

PROTOCOL FOR VANCOMYCIN RESISTANT ENTEROCOCCUS (VRE)

Verify VRE culture with Microbiology.

Notify Infection Control at extension 3-2192 or 3-2193.

Place patients colonized or infected with VRE in “contact isolation”. Every effort will be made to place the patient in a private room, however in situations where this may be impossible, due to lack of available rooms, or in an outbreak situation, patients will be identified and cohorted accordingly. Emphasis will be on isolating the infective material.

Surveillance cultures will be obtained at least 72 hours after the discontinuation of all antibiotics and before isolation is discontinued.

Obtain surveillance cultures from the stool, or rectal area and any portal of exit the patient may have. Culture all wounds, urine if the patient is catheterized and tracheostomy if present. Mark the chart “R/O VRE”

Surveillance cultures may be ordered by the attending physician, Infectious Disease physician, and/or the Infection Control Nurse Consultants.

Order surveillance cultures weekly on three consecutive occasions.

If all surveillance cultures are negative and remain so on three consecutive occasions one week apart, isolation may be discontinued. Please consult Infection Control before discontinuing isolation.

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