



**NEPHROLOGY PROGRAM  
DEPARTMENT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

**Home Dialysis - Section 14 - Unit Specific - HDU 14-01  
Management of Antibiotic Resistant Organisms (ARO) in the Home Dialysis  
Unit and Home Visits**

**No.:** (TOH Standardized Policy Number)

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**ISSUED BY:**

Home Dialysis Unit / Clinical Practice  
Committee

**DATE OF APPROVAL:**

2015/06

**APPROVED BY:**

Program Clinical Director and Division  
Head

**LAST REVIEW/REVISION DATE:**

N/A

**CATEGORY:**

Unit Specific

**IMPLEMENTATION DATE:**

2015/06

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**PURPOSE:**

- To provide guidelines regarding management of Antibiotic-Resistant Organisms (ARO) positive patients of The Ottawa Hospital Home Dialysis Unit including home visits

**BACKGROUND:**

- Risk factors associated with acquiring ARO include chronic underlying diseases; prolonged hospitalization; broad-spectrum antibiotic therapy and the presence of invasive devices
- These guidelines do not replace, but supplement Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) as well as Champlain Community Care Access Center (CCAC): Additional Precautions-Contact Precautions Procedure

**DEFINITION(S):**

- **Antibiotic-Resistant Organisms:** A microorganism that has developed resistance to the action of several antimicrobial agents and that is of a special clinical or epidemiological significance (i.e. Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (MRSA), Extended-Spectrum Beta-Lactamase (ESBL), Carbapenemase Producing Enterobacteriaceae (CPE), etc

- **Employee:** For the purpose of this policy, “employees” include all workers, physicians, volunteers, students and contract workers e.g., sitters
- **Contact Precautions:** Additional practices to reduce the risk of transmitting infectious agents via contact with an infectious person or his/her environment

## ALERTS:

- All patients who are colonized or infected with AROs should be managed on Contact Precautions (refer to [Policy #00007 – Contact Precautions](#))

## PROCEDURE:

### Management of patients with AROs

#### 1. In the clinic rooms

- All employees must wear **gloves** when hands will be in contact with the patient
- All employees must wear a **gown** if skin/clothing are expected to come in contact with the patient/patient environment
- Clinic rooms must be kept uncluttered with minimal supplies stored
- Employees must clean all surfaces and equipment with hospital-grade disinfectant wipes that have come in contact with the patient and employees contaminated gloves
- Notify housekeeping **only** if room is visibly soiled

#### 2. In the training rooms

- All employees must wear **gloves** when in the patient room
- All employees must wear a **gown** if skin/clothing are expected to come in contact with the patient/patient environment
- Training rooms must be kept uncluttered with minimal supplies stored
- Discharge clean by housekeeping is required for all patients on contact precautions

#### 3. In the home environment

- All employees must wear **gloves** for all direct contact with patient or the patient’s immediate environment, personal items and equipment
- All employees must wear a **gown** if skin/clothing are expected to come in contact with the patient/patient environment
- Use hospital-grade disinfectant wipes to clean any item/equipment taken out of the home

## **DISPOSAL OF CONTAMINATED FLUID:**

- Handle items according to Routine Practices
- Gloves must be worn when there is a risk for hands to be exposed to blood and body fluids
- The employee selects the most appropriate gown for the task to be performed
- A mask is always used in combination with eye protection when the face of the employee is likely to be exposed to splashes/sprays

## **RELATED POLICIES / LEGISLATION:**

1. [Infection Prevention and Control Policies and Procedures - Policy # 00007 Contact Precautions](#)
2. [Infection Prevention and Control Policies and Procedures - Policy # 00017 Management of Antibiotic Resistant Organisms \(ARO\) in the Ambulatory Care](#)
3. [Infection Prevention and Control Policies and Procedures - Policy # 00018 Management of Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus \(MRSA\) Positive Patients in an Inpatient Setting](#)
4. [Infection Prevention and Control - Policy # 00021 - Antibiotic Resistant Organisms \(ARO\) \(including ESBL, CPE\) in the Inpatient Setting](#)

## **REFERENCES:**

1. Provincial Infectious Diseases Advisory Committee (PIDAC): Routine Practice and Additional Precautions in all Health Care Settings, Ministry of Health and Long Term Care, November 2012
2. [Champlain Community Care Access Center \(CCAC\): Additional Precautions- Contact Precautions Procedure, October 2012, Infection Prevention and Control \[IPAC\] team](#)

## **COMMENTS / SIGNIFICANT REVISIONS: N/A**