

## Infection prevention and control

**David Speers** 

"With a little luck, they may revere us as gods."

## A difficult battle

Host - older, multiple medical problems, immunosuppression, more invasive devices



### Does resistance matter?

Mortality associated with initial inappropriate therapy in patients with serious infections



Rello et al. Am J Respir Crit Care Med 1997;156:196–200; Kollef et al. Chest 1998;113:412–420 Ibrahim et al. Chest 2000;118:146–155; Luna et al. Chest 1997;111:676–685

## Addressing the Spread of Antibiotic Resistance

- Antimicrobial stewardship
- Infection **prevention** and control
  - Concentrate on prevention because control is after the fact
    - We need to be proactive, not reactive
  - If you stop the patient acquiring the Superbug you don't have to treat them and therefore don't contribute to the selective pressure for resistant organisms
    - The better the job of prevention the less you notice the problem avoided

## An effective infection prevention program has many elements



# Infection prevention must be part of standard practice

- Governance to have the appropriate processes and protocols in place:
  - For MRSA, MSSA: aseptic technique, e.g. for venous cannula insertion
  - Equipment sharing, environmental cleaning
- Staff must be aware of the importance of prevention
  - Education, awareness, e.g. hand hygiene signage
- Staff must know how to prevent infections
  - e.g. training in aseptic technique, aware of equipment disinfection protocols
- Funding must be adequate
  - Must have funds allocated to provide the appropriate facilities and equipment, training, monitoring, auditing



# Prevention is about understanding the modes of transmission

- Superbugs can only pass from one patient to another by physical contact with the bacteria:
  - The hands of healthcare workers
  - On contaminated shared equipment
  - From contact with contaminated environmental surfaces
- Superbug transmission
  - MRSA
    - skin
  - CPE, ESBL, VRE
    - faeces



## Prevention is about understanding the epidemiology

- Is the superbug endemic or exotic?
  - Endemic:
    - No easily identifiable risk factor for screenng
    - Risk of any patient being colonised greater

> concentrate on universal precautions rather than screening and use a set of precautions as part of standard practice to stop all MRO transmissions

- Exotic:
  - Easily identifiable source, e.g. recent admission to overseas hospital
  - Screen only those at increased risk

> concentrate on source identification by screening and place barrier precautions around screen positive patients

## The most challenging MROs

- MRSA
- VRE
- Multi-drug resistant gram negative organisms
  - Carbapenemase producing Enterobacteriaceae (CPE)

## WA Referred MRSA isolates



### **HISWA MRSA Data**

Aggregate inpatient healthcare associated MRSA infections



#### Vancomycin Resistant Enterococci

Western Australia 1998 – 31<sup>st</sup> December 2015: 3,386 *vanA* and *vanB E faecalis* and *E faecium isolates* 



YEAR

#### SCGH vanA and vanB E faecium and E faecalis



Quarterly

# CPE is riding the crest of the worldwide ESBL wave

• ESBL

– E. coli, Klebsiella pneumoniae

- Carbapenem resistant enterobacteriaceae
  - E. coli, Klebsiella pneumoniae

## Global ESBL Trends



### %ESBL in the Asia Pacific region



### Proportion of 3<sup>rd</sup> generation cephalosporin-resistant *E. coli*, EARSS data





2006

2012

### The treatment of ESBL

Antibacterial agent	<i>E.</i> $coli \ (n = 98)$			
	CTX-M positive $(n = 72)$		CTX-M negative $(n = 26)$	
	n	%	n	%
Gentamicin	63	88	16	62
Trimethoprim	65	90	21	81
Ciprofloxacin	68	94	19	73
Piperacillin/tazobactam	32	44	5	19
Aztreonam	66	92	16	62
Cefoxitin	31	43	3	12
Ceftazidime	70	97	15	58
Cefotaxime	72	100	18	69
Cefpodoxime	72	100	26	100
Cefepime	61	85	12	46
Meropenem	0	0	0	0
Ertapenem	0	0	0	0

### Australian Group on Antimicrobial Resistance

AGAR

Figure 3.9. Klebsiella pneumoniae. Percentage (%) of invasive isolates with resistance to carbapenems, by country, EU/EEA countries, 2013



#### Antimicrobial Resistance Surveillance in Europe 2013

## WA CPE Confirmations



Most CPE detections are our endemic IMP CPE (blue) which show
less epidemic potential

## Where is the CPE risk in WA?

- Hospital 'Border security' in place
  - all those admitted to overseas HCF within last 12 months screened and isolated until cleared
- Hospital screening will not capture community introductions

Extended spectrum beta-lactamase testing of community Enterobacteriaceae in the west of Australia: poor performance of phenotypic methods

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- Community introduction most likely to be detected from UTI of RCF residents
  - Sentinel for MRSA, ESBL

# What should we do to prevent the acquisition of superbugs?

- Prevention of Superbug infections
  - Continue to improve hand hygiene
  - Mandate aseptic technique training and competency
    - esp PVC insertion
  - Mandate shared equipment disinfection/cleaning protocols
  - Invest in environmental cleaning
  - Promote education to make infection prevention part of every HCW's practice
- Control of Superbug outbreaks
  - Roll out the state budget approved infection control and antimicrobial stewardship IT solution for Mx, surveillance and reporting
    - Currently using either outdated and unsupported EICAT (not Win7 compatible), Excel spreadsheets and card systems
    - We need the HIN support and ongoing maintenance funding
  - Invest in molecular typing (whole genome sequencing)