

MRSA – Past, Present ... and Future?

Prof. Barry Cookson
Broadcast live from IPS 2013 (www.ips.uk.net)

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MRSA – PAST, PRESENT ... and FUTURE?

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www.webbertraining.com October 2, 2013

"Gra" "ham" Ayliffe
"Grand" "Homestead"

- Anglo-Saxon or Old Norse origin
- Origins from words meaning:
"noble gift"
or
"eternal life"

Outline

- The Past - as go through reflect on lessons learnt or not!
- Current Issues
 - What reduced MRSA healthcare associated infections in England?
- The Future
 - Continue to consider what we need to do avoid history repeating itself!
 - Studies still required



Public Health Laboratory Service,
Cross Infection Laboratory, Colindale

Liz Patricia Jevons,
first described MRSA 1961

Public Health Laboratory Service,
Cross Infection Laboratory, Colindale

Dick Marples

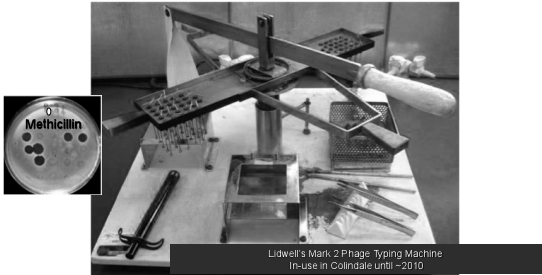
Cookson B. *Lancet* 2011; 378: 1291-92

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Serendipitous Discovery of MRSA, 1960
Same year as use started (pub. 1961)



MRSA in 1960s: “Decade of Discovery”

- Significance of heterogeneous resistance: a “lab. finding”
- Only relevant to skin? Then bloodstream infections (BSIs) occurred!
- QA distributions need to include these strains as still around (Netherlands missed them in 1990s)
- During decade homogeneous resistance emerged
- Little or no formal surveillance in place (pre EARSNet!)
- Some countries more affected:
Denmark 34% of *S. aureus* BSIs in 1968

1970s: “The Decade of Complacency”
David Shanson

- MRSA decreased in France, UK, Australia & Denmark
- Several theories why
 - Antimicrobial stewardship: reduction in tetracycline & streptomycin use (isolates were multi-resistant)
 - less “fit” due to these and other resistances (Nielsen et al, 2012 for Danish 1960s MRSA)
 - improved infection prevention and control
- HCWs changed practices because Rosendal head of Staph Lab was very influential in Danish College of Physicians
- CMMs advising DH Scotland 1990s, England 2000s
Concerns now ref reductions in DH resources

1975-76: Emergence of
Gentamicin Resistant MRSA

- Gentamicin introduced in 1970s another reason for reductions in MRSA?
- 1975: Speller Bristol first gentamicin-resistant isolate
- 1976: Shanson Mile End Hospital first outbreak
Many interventions and fumigation used
after last case discharged
Strain never seen again in England!

1980s: “The Decade of Re-Emergence”

- New epidemic gentamicin resistant MRSA strains emerged in Australia
- Caused immense problems in the UK
- Spread globally (but many different strains in USA)

1980s Controversies

(see Ayliffe et al’s Guidelines 1986, 1990, 1995, 1998)

- MRSA virulence questioned
 - Marples labelled different MRSA types
 - Some at least as virulent as some MSSA (Lacey strain prot A-)
- MRSA displace MSSA so no additional burden
 - Probably UK surveillance data from 1990s most convincing that they are an additional burden
- MRSA can be treated by many drugs and hyper-beta-lactamase production is the issue
 - Not so even though amoxicillin binds to PBP2’ (PBP2a)
 - Luckier in UK that more susceptible than some others e.g. parts of USA, Gulf States and Australia

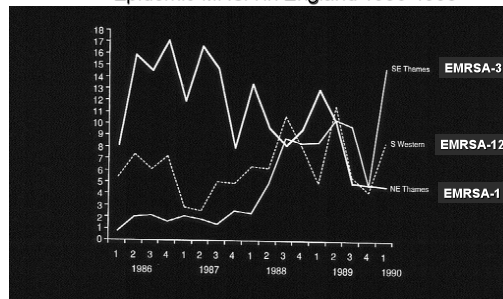
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EMRSA Sites Predilection (Marples et al studies)

- Six month survey 1987-88
EMRSA-1: infections in men,
Other EMRSAs (2-14): infections in women
- Analysis of multiple-site referrals in 1995
 - EMRSA-15: vaginas, pressure sores, urines,
 - EMRSA-16: sputum
(also with Cox *et al* "Kettering outbreak")
throat colonisation
 - EMRSA-3: leg ulcers
 - OMRSA: skin lesions and leg ulcers

Epidemic MRSA in England 1986-1990



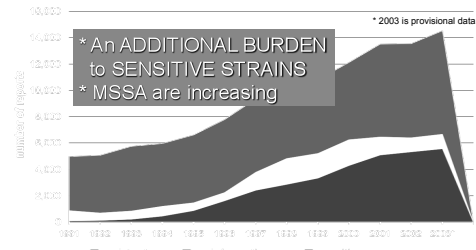
Mackintosh *et al* J Hosp Infect 1991; 18: 279-292

1990s : "The Decade of Dawning Realisation"

- ICTs differed in views still on MRSA importance!
- "MRSA and MSSA are both important: MRSA is a distraction and other HAI AMR organisms also important"
- ICNA debate where audience's opinions changed to pro MRSA control
- Politicians ignored warnings and the increases in MRSA
- IC shown to be effective but not enthusiastically adopted
- Emergence of mupirocin resistance: threats of other disinfectant resistance: no surveillance!

MRSA Bacteraemias in England & Wales: 1991 – 2003

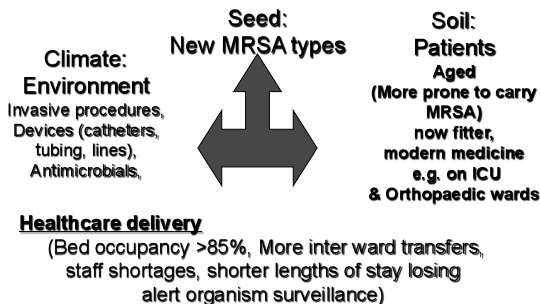
14-fold increase
Doubled in Last Six Years



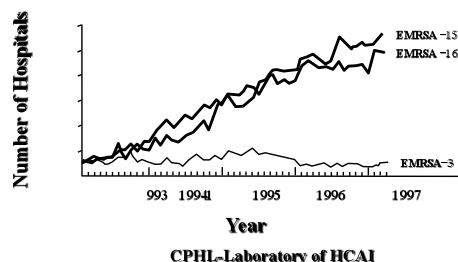
Cookson B. Is it time to stop searching for MRSA? *Br Med J* 1997; 31: 664-666.
Also See Cookson, B. Meticillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*. *Lancet Infect Dis* 2005; 5: 654-655



Changes in MRSA Pathogenesis in 1990s



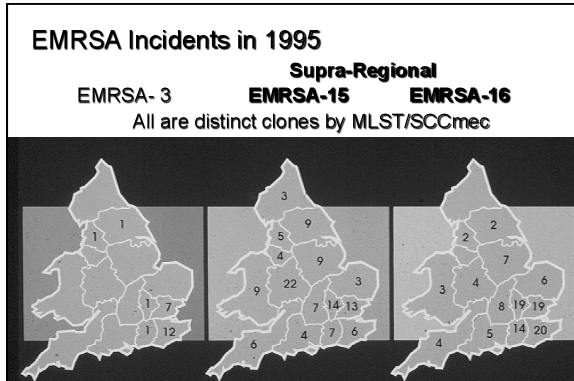
Hospitals affected each month by EMRSA-3, EMRSA-15, or EMRSA-16



CPHL-Laboratory of HCAI

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European Epidemic MRSA
J Clin Microbiol 2003;41:1574-85 & 2007;45:1830-7

Five International EU EMRSA clones :

- A - "Iberian clone":
Belgium EC-1: Finland E7, 10: France A, B, C:
N. German I: Spain E1 : Sweden: Portugal
- B - Belgium EC-3: Finland E1
- C - UK E3: South German II: Slovenia: Finland :
Belgium
- D - UK E16: Sweden II (via Cyprus): Denmark:
Finland E5: Belgium, German, Belgium, USA,
Spain
- E - UK EMRSA -15: Germany: Belgium

Biologists deploy database to quash drug-resistant bacteria

<http://www.eurosurveillance.org/ViewArticle.aspx?ArticleId=18860>

t041

**EU Seqnet
spa database**

Increased inter country patient movement: will need agreed SOPs for communication!

Whole genome sequencing and the prevention and control of methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* infection

Humphreys and Coleman, J Hosp Infect, 2013;85:86

MRSA Colindale Update – 1995
142 England and Wales ICTs

Important Difficulties in MRSA Control

● Difficulties in eradicating colonisation	64%	● Inter-ward transfers	59%
● Compliance with handwashing	61%	● Poor staff/patient ratios	58%
Due in part to:		● Extensive patient colonisation	51%
◆ Rapid turnover of staff	30%	● Not implement initial screening	39%
◆ Lack of MRSA experience	37%	● Not implementing other IC procedures	50%
◆ Agency staff	31%	● Differences in health care workers opinions on importance of MRSA control	48%
● Financial constraints	39%	● Unable to discharge patients to nursing homes	41%
● Nursing/elderly home admissions	37%	● Lack of skilled staff	39%
● Differences in Manager's opinions on importance of MRSA	37%		
● Frequent introductions of MRSA	35%		
● Laboratory overload	34%		
● Staff spread MRSA	27%		
● (Mupirocin resistance)	13%		

Shown at CMO Annual Conference: no interest PHLS Business Plan: HAI not included!

Sunday Times 1995

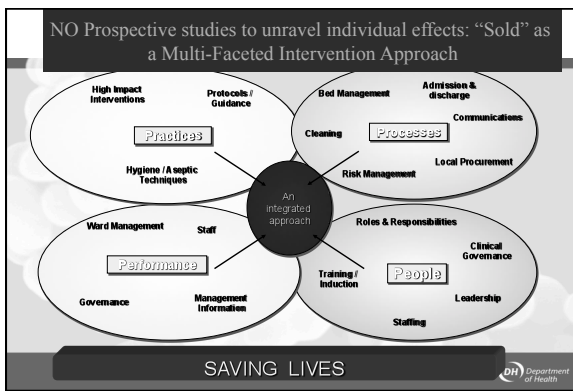
- Cookson “The ways in which we deliver healthcare today are almost designed to spread multi-resistant organisms around the hospital” The perfect storm!
- Fortunately the NHS CE and CMO agreed with me!
- Swedish ICD on seeing the data from England “even the best armies in the world can be overwhelmed”

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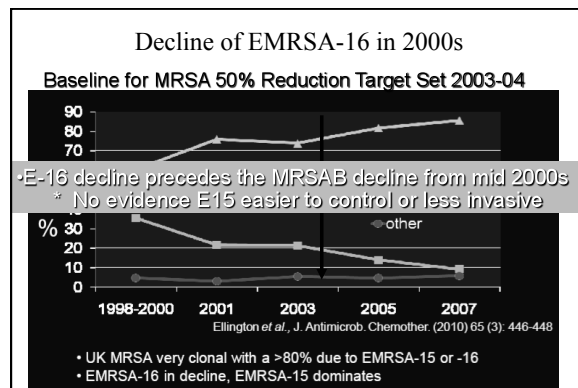
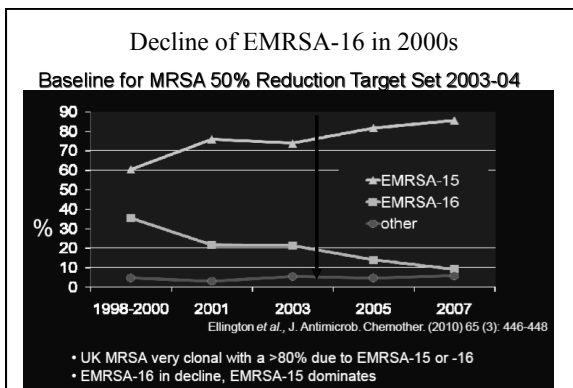
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Possible TRIGGERS?	
April 2001	Mandatory Acute Hospital MRSA bacteraemia surveillance
July 2003	Director Infection Prevention and Control (DIPHC) reports to Chief Executive
July 2004	Target for reduction of MRSA bacteraemia: 2003-04 halved by 07-08
Sept 2004	clean your hands national campaign
June 2005	Saving Lives published: Seven Bundles followed
Oct 2005	Enhanced MRSA bacteraemia surveillance: CE Responsible

Trigger Factors?	
Oct 2006	Code of Practice to prevent HCAI published as part of the Health Act : The STICK
2006 - 08	Improvement Teams: varied why went in and what done: The CARROT Used Healthcare Commission and other approaches
May 2007	Healthcare Commission inspection programme: against Code

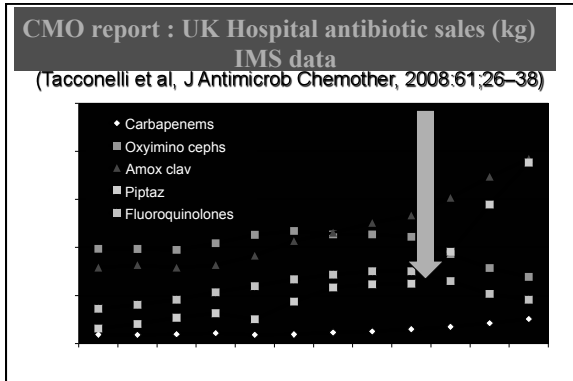


Other Factors?



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Are the MRSA Bacteraemia data to be believed?
Were the hospitals “gaming”?

- CE made responsible for locking the data down
- External independent inspection checks
- No significant reductions in blood cultures taken
- Death reporting (ONS) data also decreased

Number of deaths

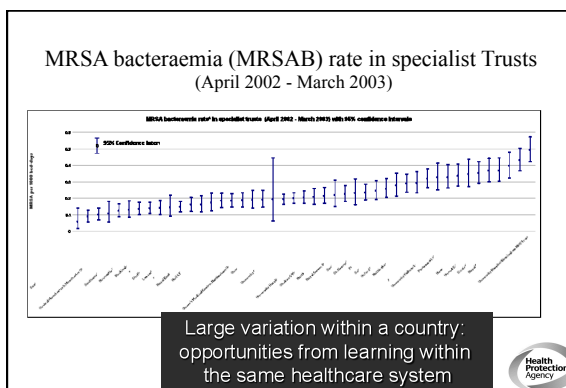
1,800
1,600
1,400
1,200
1,000
800
600
400
200
0

1993 1995 1997 1999 2001 2003 2005 2007 2009

■ Underlying cause ■ Mentions

Number of death certificates mentioning MRSA, England and Wales, 1993-2009

Studies of MRSA bacteraemia (MRSAB)
Reductions



Healthcare Commission Analysis
of Healthcare Associated Infection 2006

Lower Rates of MRSAB if:

- better scores for availability of hand hygiene materials on wards sampled
- Better able to comply with patient isolation guidance as more single rooms

Healthcare associated infection: what else can the NHS do?

Mears A et al, J Hosp Infection, 2009; 71: 307-313

Healthcare Commission Analysis

Lower MRSAs and *C. difficile* infection rates:

- Better bed management parameters
- Inclusion of infection control in appraisal and personal development plans

Higher rates:

- Protected time for infection control training for all healthcare workers
- May be an example of “reactive practice”

Very Early in the implementation of Saving Lives
and pre Improvement Team visits

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The World's First National Hand Hygiene Improvement Campaign Preceding the WHO Global Patient Challenge

- **4 year campaign: Dec 2004 to June 2005**
- **Rolled out to all 187 acute NHS hospitals**

Conclusions NOSEC Study Stone et al, BMJ 2012;344:e3005

- Trebling of usage of soap and alcoholic hand rub (AHR)
- Strong independent associations with ~halving of MRSA bacteraemia and *C difficile* infections
 - Higher procurement of soap and AHR
 - Health Act
 - DOH improvement visits
- Relative contributions unclear
- Other national interventions or hospital variations were not significant
- National infection control interventions, including a hand hygiene campaign, in **context of a high profile political drive**, can successfully reduce these infections.

NAO Report 2008 Improvement Comments

- Leadership from CEs, Good Performance Management
- Increase in ICT resourcing & isolation capacities (HTA MRSA Review shown to be vital)
- Threat of CQC fines/shaming
- Stoke Mandeville/Maidstone Reports a wake-up call
- Quoted DH report:
Staff/Patient ratios/Bed Occupancy no longer related to higher MRSABs
NOTE: It showed that they WERE significant when I was complaining about these!

The Future

Five decades of MRSA: controversy and uncertainty continues.

Cookson, Lancet 2011; 378: 1291-92.

"It is vital that policy makers and governments realise that they must continue to spend money to save money."

"MRSA and other hospital infection pathogens will continue to pose threats to patient safety in the foreseeable future.

One thing is certain: the response to these challenges will determine the next decade of research and reaction to MRSA."

- "Prediction is very difficult, especially about the future"
Niels Bohr *Danish physicist (1885 - 1962)*

- "The future will be exactly like the past only far more expensive"
Jim Bishop, *Author, 1959*

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Issues Still to Be Addressed!

- Need for better (CONSORT/ORION compliant) studies on isolation, disinfectant “suppression,” type and methods of screening (i.e what exactly was done when!)
- Context of studies needs to be considered e.g. country and type of unit e.g. case-mix of the ICUs, CA-MRSA, LA-MRSA are considerable threats
- Consider local applicability of interventions?
- Monitor what you can e.g. periodic discharge screening
- MRSA is lower now: consider all MDROs and have an economic strategy e.g. look DH NOW study (Cost/QALYs)
- Ensure a wide engagement in policy making e.g. informed and unbiased patient advocates

Post Francis Era: We must shout that HAIs are a major patient safety issue!

NHS: No one is safe
Scandal of deaths at Mid Staffs Trust could happen anywhere, report says

BERWICK'S TEN KEY STEPS TO HEAL NHS

- New criminal offences should be created to punish negligence, willful neglect or mismanagement by organisations or individuals
- Health bodies that withhold or obstruct relevant information should be subject to criminal sanctions
- A review of correct staffing levels should be held by the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence, but adequate levels determined locally
- Over-complex regulatory systems must put patient safety at top of their priorities

Patients 'failed by toxic NHS cocktail'
Complaints go unheard and errors are not learnt, says health service ombudsman

NEGLECT A PATIENT AND GO TO PRISON
Time for warnings to NHS staff on major review

Thank you for your attention!

IPS Infection Prevention Society

Patrons Professor Didier Pittet and Professor Tricia Hart

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Our Vision & Mission: Our vision is that no person is harmed by a preventable infection. Our mission is to inform, promote and sustain expert infection prevention policy and practice in the pursuit of better in-patient care and staff safety wherever care is delivered.

Latest News: IPS Response to the Keogh Review, July 2013. Please click here to view. Audit & Surveillance Forum call for new members.

Whats On: 20th Sept - 2nd Oct 2013 Infection Prevention 2013. Monday 30th September 2013 Infection Prevention in Care Homes One Day Conference Contributing to Safety & Quality. Tuesday 1st October 2013 Infection Prevention in Perioperative Practice. Tuesday 1st October 2013 Infection Prevention in Outpatient. Wednesday 2nd October 2013 Infection Prevention in General Practice One Day Conference. Friday 25th October 2013 IPS Northern Ireland & Ireland Branches Joint Conference 2013.

Infection Prevention 2013: 30th September - 2nd October 2013. ExCel, London. CLICK HERE for more information. Have you seen miles video well from Infection Prevention 2012? <http://ips.abp-digital.com>

2012 Highlight: Infection Prevention 2012 featured an array of inspiring and educational sessions. Each month the slides and audio from one of these sessions will be made available to give a taste of conference.

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