

## VANCOMYCIN RESISTANT ENTEROCOCCUS (VRE) BACTEREMIA

VRE is a strain of Enterococcus bacteria, which has become resistant to many of the antibiotics normally used to kill it. These bacteria usually live in the bowel and can sometimes cause infection.

VRE can live on skin or in the environment for long periods of time. People with VRE can spread it to others when they forget to wash their hands after using the washroom. It can also be spread by unwashed hands after direct contact with patients or the contaminated environment.

Regular hand cleaning with soap and water or alcohol-based hand sanitizer is the best way to prevent the spread of VRE.

Bacteremia is the presence of bacteria in the bloodstream and is referred to as a bloodstream infection. Risk factors for VRE bacteremia include having a weakened immune system, a prolonged hospital stay due to a critical illness and having received many antibiotics.

### Rates of New Hospital Acquired VRE Infections at Halton Healthcare

#### Cases

The number of new hospital acquired VRE infections will be reported on a quarterly basis.

#### Infection Rate per 1,000 Patient Days

The VRE infection rate is calculated as a rate per 1,000 patient days. The total patient days represents the sum of the number of days during which services were provided to all inpatients, over one year of age, during the given time period.

#### Rates in Smaller Facilities

The smaller the facility, the greater the rates will vary — this is because a change in even one case in a small facility will cause the rate to go up or down considerably.

#### Target Rate

The target rate is not currently available but it is anticipated that this will be established by the MOHLTC for hospitals of comparable size in the near future.

	2017	2018			
Georgetown Hospital	Oct-Dec	Jan - Mar	Apr - June	Jul - Sept	Oct-Dec
<b>Cases</b>	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Rate</b>	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

	2017	2018			
Milton District Hospital	Oct-Dec	Jan - Mar	Apr - June	Jul - Sep	Oct-Dec
<b>Cases</b>	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Rate</b>	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

	2017	2018			
Oakville-Trafalgar Memorial Hospital	Oct-Dec	Jan - Mar	Apr - June	Jul - Sep	Oct-Dec
<b>Cases</b>	<5	<5	0	0	0
<b>Rate</b>	0.02	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00