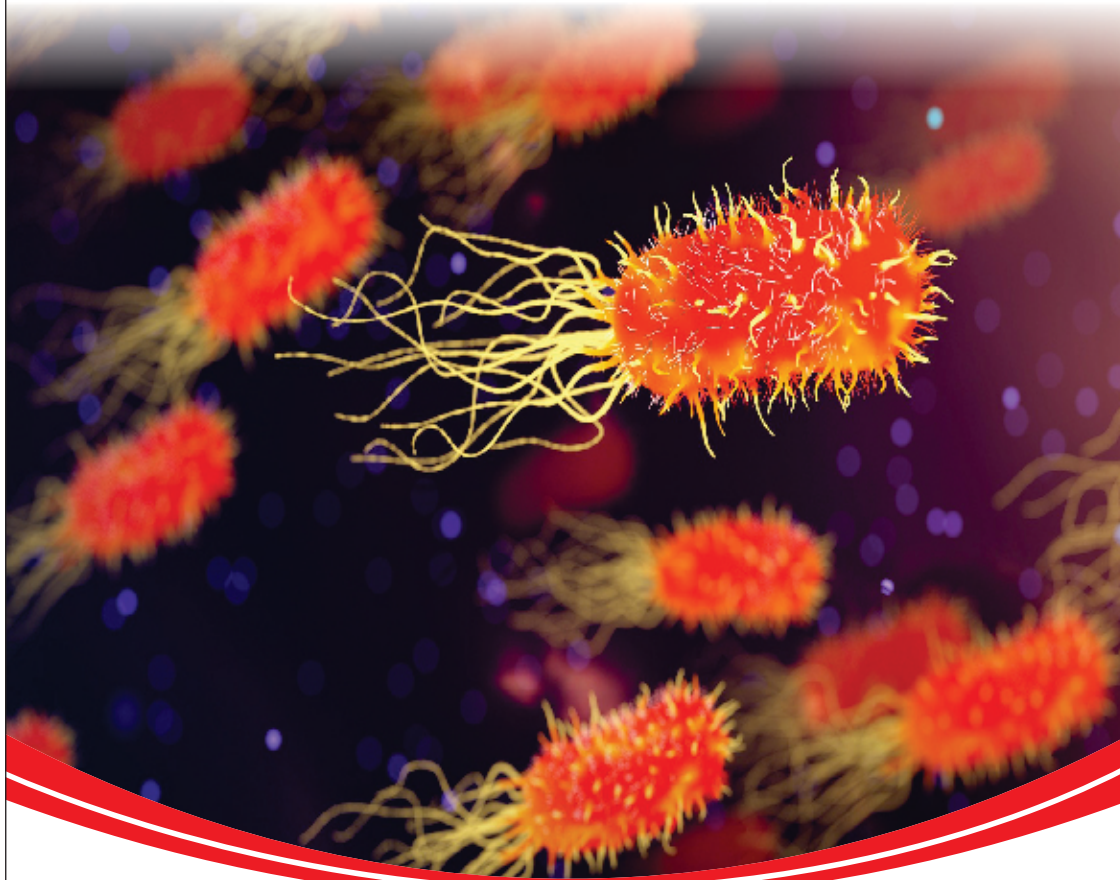


Multi-Drug Resistant Organisms (MDRO)

Information for Patients/Guardians



What does resistant mean?

Antibiotics are medicines used to kill germs (bacteria) that cause infections, but some bacteria are not killed by antibiotics. This means antibiotics don't work well or at all against them. These bacteria are called "resistant." If they are not killed by many different antibiotics, they are called Multi-Drug Resistant Organisms (MDRO).

What kind of infections come from resistant bacteria?

Resistant bacteria can cause the same infections as other bacteria. They can be found anywhere in our bodies, but infections from resistant bacteria are harder to treat.

Who can get an infection from resistant bacteria?

Anyone can get an infection from resistant bacteria, but people who don't use antibiotics correctly or have been in a hospital are more likely to get these infections.

How do resistant bacteria spread?

All bacteria, resistant or not, spread from person to person by touching or through the air. For example, some bacteria spread through coughing and some through touching things.

How can you stop the spread of resistant bacteria?

In the hospital, patients with resistant bacteria are usually isolated from others to help stop the spread of germs. Washing hands with soap and water or using a hand sanitizer is very important to stop germs from spreading.

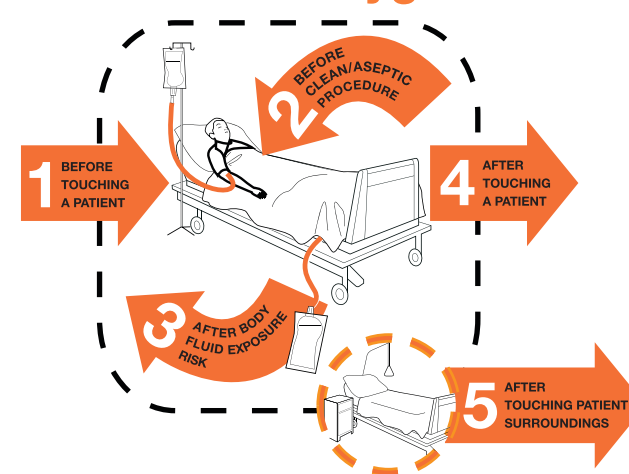
What other things help stop the spread of resistant bacteria?

- Take antibiotics only if the doctor says to, and be sure to take the full course of medicine.
- Don't ask for antibiotics for colds or flu (antibiotics don't work on viruses).
- Always keep yourself clean.
- Don't share personal items like toothbrushes, makeup, lip balm, or towels.
- Follow the hospital's rules when visiting someone.

What should I do when I go home?

- When you leave the hospital, follow the doctor's advice.
- Everyone at home should wash their hands often.
- Do laundry and dishes as normal.
- No special cleaning is needed at home.

Your 5 Moments for Hand Hygiene



1	BEFORE TOUCHING A PATIENT	WHEN? WHY?	Clean your hands before touching a patient when approaching him/her. To protect the patient against harmful germs carried on your hands.
2	BEFORE CLEAN/ASEPTIC PROCEDURE	WHEN? WHY?	Clean your hands immediately before performing a clean/aseptic procedure. To protect the patient against harmful germs, including the patient's own, from entering his/her body.
3	AFTER BODY FLUID EXPOSURE RISK	WHEN? WHY?	Clean your hands immediately after an exposure risk to body fluids (and after glove removal). To protect yourself and the health-care environment from harmful patient germs.
4	AFTER TOUCHING A PATIENT	WHEN? WHY?	Clean your hands after touching a patient and her/his immediate surroundings, when leaving the patient's side. To protect yourself and the health-care environment from harmful patient germs.
5	AFTER TOUCHING PATIENT SURROUNDINGS	WHEN? WHY?	Clean your hands after touching any object or furniture in the patient's immediate surroundings, when leaving – even if the patient has not been touched. To protect yourself and the health-care environment from harmful patient germs.



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May 2009

The Aga Khan University Hospital

 (021) 111-911-911

 <https://hospitals.aku.edu/Pakistan>

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