



Service Priorities and Programmes Electronic Presentations

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A Systematic Approach to Improve Environmental Hygiene of Patients with Multidrug Resistant Organisms (MDRO)

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Introduction

Environmental hygiene is considered as one of the most important factors for the control of MDROs in hospitals. Since 2014, the frequency of environmental decontamination of patients with MDROs (include MRSA/VRSA, VRE, CPE, MDRA and MRPA) was increased from once daily to twice daily. A monitoring and feedback system was established to assess the effectiveness.

Objectives

To enhance and monitor the quality of environmental decontamination of patients with MDROs

Methodology

Six high touched items around patients, including bedside table, cabinet, bedside rails, bed control panel, monkey pull and drip stand (replaced by bed side chair in Jan 2015) were included in our routine environmental decontamination. Together with the supervisors of cleaning team, protocols and audit tools were developed to standardize the practice of decontamination. Onsite training and return demonstration were provided. Performance was assessed by the proportion of removal of fluorescent stain applied on the 6 targeted items before the decontamination procedure. It would be regarded as failed if (i) all the fluorescent stain remained on one or more items; or (ii) stain partially remained on three or more items. Both cleaning staff and their supervisors were blinded to the audit before the decontamination process, and were requested to remove identified residual stain. Immediate feedback and education would be given by cleaning supervisor; assessment would be arranged until the performance became satisfactory.

Result

A total of thirty six environmental decontamination audits for MDRO cases were conducted between Jun 2014 and Dec 2015. The findings were as follows: 1. The overall passing rate increased from 28.6% to 70% after 5 months of implementation, and was gradually reached 88.9% after 1 year of implementation. 2. The passing rates of "difficult to clean" items gradually improved: from 46.4% to 87.5% for storage

cabinets, and from 40% to 87.5% for bed side chair. Our results suggested that the availability of standard protocol and monitoring system is effective to improve the environmental hygiene in clinical areas.