

Measuring and Monitoring Healthcare-Associated Infections: A Canadian Collaboration to Better Understand the Magnitude of the Problem

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Appendix 1: Examples of Protocols for Healthcare-associated Methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) Surveillance

Province/territory	Type of surveillance	Case definition	Population under surveillance
Nunavut	Passive surveillance of all MRSA events	Laboratory isolation of MRSA from any site in the body	All those residing in the Nunavut territory
British Columbia	Active surveillance of MRSA Blood Stream Infections events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Laboratory identification of MRSA, including <i>S. aureus</i> cultured from any specimen that tests oxacillin-resistant by standard susceptibility testing methods; or by a positive result for penicillin binding protein 2a (PBP2a); or molecular testing for mecA. May also include positive results of specimens tested by other validated polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests for MRSA Patient must be admitted to the reporting facility for acute care Must be a new case of MRSA, either infection or colonization, as an in-patient in the reporting facility Patient has no known history of MRSA in any British Columbia acute care facilities <p>INCLUDES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MRSA cases identified for the first time among the in-patients at the time of admission or during their hospitalization in the reporting facility MRSA cases newly identified among the patients in the emergency department who were subsequently admitted to the reporting facility MRSA cases that were identified previously by outpatient clinics (including ambulatory care), or long-term care facilities, or out of British Columbia, but were a new case as an in-patient to a British Columbia acute care facility <p>EXCLUDES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MRSA cases previously identified by the reporting facility or other acute care facilities in British Columbia MRSA cases identified in the emergency department or outpatient clinics who were not admitted to the reporting facility Patients transferred from another acute care facility with documented positive MRSA history MRSA cases identified in the long-term care facilities or residence facilities, or outpatient clinics and the patients were not admitted to a British Columbia acute care facility 	<p>In-patients admitted to acute care facilities in British Columbia</p> <p>INCLUDES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> patients admitted to the emergency department awaiting placement (e.g., patients admitted to a service who are waiting for a bed) patients in alternative level of care beds patients in labour and delivery beds patients in mental health beds <p>EXCLUDES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> outpatient visits to the clinics in the acute care facilities emergency room patients who were not admitted to an acute care in-patient unit patients in extended care beds housed in acute care facilities
Manitoba	Active surveillance of all MRSA events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Isolation of <i>S. aureus</i> from any body site AND resistance of isolate to oxacillin AND patient must currently be admitted to a health care facility AND is a “newly identified MRSA case” Includes emergency room and outpatients who tested positive for MRSA and then are subsequently admitted or are admitted but still in emergency room awaiting a bed on a ward <p>EXCLUDES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MRSA cases previously identified Emergency, clinic, or other outpatient cases (e.g., physiotherapy) who are not admitted Cases re-admitted with MRSA 	Patients admitted to acute care and long-term care facilities in Manitoba