

Case Management

Initiate Contact Precautions

- After receipt of positive culture result **OR**
- Preemptively while awaiting results for residents who have risk factors for VRE:
 - See [ARO Risk Factor-Based Screening Guidance for All Health Care Settings](#)

Communication (Notification)

- Notify the IPAC lead, DOC or CRN
- Flag resident chart
- Post contact precautions sign on room door
- If case was transferred to or from another facility, notify that facility

Room Placement (Accommodation)

- Private room with dedicated equipment & toileting is preferred, when possible.
- If a private room is not available, avoid placing the colonized resident with a resident with open wounds, indwelling devices, uncontained excretions & secretions, poor personal or hand hygiene, immunocompromised or colonized with another ARO.
- Resident Movement: Isolation is not needed if there are no signs or symptoms of infection. Assist resident with performing frequent hand hygiene.

Re-Screening & Discontinuing Contact Precautions

- Ideally no re-screening.
- If re-screening to discontinue precautions, begin no sooner than 3 months after last positive culture.
- To discontinue precautions: 3 negative cultures taken at least 1 week apart.

Contact Management

Roommates

Does the case have any roommates? If so, were there exposure risks in the room?

Yes

Initiate Contact Precautions

Point Prevalence

Is there evidence of transmission? If so, consider collecting specimens from all residents on the unit/area.

Yes

Consider Contact Precautions based on exposure risk

Collect Specimens

Collect at least 2 sets of specimens* taken on different days, with 1 taken a minimum of 7 days after last exposure.

Positive
Manage as a case

Specimen* #1
Date: _____

Negative

Positive
Manage as a case

Specimen* #2
Min 7 days after last exposure
Date: _____

Negative

After 2 sets of negative cultures collected one week apart

Discontinue Contact Precautions in consultation with the IPAC lead

Positive

Specimen* #1
Date: _____

If negative:
Collect another swab/sample in 7 days

Positive

Specimen* #2
Date: _____

If negative:
Collect another swab/sample in 7 days

Positive

Specimen* #3
Date: _____

After 3 sets of negative cultures collected one week apart

*Specimens

- Stool OR Rectal Swab
- Consult with your lab for more information about test kits and sample submissions.

Environmental Cleaning³

- Routine cleaning & disinfection. Use fresh supplies.
- Dedicated equipment (preferred), if not possible clean & disinfect between residents.
- Twice daily cleaning of rooms may be considered.
- Rooms should be cleaned twice daily during an outbreak of VRE or at facilities with ongoing, uncontrolled VRE transmission.

Adapted with permission from HNHB IPAC Hub.

References:

1. PIDAC: [Routine Practices and Additional Precautions Annex A: Screening, testing and Surveillance for antibiotic-resistant organisms \(AROs\). Annexed to: Routine Practices and Additional Precautions in All Health Care Settings](#), 2013
2. Public Health Ontario: [Antibiotic Resistant Organism \(ARO\) Risk Factor-Based Screening Guidance for All Health Care Settings Screening Checklists](#), 2024
3. Public Health Ontario: [FAQ Significant Organisms in Environmental Cleaning](#), 2024
4. Public Health Ontario: [Vancomycin resistant enterococci \(VRE\)](#).