GOJO

HAND HYGIENE TIMES

Your resource for the latest news in effective infection control program development and best practices.

Issue 1 Volume 2

Preventing MRSA in a Hospital Setting

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Methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) is a type of staph bacteria that is resistant to certain antibiotics. These antibiotics include methicillin and other more common antibiotics such as oxacillin, penicillin and amoxicillin.[1] MRSA is spread through direct contact with an infected person or by sharing personal items, such as towels or razors that have touched infected skin.

Staph infections, including MRSA, occur most frequently among patients who undergo invasive medical procedures or who have weakened immune systems and are being treated in hospitals and healthcare facilities such as nursing homes and dialysis centers. MRSA in healthcare settings commonly causes serious and potentially life threatening infections, such as bloodstream infections, surgical site infections, or pneumonia.[2]

When we talk about the spread of an infection, we talk about sources of infection - where it starts, and the way or ways it spreads - the mode or modes of transmission. In the case of MRSA, patients who already have an MRSA infection or who carry the bacteria on their bodies but do not have symptoms (colonized) are the most common sources of transmission.

THE MAIN MODE OF TRANSMISSION OF MRSA IS VIA HANDS (especially healthcare workers' hands) which may become contaminated by contact with a) colonized or infected patients, b) devices, items, or environmental surfaces contaminated with body fluids containing MRSA, or c) colonized or infected body sites of the personnel themselves. If appropriate hand hygiene such as washing with soap and water or using an alcohol-based hand sanitizer is not performed, the bacteria can be spread when the healthcare worker touches other patients.[3]

Invasive (i.e., serious) MRSA infections occur in approximately 94,000 persons each year and are associated with approximately 19,000 deaths. Of these infections, about 86% are healthcare-associated and 14% are community-associated.[4] (AMA reference)

Basic Infection Control Precautions are key to the prevention and control of MRSA in healthcare settings.

The implementation of Standard Precautions include:

- Hand Hygiene
- Gloving when possible contact with patient blood or body fluid could occur. (It is imperative to follow glove removal with hand hygiene)
- Personal Protective Equipment (masks, eyeshields)
- Gowns
- Appropriate handling of used patient equipment, instruments and devices
- Cleaning of patient environment including surfaces
- Contact precautions are recommended by the CDC for all patients infected with target Multi Drug Resistant Organisms (MDROs) such as MRSA, and for patients identified as colonized with target MDROs.[5]

1,2,3 The Center for Disease Control. Information about MRSA for Healthcare Personnel Retreived December 20, 2009 from: http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dhqp/ar_mrsa_healthcareFS.html

4 Klevens, et.al (2007). Invasive MRSA Infections in the USA. American Medical Association 298(15)1763-1771.

5 The Center for Disease Control. (2006).Management of Multidrug Resistant Organisms in Healthcare. Retrieved December 20, 2009 from http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dhqp/pdf/ar/MDROGuidelines2006.pdf

THAT'S a FACT!

Direct medical costs of HAIs to U.S. hospitals range from $28.4 to $45 billion. With infection control interventions, the benefits of prevention could range from $5.7 to $31.5 billion.[6]

6 Scott, Douglas. The Direct Medical costs of Healthcare-Associated Infections in U.S. Hospitals and the Benefits of Prevention. Center for Infectious Diseases Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. March 2009

Product Feature

HEALTHCARE WORKER HAND HYGIENE SOLUTIONS

Better Hand Hygiene. Fewer Infections. *GOJO makes it easy.*

A hand hygiene infection control program designed to achieve these two things will yield better patient outcomes. As one of the world's leading manufacturers of hand sanitizing, hand washing, hand moisturizing and patient care solutions for the healthcare industry, GOJO aims to simplify hand hygiene compliance by delivering preferred products that deliver optimal infection control and improve skin health – products that healthcare workers will want to use.

An extensive hand hygiene solution set is available from GOJO Industries. Each month we will review a key component of GOJO's total solution for the hand hygiene category. This month we focus on the **NEW CLEAR Formulation** of PURELL® Instant Hand Sanitizer with DERMAGLYCERIN SYSTEM™, a product formulated to improve skin condition within 14 days.[1]

PURELL® Instant Hand Sanitizer with DERMAGLYCERIN SYSTEM™

NEW DERMAGLYCERIN SYSTEM CLEAR Formulation

This **NEW CLEAR Formulation** combines the broad spectrum efficacy of PURELL with high-performance moisturizing. This product meets CDC Guidelines and Joint Commission compliance standards. It is also dermatologist tested, hypoallergenic and CHG latex,nitrile and vinyl compatible.

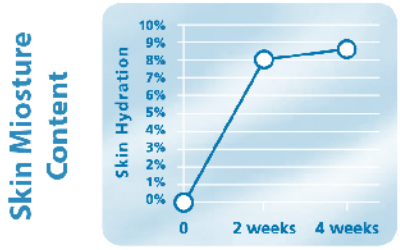
Updated formulation, same great results:

- Contains no unnecessary colorants
- Kills 99.99% of most common germs that may cause illness in as little as 15 seconds
- Refill volume compliant with NFPA and CMS fire safety standards
- Specially formulated with DERMAGLYCERIN SYSTEM to moisturize and improve skin condition
- Helps prevent dry, damaged skin from frequent handwashing or harsh winter weather

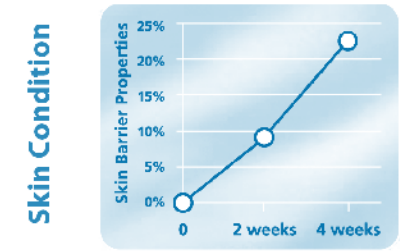
Formulas	Order Number	Case Pack	Uses Dispenser
PURELL® Instant Hand Sanitizer with DERMAGLYCERIN SYSTEM™			
TFX™ 1200ml refill	5451-04	4	2720-12
NXT® 1000mL refill	2151-08	8	2120-06
12 fl Pump Bottle	9646-12	12	--

Improved skin condition in 14 days[1]

Clinically Proven Results



Increase in the amount of moisture in the skin



Increase in skin barrier properties to minimize the rate of skin moisture loss

Field skin measurements taken at 2 and 4 weeks demonstrated

1 Clinical field evaluation, 2/9/05-3/9/05. Study ID 2005-01-F10103 Data on file. GOJO Industries, Inc.

A Look Ahead

next month's issue

Fire codes

TFX and FMX Dispensers

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