



Multi-drug resistant gram-negative bacilli (MDRGNB)

Description

Gram negative bacilli are a part of a person's normal flora. They do not cause an infection in people in good health. However, in certain conditions, these bacteria may cause urinary infections, wound infections, pneumonia or blood infections.

MDRGNB are Gram negative bacilli who have developed resistance mechanisms to known antibiotics. Globally, this phenomenon has risen rapidly to the point where, today, it has become a major public health concern. These resistance mechanisms make treatment more difficult as well as they can bring serious consequences.

Screening allows the detection of people who are carriers of the bacteria and, thereby, take the necessary precautions to reduce the risk of transmission. Following a laboratory analysed sample, we refer to a user:

- **Colonised:** A person where MDRGNB have been identified (e.g. rectal, groin, axillary) **without** any signs of infections.
- **Infected:** A person where MDRGNB have been identified (e.g. urine, wound) **with** signs of infections.

The duration of colonisation of MDRGNB is undetermined but may last several months.

Transmission Mode

Transmission occurs primarily by healthcare and services providers through direct contact with a carrier (colonised or infected) or their contaminated surroundings.

The main risk factor for contracting MDRGNB is spending time in a healthcare setting.

Admitted or housed residents are more likely to contract this type of bacteria because:

- Their immune system is weakened
- They are taking antibiotics
- They are receiving invasive care





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Treatment

A user colonised by MDRGNB does not require any particular treatment as no infection has developed.

However, a user infected by MDRGNB may need an antibiotic treatment. Since MDRGNB are resistant to many classes of antibiotics, treatment will be determined by the doctor.

Infection prevention and control measures

At home

For healthy individuals, these bacteria do not pose a threat. There are no particular measures to be taken when the carrier returns home, as much for the dishes as for the laundry.

The most effective and easiest way to avoid transmission is frequent hand washing from the carrier as well as from family members.

In a care environment

Hand hygiene remains the most effective measure as much for the healthcare and services provider as for the user and visitors. Other measures may be put in place, such as, wearing personal protective equipment and disinfection of the surroundings.

Notice

These informations don't supplant the opinion of a health professional. If you have any question regarding your health condition, consult a healthcare professional or call Info-Santé at 811.