CARBAPENAMASE PRODUCING ENTEROBACTERALES (CPE)

Single Point Lesson

Enterobacterales are bacteria that usually live harmlessly in the gut of humans (colonisation). However if the bacteria get into the wrong place, such as the bladder, bloodstream or wounds they can cause infection.

Factors that increase the risk of infection spread

- Lives in a shared care environment.
- Has a discharging wound or oozing from an infected area.
- Has diarrhoea or smear or protests with faeces.
- Is confused or has dementia
- Requires assistance with washing, going to the toilet or using commode.
- Poor infection control precautions.

When a resident is colonised?

- Does not need to be isolated and should be allowed to use communal facilities.
- Good hand washing by staff and resident.
- If possible have single room with en-suite.
- Use standard infection control precautions.
- Good cleaning each day.

Why does carbapenem resistance matter?

CPE are a type of bacteria which have become resistant to carbapenems,a group of powerful antibiotics.

Doctors reply on carbapenem antibiotics to treat certain complicated infections when other antibiotics have failed.

Spread of these resistant bacteria can cause problems to vulnerable patients as there are so few antibiotics available to treat the infections they cause.

Patient information card

Public Health England

NHS

Important information about carbapenemase-producing Enterobacterales (CPE)

Please show this card to health and social care staff if you need to attend a health or social care setting

When a resident is infected?

- Should be placed in a single room with en-suite facilities.
- If not available single room with a designated commode and easy access to hand wash facilities.
- Good hand washing by staff and resident.
- Any discharging wounds secured with impermeable dressing.
- Use standard infection control precautions.
- Good cleaning of room and bathroom each day.