



## ***Staphylococcus aureus* including MRSA Cleaning and Disinfection Protocol for Use in Hotels, Motels and Cruise Ships**

*This document has been developed in accordance with current applicable infection control and regulatory guidelines. It is intended for use as a guideline only. At no time should this document replace existing documents established by the facility unless written permission has been obtained from the responsible facility manager.*

### **PREFACE**

*Staphylococcus aureus* is a common etiologic organism in soft tissue infections and may be found on the skin of nearly 20% of healthy people. Staph bacteria are one of the most common causes of skin infections in North America and are the common cause of pneumonia, surgical wound infections and bloodstream infections.

Over the past several decades, infections with methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) among hospitalized patients have become common. Recently, reports of MRSA infections acquired outside of the hospital setting have increased nationally, including fatalities. MRSA is a type of Staph that is resistant to beta-lactam based antibiotics. Resistance to antibiotics happens when the bacteria produce an enzyme that breaks down antibiotics. Staph bacteria have a unique protein that stops the antibiotic from attaching to the bacteria and killing it. This is MRSA, a strain of *S. aureus* that is resistant to a large number of antibiotics making it difficult to treat because of the limited number of antibiotics available.

This protocol has been developed based on current practices for cleaning and disinfection of vegetative bacteria.

### **INFECTIOUS AGENT<sup>1</sup>**

**NAME:** *Staphylococcus aureus* including MRSA

**SYNONYM OR CROSS REFERENCE:** MRSA, Staphylococcal diseases,

**CHARACTERISTICS:** Gram positive cocci, non-spore forming, non-motile

### **HEALTH HAZARD**

**PATHOGENICITY:** Opportunistic pathogen, normal flora; produces a variety of syndromes with a range of clinical manifestations; may cause surface or deep/system infections in both community and hospital settings; surface infections include impetigo, abscesses, boils;

**EPIDEMIOLOGY:** Worldwide; particularly in areas where personal hygiene is suboptimal; in hospitals by development of antibiotic-resistant strains.

**HOST RANGE:** Humans and to a lesser extent, warm-blooded animals.

**INFECTIOUS DOSE:** Virulence of strains varies greatly

**MODE OF TRANSMISSION:** Contact with nasal carriers; from draining lesions or purulent discharges, spread person-to-person; contaminated food; from mother to neonate during delivery

**INCUBATION PERIOD:** Variable, commonly 4 – 10 days; disease may not occur until several months after colonization

---

<sup>1</sup> PHAC, Material Safety Data Sheet – Infectious Substances: *Staphylococcus aureus*. <http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/msds-ftss/msds143e.html>



## ***Staphylococcus aureus* including MRSA Cleaning and Disinfection Protocol for Use in Hotels, Motels and Cruise Ships**

### **Preparation**

*S. aureus* including MRSA is transmitted in a number of ways direct person-to-person contact, direct contact with contaminated body fluids (mucous or wound discharge) and indirect contact from freshly contaminated fomites.

Appropriate personal protection should be taken for those responsible for the decontamination of a room or area.

### **Protective Barriers**

For your own health, use personal protective equipment. Wear disposable (one time use) gloves and mask, for your safety, before entering area. If necessary, you may need to wear plastic apron, face shield and/or boots. When finished, remove gloves carefully, from the inside out, to ensure/avoid contact with outer layer. Wash hands thoroughly with soap and water after this.

### **Cleaning Supplies**

**0.5% Accelerated Hydrogen Peroxide Ready-To-Use Tuberculocidal Surface Disinfectant (sold as Oxivir Tb RTU, Carpe Diem Tb RTU and Accel TB RTU)**

### **Product Germicidal Efficacy**

All products listed above are based upon Accelerated Hydrogen Peroxide – and have a Sanitizing claim and a Bactericidal claim against Vegetative Bacteria including *Staphylococcus aureus* and MRSA.

### **Procedures Summary**

#### **Seal off affected area, to prevent entry**

It is important to seal off the area and restrict access, in order to prevent exposure and keep the visibility low profile. We must also reduce the spread of contaminants, therefore, have people stationed in strategic places, to offer assistance in redirecting the traffic flow.

#### **Consider all surfaces to be potentially affected**

It is important to look around and visually inspect the area thoroughly, to ensure all possible contaminants are identified. Think of every surface that may be touched. For example: If a vomit incident were to occur, there may be vomit on the floor but it may have also splattered onto the wall or other nearby surfaces.

### **Remove Soiled Items (OCCUPIED ROOMS):**

Be careful, to avoid further exposure or cross-contamination. Contain as much as possible. Remove all drinking glasses. Remove and dispose trash, rubbish etc. Place the wastebasket and recycle paper holder in shower / tub to be cleaned and sanitized.

Collect and remove all used linens, paying particular attention to bodily fluids, and place in appropriate bag:

- a. Use water-soluble bag for items to be laundered
- b. Use Bio-Hazard bag, if bodily fluids are present (blood, diarrhea, vomit etc) for items to be discarded or incinerated
- c. Remove shower curtain, if applicable
- d. Check mattress (including sides), bed skirting and carpet beside bed for bodily fluids.

**Note:** Linen items include: Terry items (washcloths, hand towels, bath towels and bath mat, Bed items (sheets, pillow case, pillow covers, mattress pad and bed spread and / or pillows, if visibly soiled



## *Staphylococcus aureus* including MRSA Cleaning and Disinfection Protocol for Use in Hotels, Motels and Cruise Ships

### **Remove and transfer soiled linen or biohazard bags:**

Take the water-soluble bag directly to laundry, so they can be washed immediately. The biohazard bag should be taken directly to the infirmary or other designated area and dispose of appropriately.

### **Clean the Bathroom:**

#### Bathtub / Shower Area:

1. Clean tile wall and soap dish
2. Clean showerhead and faucets
3. Scrub bathtub and clean tub stopper
4. Clean all walls, bathroom door and door handle
5. Rinse all surfaces

#### Sink / Vanity Area:

1. Wipe light fixture, and exhaust
2. Clean vanity mirror
3. Wipe hair dryer, extend hose and clean hose (if applicable)
4. Clean shelf and/or medicine cabinet
5. Clean ashtray(s)
6. Clean vanity counter / sink and faucets, include sink stopper
7. Wipe towel rack, toilet paper dispenser and any other fittings and fixtures
8. Wipe pipes under sink (if exposed).

#### Toilet

1. Clean and sanitize toilet lid, toilet seat and outside of toilet bowl using a disposable paper wipe
2. Scrub inside of toilet bowl and around the rime with toilet brush
3. Wipe wall behind toilet, and underside of toilet bowl.

#### Floor

1. Clean bathroom floor including drain cover (if applicable).

### **Super-Sanitize Bathroom (OCCUPIED ROOM):**

1. Apply **AHP Solution** on ALL surfaces of the bathroom with a clean sponge or cloth (excluding the floor).
2. Reminder: Apply on walls from bottom to top.
3. Let dwell for 1 minute.
4. Wet wipe residual after 1 minute.
5. Thoroughly sanitize the wastebasket, recycle paper holder and bathroom wastebasket.

### **Room Cleaning:**

Work from the furthest wall backwards towards the entry door, being sure to cover all surfaces from side to side, and bottom to top.

1. Wipe doors and frames
2. Wipe light fixtures (wall sconces, lamps and lampshades)
3. Wipe mirror
4. Wipe TV, including behind and on top
5. Wipe tables and furniture



## *Staphylococcus aureus* including MRSA Cleaning and Disinfection Protocol for Use in Hotels, Motels and Cruise Ships

6. Wipe upholstered furniture (checking under cushions)
7. Open all closets, and clean all shelves (In vacant cabin: Open and clean all drawers)
8. Wipe/Dust all baseboards
9. Wipe TV Remote Control
10. Wipe telephone
11. Spray carpet spots and blot

### **Room Sanitizing (OCCUPIED ROOM):**

Use the **AHP Solution** on applicable surfaces. In general, apply the spray or wipe **ALL** surfaces, with which ever is most appropriate. Work from the furthest wall backwards towards the entry door, being sure to cover all surfaces from side to side, and bottom to top.

1. Spray **AHP Solution** on drapes and glass curtains, both sides (using 32 oz. bottle)
2. Use **AHP Solution** for curtain wands, headboard light-switches and radio controls
3. Spray fancy pillows, bed-skirt, privacy curtain, chair, stool, sofa, etc. without interfering with guest belongs or comfort.
4. Use **AHP Solution** for coffee table top and rim, including telescopic handle control.
5. Use **AHP Solution** on all leather goods. Do not spray with liquid on leather.
6. Wipe remote control and TV (and VCR, if applicable) with **AHP Solution**
7. Wipe Temperature control (thermostat) with **AHP Solution**
8. Wipe drawer handles and under drawer pull opener with **AHP Solution**.
9. Wipe exterior of all books: room directory, literature, and Bible with **AHP Solution**
10. Spray carpet with **AHP Solution**, if visible or known bodily fluids

### **Room Sanitizing (VACANT ROOMS):**

Use **AHP Solution**, on applicable surfaces. In general, apply the spray or wipe **ALL** surfaces, with which ever is most appropriate. Work from the furthest wall backwards towards the entry door, being sure to cover all surfaces from side to side, and bottom to top.

1. Spray **AHP Solution** on drapes & glass curtains, both sides, using hand pump sprayer.
2. Spray/mist **AHP Solution** on all mattresses (top and sides), using hand pump sprayer.
3. Use **AHP Solution** for curtain wand, headboard light-switches and radio controls
4. Spray fancy pillows, bed-skirt, privacy curtain, chair, stool, sofa, etc.
5. Use **AHP Solution** for coffee table top and rim, including telescopic handle control.
6. Use **AHP Solution** on all leather goods. Do not spray with liquid on leather.
7. Wipe with **AHP Solution** remote control and TV (and VCR, if applicable)
8. Wipe with **AHP Solution** Temperature control (thermostat)
9. Using hand pump sprayer, mist closet shelves and hangers and wipe safe, etc.
10. Wipe with **AHP Solution** drawer handles and under drawer pull opener.
11. Wipe with **AHP Solution** exterior of all books: cabin directory, literature and Bible
12. Dispose of all cabin directory inserts, stationary/envelopes/postcards and pen.
13. Wipe Lifejacket with **AHP Solution**, inside and out, including thorough cleaning of straps.
14. Using hand pump sprayer, apply **AHP Solution** on carpet from back of cabin to the front.