

Control of Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (MRSA)

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Date : 2 September 2013 (Monday) CPD: 1 Point
Time : 7:00 pm CPD code: 01130011
Venue : FJ303, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University
(Light refreshments will be provided from 6:30 pm)



Abstract:

Resistance would not be an issue were it not for the widespread use of antibiotics so, in the absence of significant new antibiotic development, our efforts must concentrate on reducing selection of resistance and preventing its transmission. Most experience, and success, has been gained through our efforts to control hospital MRSA, and I will discuss recent experience in the UK, USA and Europe to illustrate several basic principles that might be applied to the control of most multi-resistant organisms. For many years hospitals tried to control MRSA with “horizontal” measures; generic precautions (often known as standard precautions) such as hand washing that it was envisaged would stop spread of many pathogens. Clearly these failed to control MRSA, and as we learnt more about its epidemiology, we were able to design specific (vertical) precautions that specifically targeted the selection and spread of MRSA. Implementation of such measures in the UK in particular, has been spectacularly successful in controlling MRSA. Universal admission screening for MRSA, patient isolation and decolonization and the avoidance of key antibiotics e.g. cephalosporins and quinolones have been particularly effective. Adjunctive measures such as improved hand hygiene and environmental decontamination can also play a role. The application of the same general principles to control of other MDR organisms will likely be effective, if they are targeted to particular aspects of the epidemiology of each organism.

About the speaker:

Dr Ian M. Gould is Consultant & Service Clinical Director Medical Microbiology at Aberdeen Royal Infirmary and Honorary Professor of Public Health, Epidemiology and Microbiology at the University of Trnava. Trained in Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases in UK, Canada and Africa, Dr Gould is Editor or Board member of several international journals and Chairman of various national/international working parties, learned societies and advisory boards on Antibiotic Policies and Resistance. Currently, President of the International Society of Chemotherapy, Dr Gould has published over 300 scientific papers on antibiotic resistance in peer-reviewed journals, standard texts and specialist books.

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All are Welcome!