Multi-Clean Disinfectant Products

- Century Q Wipes
- 256 Century Q
- Microcide TB
- Millennium Q
- Chlorinated Tablets

