

We Have Met The Enemy and He Is Us
Prof. Allison McGeer, Sinai Health System, University of Toronto
A Webber Training Teleclass

We have met the enemy ...
and he is us:
Can we change?

Allison McGeer, MSc, MD, FRCPC, FSHEA, FAMMI
Sinai Health System, University of Toronto



Hosted by Nicole Kenny
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September 16, 2021

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met the
enemy

And he
is us



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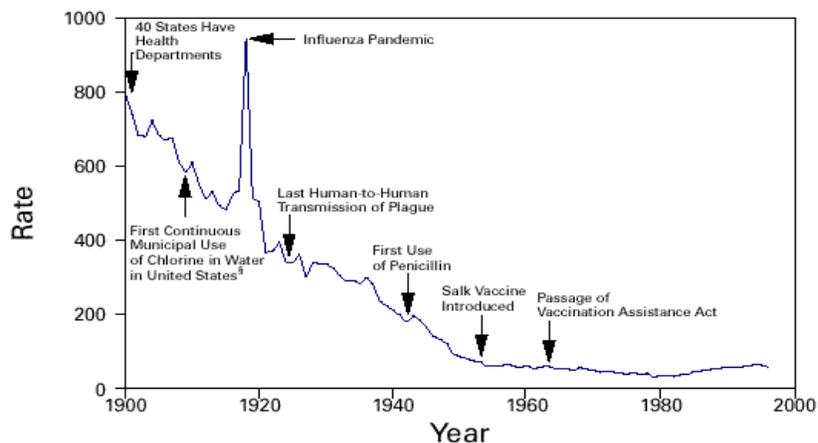
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Objectives

- To convince you of what the future will be if we do not accelerate change in hospital infection prevention
- To persuade you that it is possible to change this future
- To discuss what we need to do to get there

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FIGURE 1. Crude death rate* for infectious diseases — United States, 1900–1996[†]



*Per 100,000 population per year.

[†]Adapted from Armstrong GL, Conn LA, Pinner RW. Trends in infectious disease mortality in the United States during the 20th century. JAMA 1999;281:61–6.

[‡]American Water Works Association. Water chlorination principles and practices: AWWA manual M20. Denver, Colorado: American Water Works Association, 1973.

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No Antimicrobials – What Would That Mean?

- “If antibiotics stopped working, we would find that instead of 7% of deaths being related to infection at the moment in the developed world, it would go back up to about half (50%) of deaths.”

Dame Sally Davies, UK Chief Medical Officer (Feb 2015)

- “In a world with few effective antibiotics, modern medical advances such as surgery, transplants, and chemotherapy may no longer be viable due to the threat of infection”

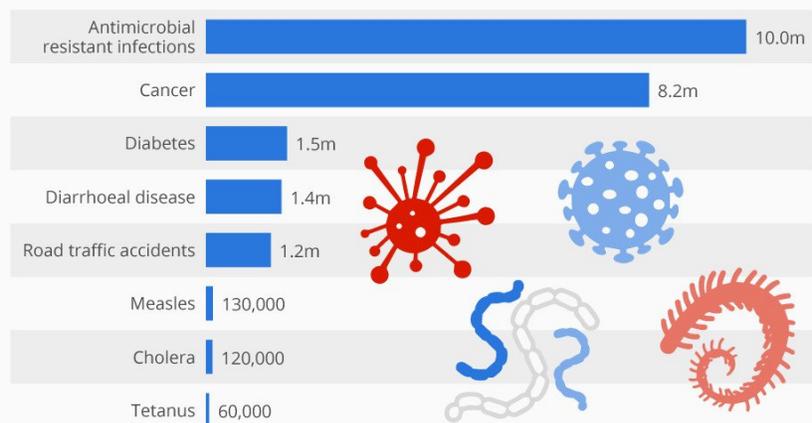
US National Strategy for Combating Antibiotic-Resistant Bacteria (Sep 2014)



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Deaths From Drug-Resistant Infections Set To Skyrocket

Deaths from antimicrobial resistant infections and other causes in 2050



@StatistaCharts Source: Review on Antimicrobial Resistance

statista

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- *“Without policies to stop the ..spread of AMR, today’s already large 700,000 deaths every year would become an extremely disturbing 10 million every year, more people than currently die from cancer.”*
- *“The cost in terms of global production between now and 2050 would be an enormous 100 trillion USD if we do not take action”*

Jim O’Neill, Chair, UK review on antimicrobial resistance, 2016



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Most common bacteria causing infection

- *Staphylococcus aureus*
- *Escherichia coli*
- *Streptococcus pneumoniae*
- *Klebsiella pneumoniae*
- *Clostridium difficile*

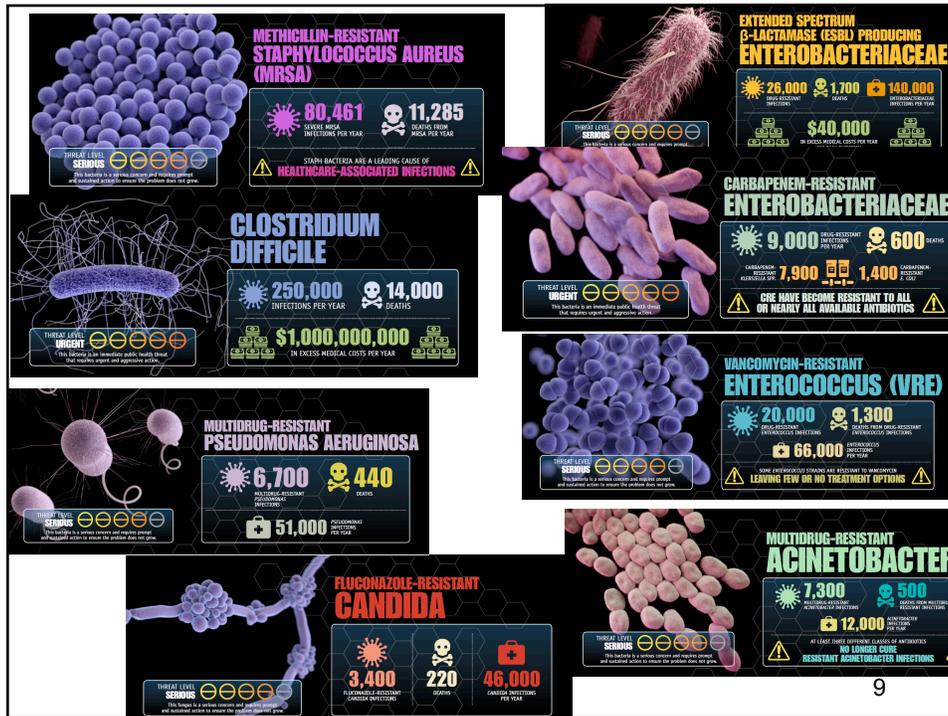
- *Salmonella, Campylobacter spp.*
- *Chlamydia, T. pallidum, N. gonorrhoea*
- Group A streptococcus, Group B streptococcus, *H. influenzae*, Legionella
- *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*
- Enterococci, *P. aeruginosa, Acinetobacter spp.*
- *N. meningitidis*

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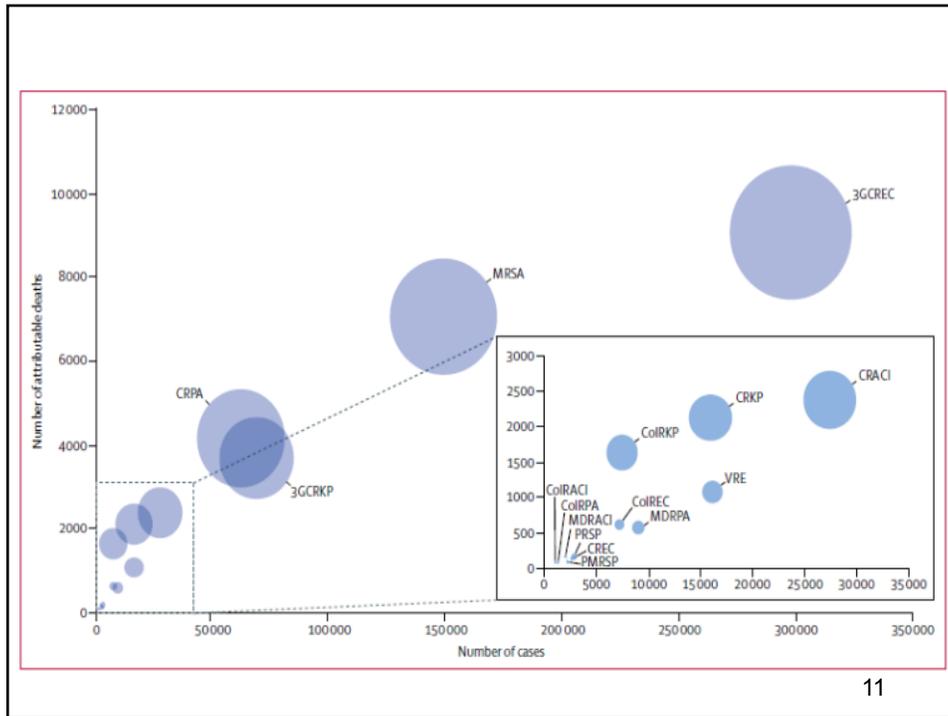


Attributable deaths and disability-adjusted life-years caused by infections with antibiotic-resistant bacteria in the EU and the European Economic Area in 2015: a population-level modelling analysis

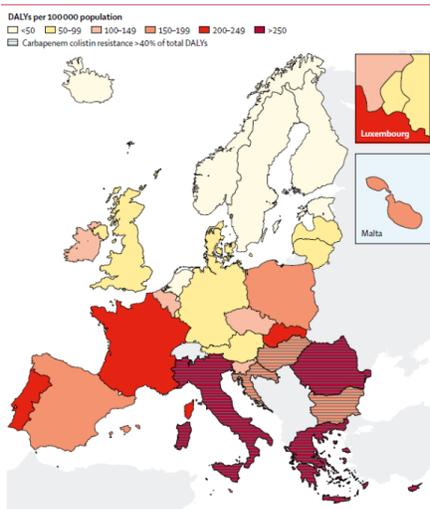


Alessandro Cassini, Liselotte Diaz Högberg, Diamantis Plachouras, Annalisa Quattrocchi, Ana Hoxha, Gunnar Skov Simonsen, Mélanie Colomb-Cotinat, Mirjam E Kretzschmar, Brecht Devleeschauwer, Michele Cecchini, Driss Ait Ouakrim, Tiago Cravo Oliveira, Marc J Struelens, Carl Suetens, Dominique L Monnet, and the Burden of AMR Collaborative Group*

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Disability associated life-years due to antibiotic resistance, EU



- 65% of AR infections were hospital acquired, representing 127 DALYs per 100,000 population

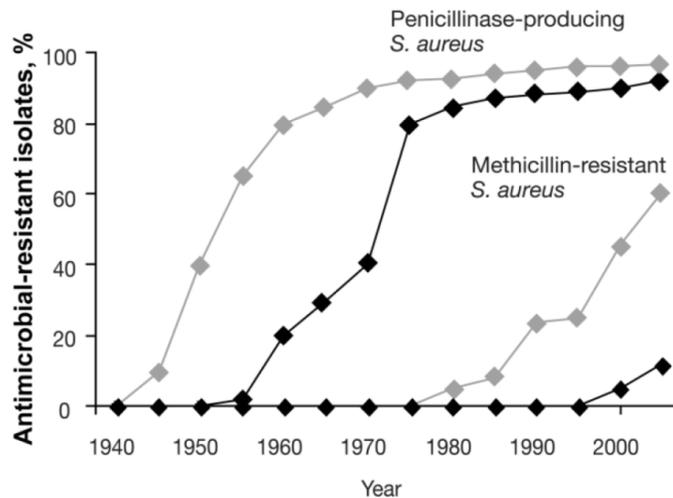
- Sum of HIV, TB, influenza is 183 DALYs

Cassini LancetID 2019

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Evolution of penicillin and methicillin resistant
S. aureus, US, 1940-2002



McDonald LC, Clin Inf Dis 2006

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Science 1993; 259:227-30

**Evidence for a Clonal Origin of Methicillin
Resistance in *Staphylococcus aureus***

Barry Kreiswirth, John Kornblum, Robert D. Arbeit,
William Eisner, Joel N. Maslow, Allison McGeer, Donald E. Low,
Richard P. Novick*

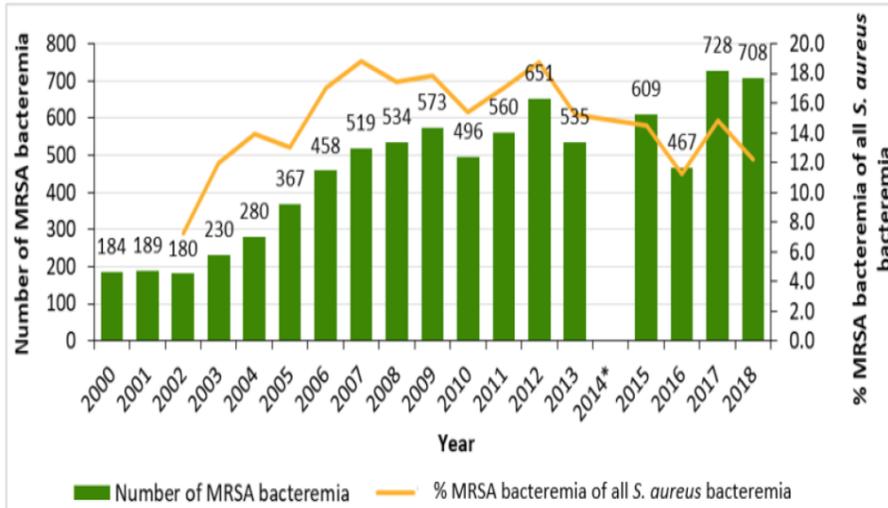
Soon after methicillin was introduced into clinical practice in the early 1960s, resistant strains of *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) appeared, bearing a newly acquired resistance gene, *mecA*, that encodes a penicillin binding protein, PBP2a. MRSA have spread throughout the world, and an investigation of the clonality of 472 isolates by DNA hybridization was performed. All 472 isolates could be divided into six temporally ordered *mecA* hybridization patterns, and three of these were subdivided by the chromosomal transposon Tn554. Each Tn554 pattern occurred in association with one and only one *mecA* pattern, suggesting that *mecA* divergence preceded the acquisition of Tn554 in all cases and therefore that *mecA* may have been acquired just once by *S. aureus*.

*Therefore, that mecA may have been
acquired just once by S. aureus*

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Number of MRSA bacteremias per year, Ontario, 2000-2018



<https://www.publichealthontario.ca/-/media/documents/a/2020/aro-survey-2018.pdf?la=en>

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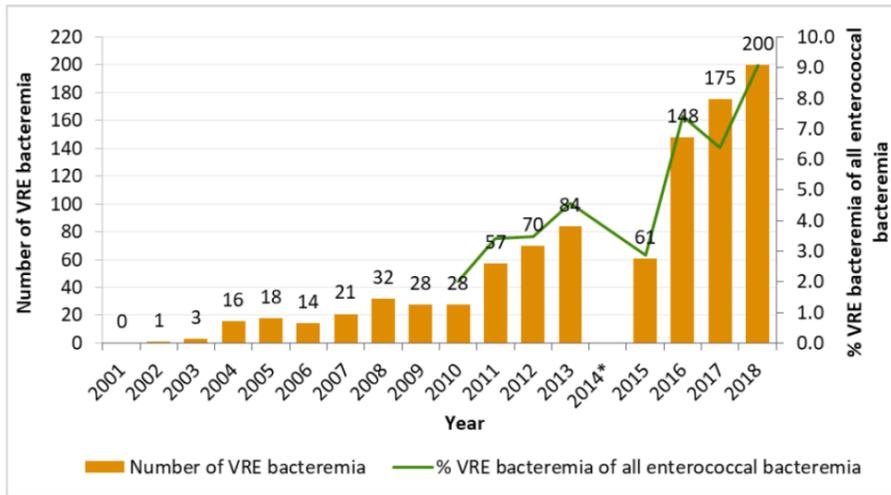


- VRE appeared in the community in northern Europe and Australia in the 1980s in association with the use of avoparcin (an antibiotic related to vancomycin) in animal feed
 - Avoparcin was banned in 1997, with prompt reductions in VRE in food chains
- In North America, VRE were first reported in 1988 in New York City and spread rapidly (400 cases in first 18 months)
 - In Ontario, <5% of reported VRE are thought to be community acquired

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Number of VRE bacteremias per year, Ontario, 2000-2018



<https://www.publichealthontario.ca/-/media/documents/a/2020/aro-survey-2018.pdf?la=en>

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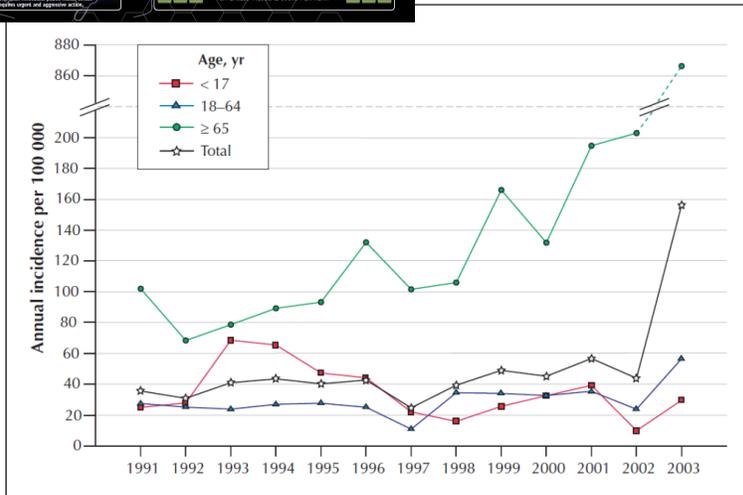
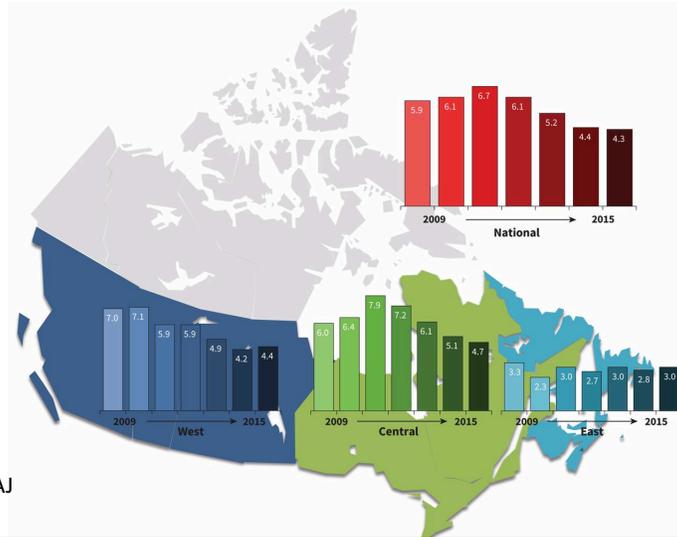


Fig. 1: Annual incidence (per 100 000 population) of *Clostridium difficile*-associated diarrhea (CDAD) in Sherbrooke, Que., 1991-2003.

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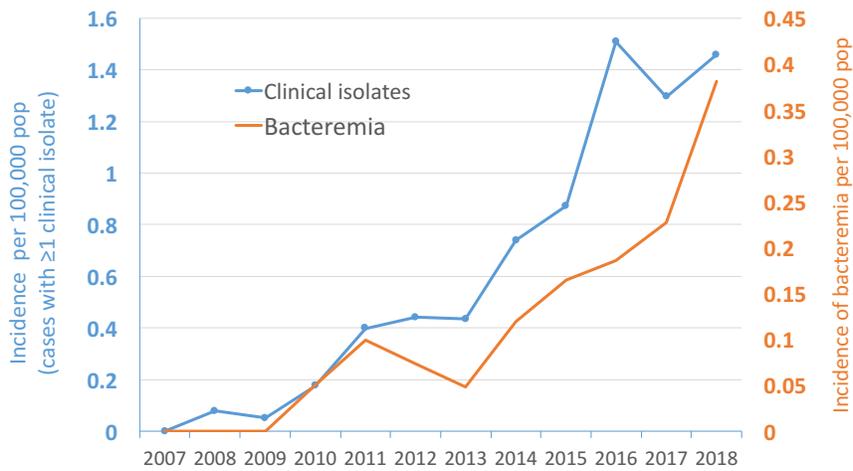
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C. difficile infection in CNISP hospitals, 2009-2015



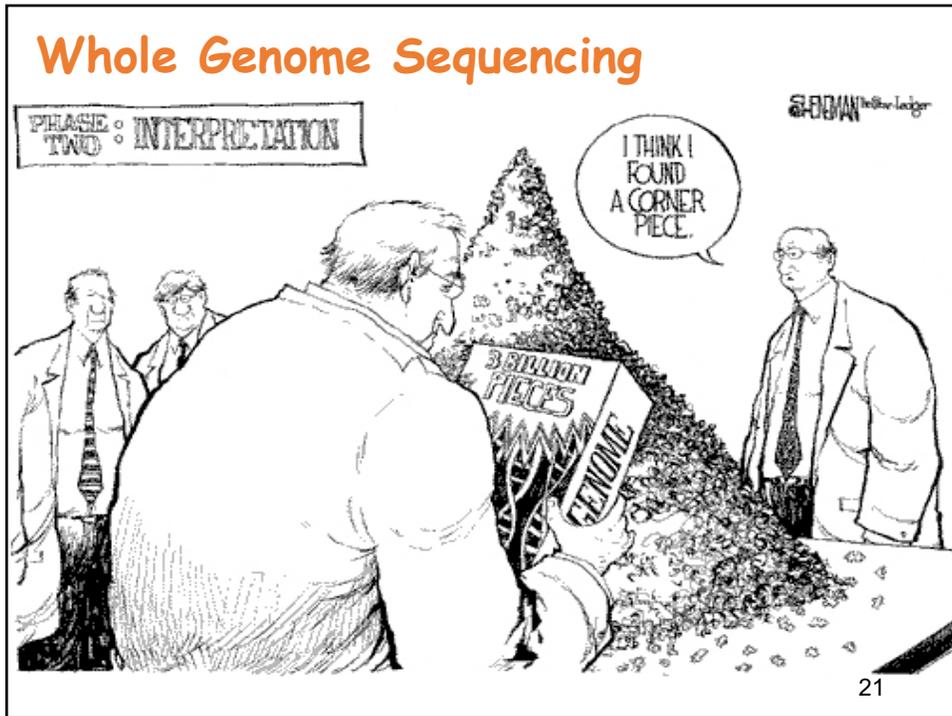
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Population incidence of CPE,
Toronto/Peel region, 2007-2018



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How many SNVs different defines an outbreak?

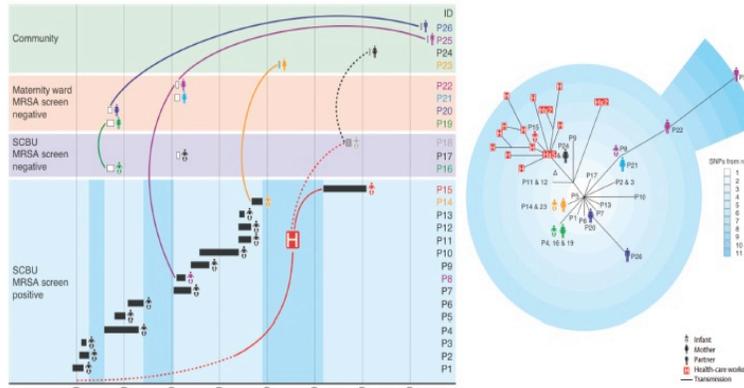
Type of transmission	No. (%) clusters (n=62 ^a)	Median (IQR, range) no. cases in cluster	Median (IQR) time between first and last case isolates, in days
Person-person transmission only	50 (81)	5 (2-12, 2-31)	158 (55-362) ^b
Person-environment/environment-person transmission only	7 (11)	1 (1-2, 1-3)	53 (10-215) ^c
Combination of person-environment/environment-person/person-person transmission	5 (8)	17 (4-18, 3-89)	280 (183-456)
All	62 (100)	4 (2-12, 1-89)	162 (53-362)

Jamal, unpublished

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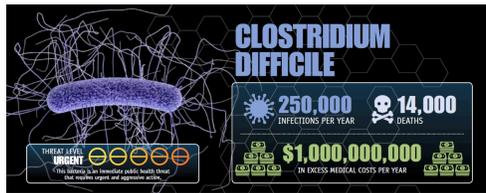
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MRSA transmission



Peacock et al., *Microbiology* 2018;164:1213–1219

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34% of *C. difficile* is community acquired

The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Burden of *Clostridium difficile* Infection in the United States

Fernanda C. Lessa, M.D., M.P.H., Yi Mu, Ph.D., Wendy M. Bamberg, M.D., Zintars G. Beldavs, M.S., Ghinwa K. Dumyati, M.D., John R. Dunn, D.V.M., Ph.D., Monica M. Farley, M.D., Stacy M. Holzbauer, D.V.M., M.P.H., James I. Meek, M.P.H., Erin C. Phipps, D.V.M., M.P.H., Lucy E. Wilson, M.D., Lisa G. Winston, M.D., Jessica A. Cohen, M.P.H., Brandi M. Limbago, Ph.D., Scott K. Fridkin, M.D., Dale N. Gerding, M.D., and L. Clifford McDonald, M.D.

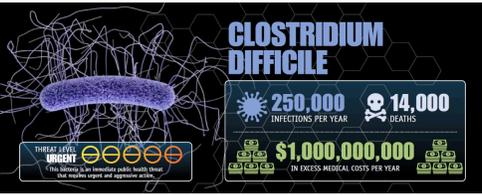
Lessa NEJM 2015;372:825;

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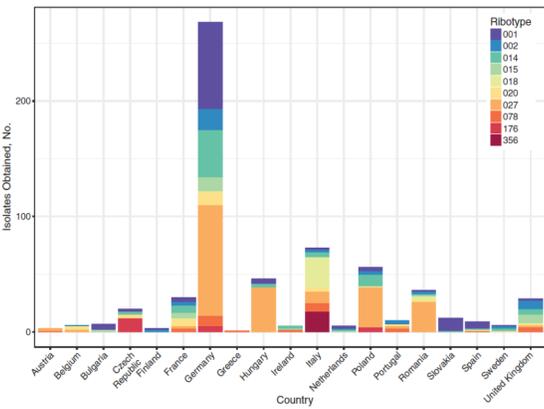
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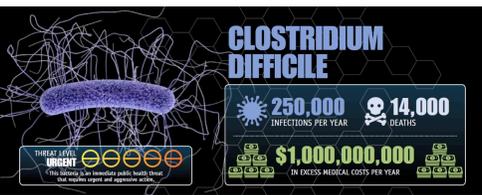
~33% of *C. difficile* is community acquired



Lessa NEJM 2015;372:825; Eyre CID 2018;67:1035

- 7297 in-patient diarrheal samples from 2 sampling days at 482 hospitals in 20 EU countries
- 1211 *C. difficile* isolates
 - 624 represent the most common 10 ribotypes

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~33% of *C. difficile* is community acquired

Table 3. Extent of Within-hospital Clustering by Ribotype

Ribotype	SNPs Between Isolates, Median (IQR)			Within-hospital/Different Hospital Median SNP Ratio	Expected Ratio, 95% CI ^a	Compatible With Hospital-based Clustering
	Within Country	Within Hospital	Within Country, Different Hospital			
020	52 (34–104)	40 (31–105)	54 (35–104)	0.74	.51–2.04	No
014	147 (59–173)	32 (0–137)	148 (60–173)	0.21	.42–1.17	Yes
002	69 (59–88)	3 (0–21)	69 (60–88)	0.05	.65–1.36	Yes
015	296 (29–364)	2 (0–2)	296 (41–365)	0.01	.14–1.47	Yes
078	56 (29–129)	125 (1–250)	56 (32–128)	2.26	15–3.88	No
027	49 (17–71)	8 (3–26)	50 (19–71)	0.16	.42–0.56	Yes
001/072	37 (23–199)	9 (4–31)	38 (24–201)	0.23	.70–1.09	Yes
176	6 (4–8)	7 (2–8)	6 (4–8)	1.17	.66–1.17	Limited total diversity
018	28 (17–38)	7 (4–11)	29 (17–38)	0.23	.52–1.38	Yes
356	9 (5–12)	7 (0–7)	9 (5–12)	0.78	.22–1.56	Limited total diversity

Abbreviations: CI, confidence interval; IQR, interquartile range; SNP, single-nucleotide polymorphism.
^aCI's were based on permutation tests (see Methods).

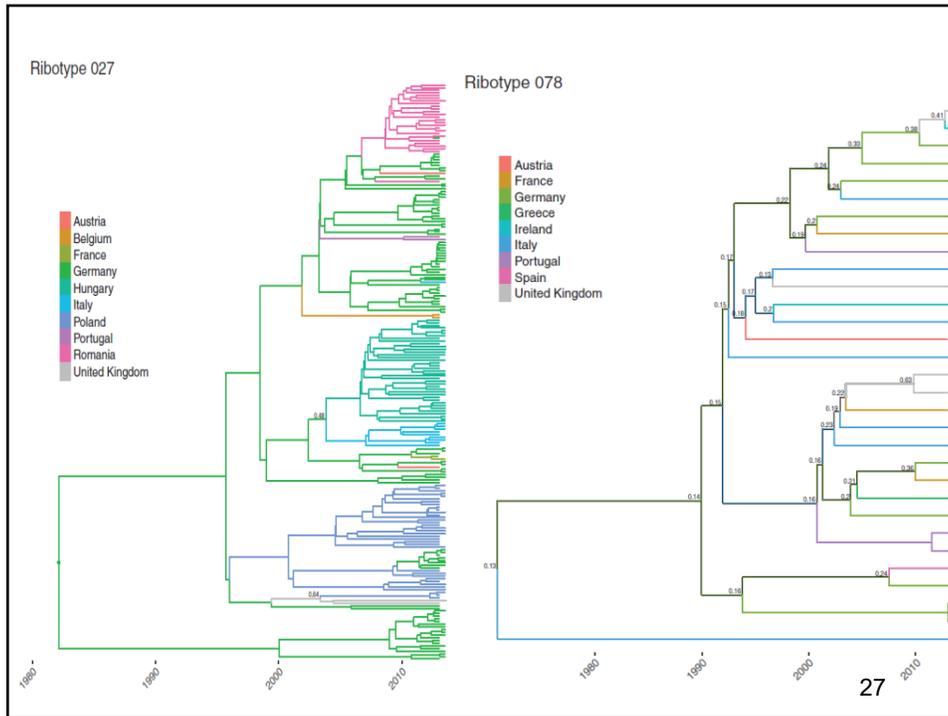
Lessa NEJM 2015;372:825; Eyre CID 2018;67:1035

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CARBAPENEM-RESISTANT ENTEROBACTERIACEAE

9,000 DRUG-RESISTANT INFECTIONS PER YEAR

600 DEATHS

CARBAPENEM-RESISTANT *KL. SPECIES* 7,900

CARBAPENEM-RESISTANT *E. COLI* 1,400

THREAT LEVEL URGENT

This bacteria is an immediate public health threat that requires urgent and aggressive action.

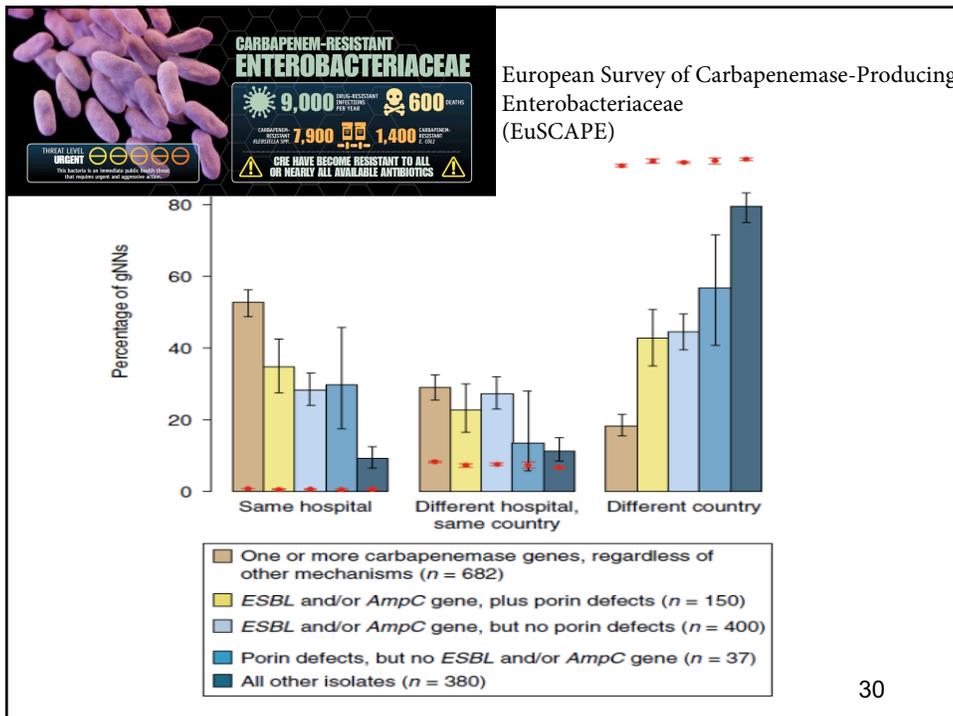
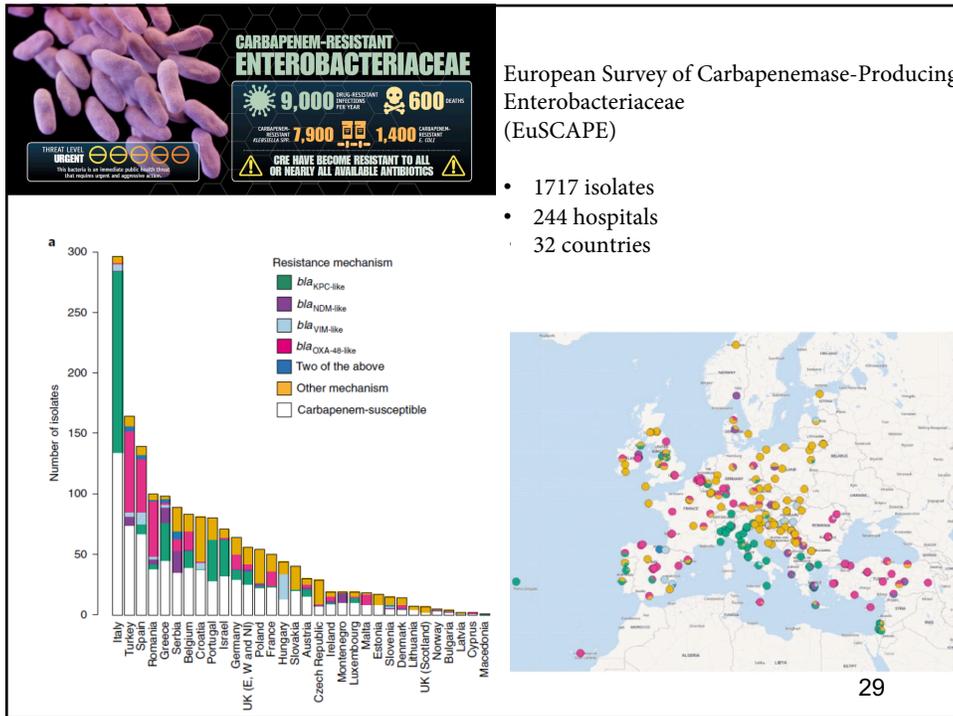
CRE HAVE BECOME RESISTANT TO ALL OR NEARLY ALL AVAILABLE ANTIBIOTICS

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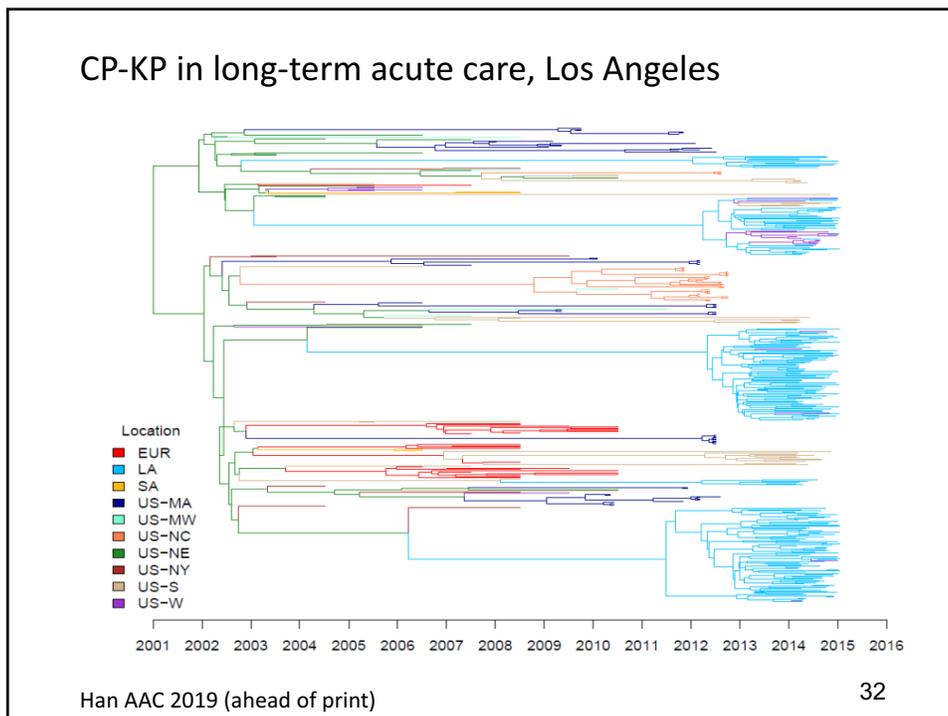
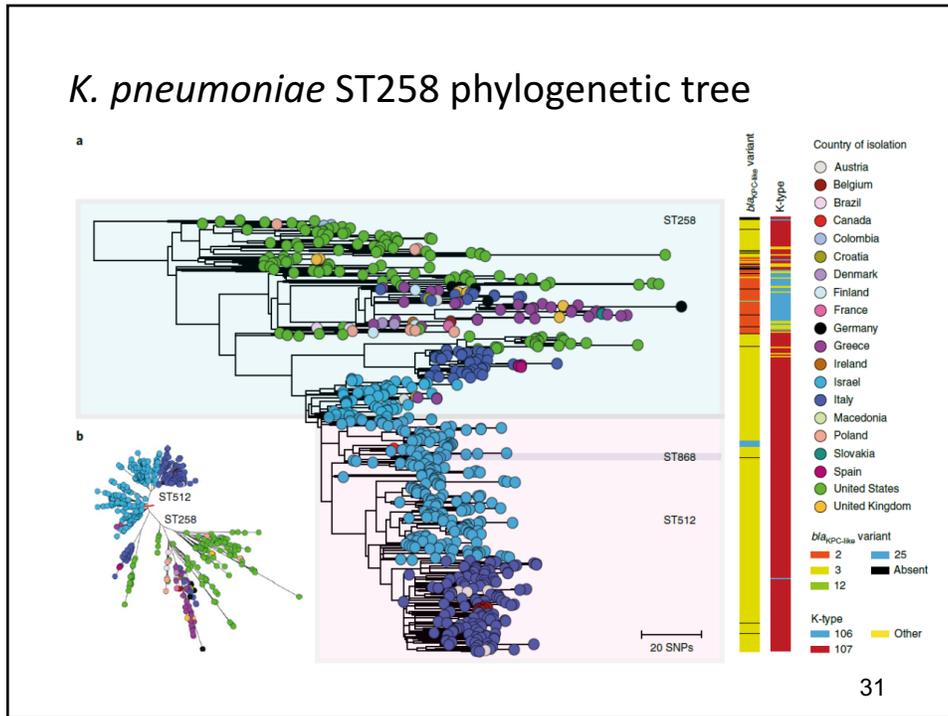
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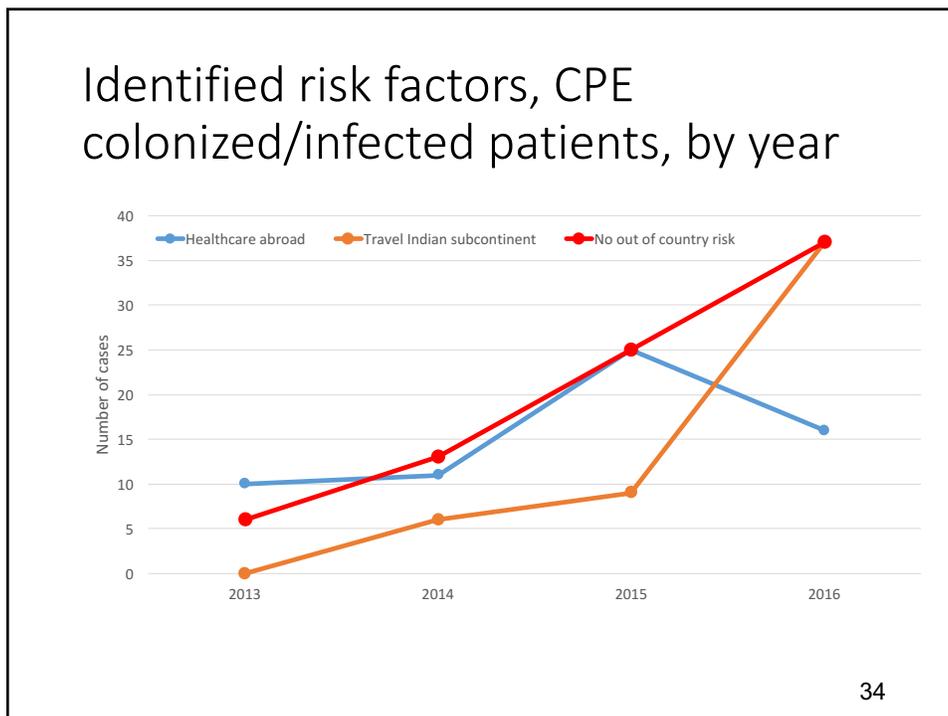
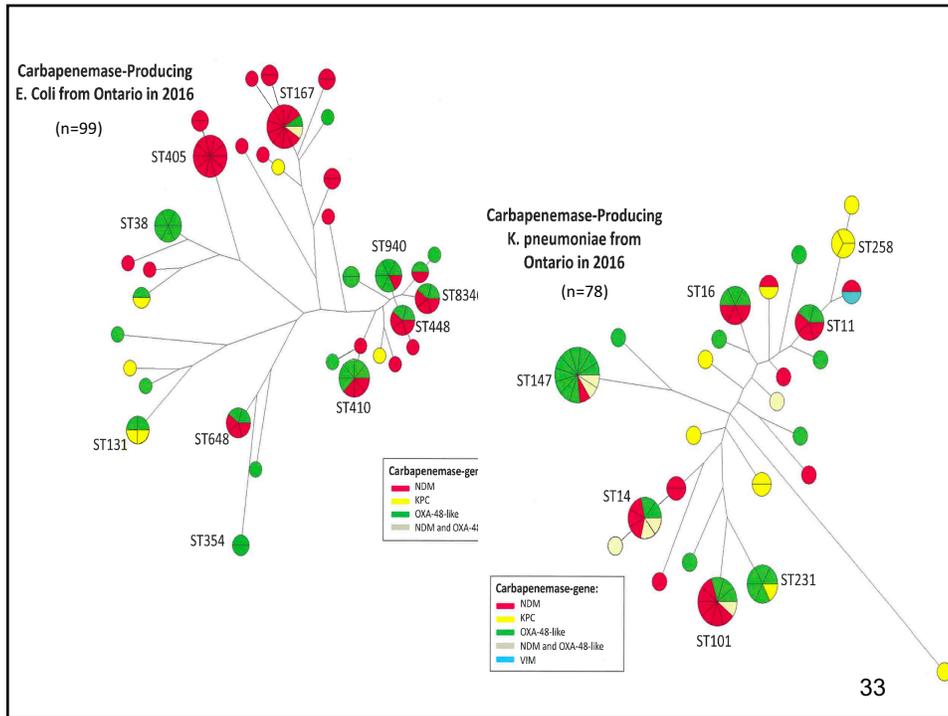
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How do we stop
transmission of AROs in
hospitals?

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Antibiotic resistant organisms

- All these organisms are primarily transmitted from patient to patient via the hands of staff, or the environment (including the “mobile” environment)
- Colonized patients are as likely to transmit as those who are infected (except for *C. difficile*)
- Many infections are device-related
- Antibiotic exposure increases the risk of acquisition

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Additional issues

- Seeing the benefits of prevention
- Accepting hospital acquired infections as “normal”
- Interpreting evidence when you can’t randomize hospitals or regions

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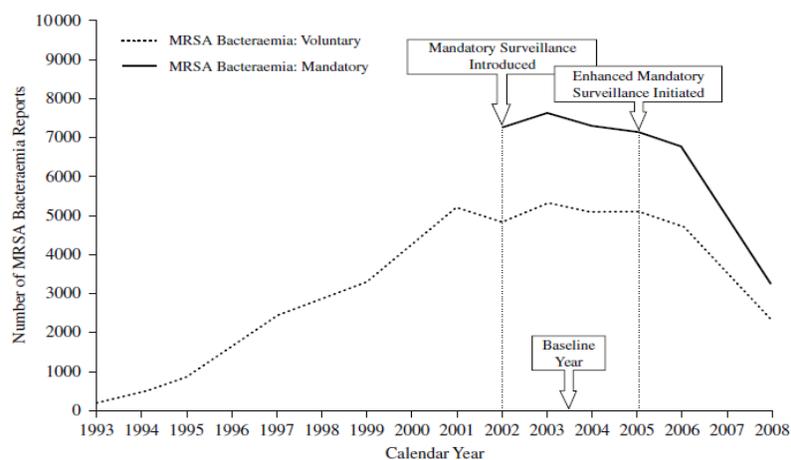
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What do we need?

- Reduction in overall infection risk
 - Better hand hygiene (electronic monitoring)
 - Reduced risk of device-related infections
 - Better environmental cleaning
- Transmission control programs
 - Screening to identify colonized patients
 - Private rooms/additional precautions/cleaning to reduce transmission
 - Investigation of transmission/on-going evaluation
 - Funding for laboratories

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MRSA Bacteremia - England

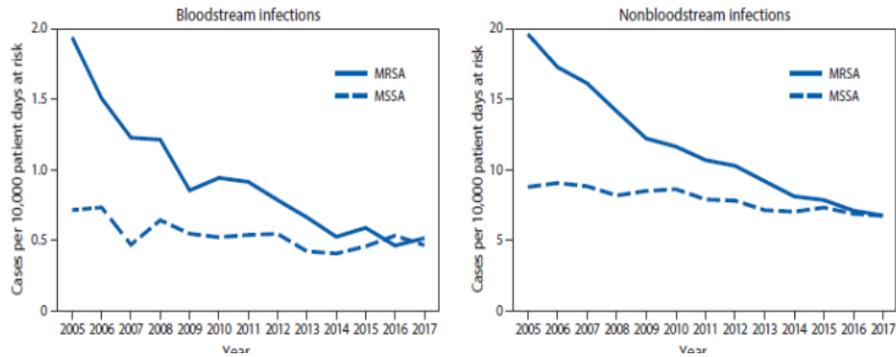


Pearson, J Antimicrob Chemother 2009

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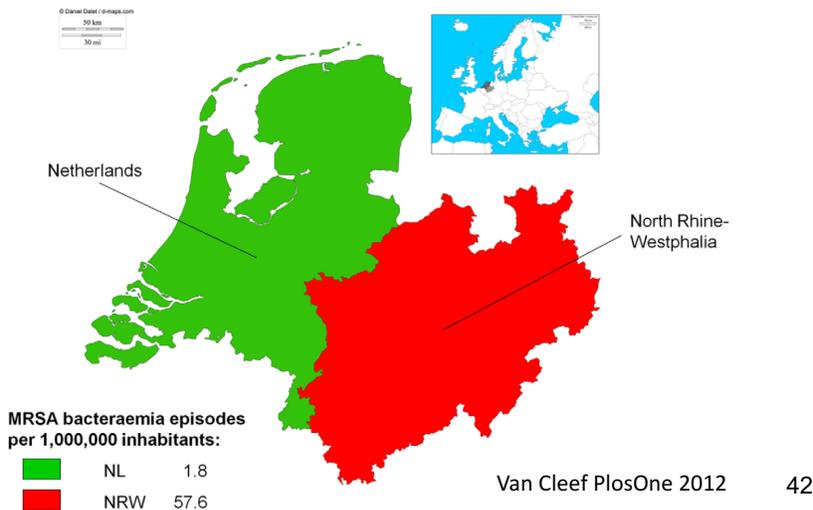
Incidence of hospital onset *S. aureus* infections, VA medical system, 2005-2017



Jones, MMWR 2019

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MRSA bacteremia rates in adjacent regions of the Netherlands and Germany, 2009



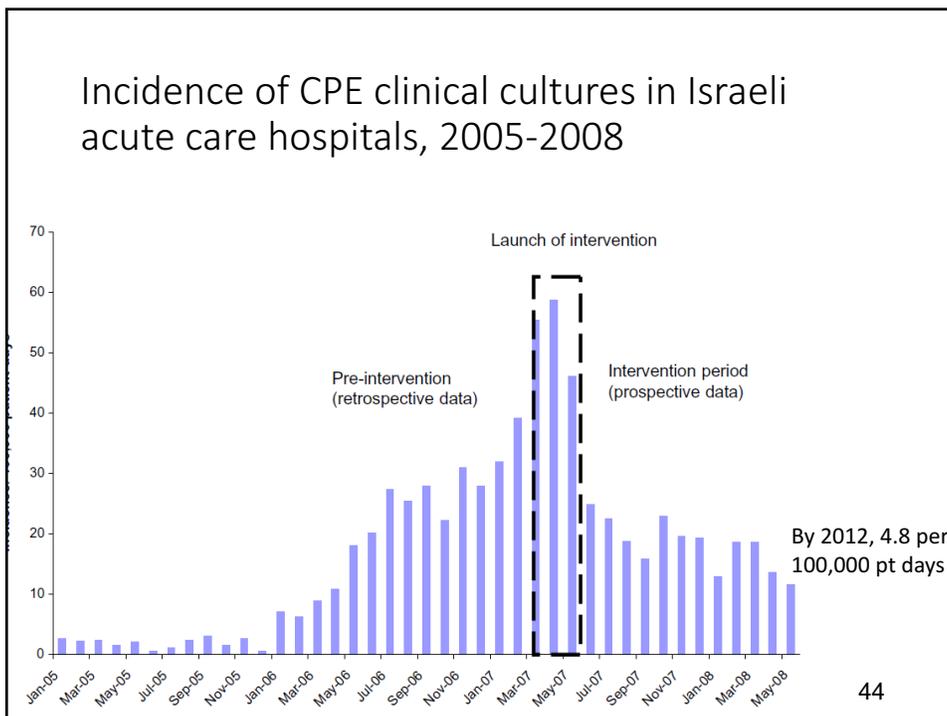
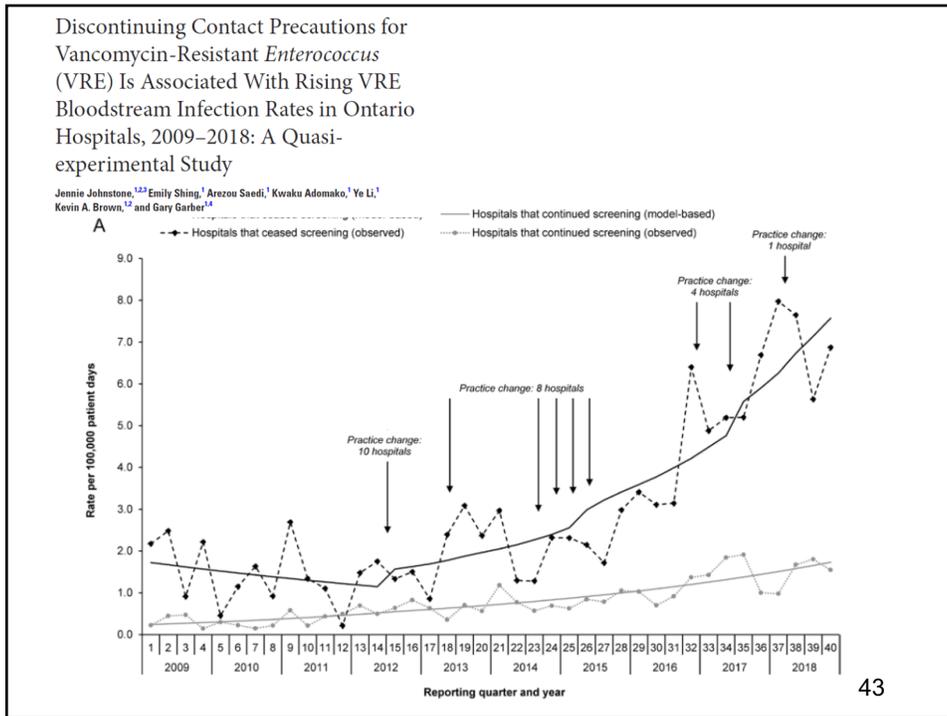
Van Cleef PlosOne 2012

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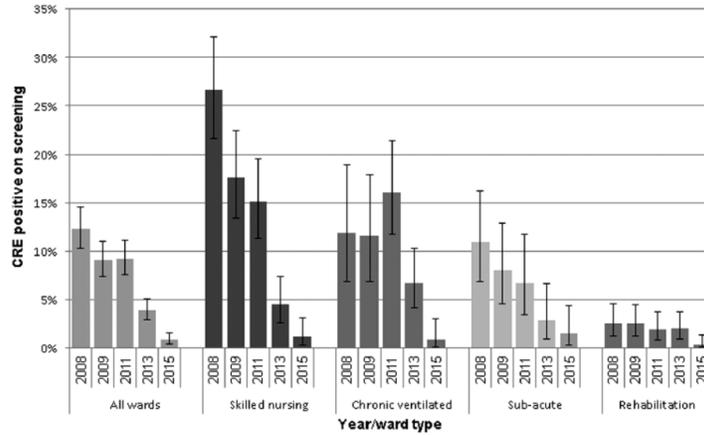
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Reduction in prevalence of CPE
colonization, long term care, Israel



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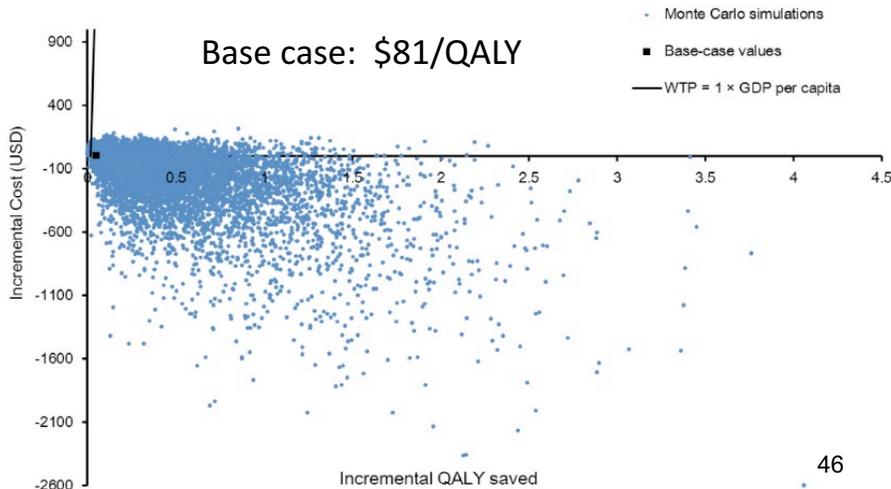
Major article

Active surveillance of carbapenem-resistant Enterobacteriaceae in intensive care units: Is it cost-effective in a nonendemic region?

Ka-wai Ho BPharm^a, Wai-tong Ng BPharm^a, Margaret Ip FRCPATH, FRCP(Glasg)^b,
Joyce H.S. You PharmD, BCPS (Infectious Diseases)^{a,*}

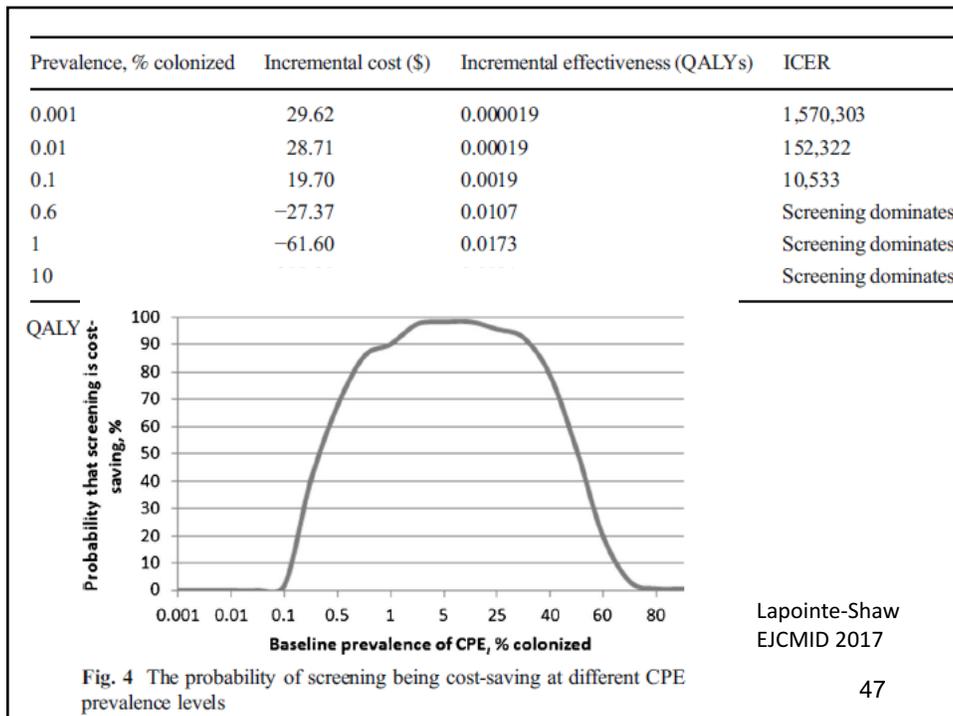
^a School of Pharmacy, Faculty of Medicine, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, China

^b Department of Microbiology, Faculty of Medicine, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, China



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What can individuals do?

- Work at believing the evidence for prevention
- Don't normalize hospital acquired infections
- Support electronic monitoring for hand hygiene
 - Are your hands clean EVERY time before you touch a patient?
- Join a patient safety team, or the anti-microbial stewardship team
- Ask questions:
 - Are hospital acquired infection rates are on the QUIP? – if not, why not?
 - How well is the hospital environment, especially mobile equipment, being cleaned?
- Advocate for your patients

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who.int/infection-prevention/en