The objective of this study was to describe the outbreak investigation and the steps taken to eliminate further transmission.

Methods: A VRE outbreak was declared in the NICU July 8, 2022 after 3 cases were identified in the same pod.

From June to July 2022 three cases of VRE colonization were acquired in a 42-bed tertiary NICU at a regional referral centre for high-risk pregnancy. The objective of this study was to describe the outbreak investigation and the steps taken to eliminate further transmission.

Results: Whole genome sequencing of the three VRE isolates was compared to VRE isolates from adult inpatients from the same time period. The identical strain was identified in contemporaneous outbreaks in three adult inpatient units at the same time. Although NICU staff and equipment are dedicated to each pod on the unit, the identical strain was identified in contemporaneous outbreaks in three adult inpatient units at the same time. The NICU is made up of 4 pods - A, B, C and D - which are physically separated from each other. NICU room layout in a 42-bed tertiary regional referral centre for high-risk pregnancy ¹

Conclusion: Outbreaks of vancomycin-resistant enterococci (VRE) in neonatal intensive care units (NICU) are uncommon. In June to July six cases of VRE colonization were identified in a 42-bed tertiary NICU at a regional referral centre for high-risk pregnancy. The objective of this study was to describe the outbreak investigation and the steps taken to eliminate further transmission.

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Abstract

TRANSMISSION OF VANCOMYCIN-RESISTANT ENTEROCOCCI IN A NEONATAL INTENSIVE CARE UNIT

Authors: Victoria Williams 1, Melaneek Eng-Chong 2, Charlie Tan 1, Rob Kozak 3, Lorraine Maze Dit Mieuxmeunier 4, Heather Candon 1, Ashley James 1, Jerome Leis 1, 2

Infection Prevention and Control, Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre 1 Division of Infectious Diseases, Departments of Medicine, University of Toronto 2 Shared Hospital Laboratory, Sunnybrook Health Science Centre

Background: Outbreaks of vancomycin-resistant enterococci (VRE) in neonatal intensive care units (NICU) are uncommon. In June to July 2022, three cases of VRE colonization were acquired in a 42-bed tertiary NICU at a regional referral centre for high-risk pregnancy. The objective of this study was to describe the outbreak investigation and the steps taken to eliminate further transmission.

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