

## Multidrug-resistant organisms (MDRO) Utah Healthcare Infection Prevention Governance Committee

Date: 12/14/2023

### Attendees:

Angela Weil, Ashley Miller, Chrissy Radloff, Elena Snelten, Giulia De Vettori, Janelle Kammerman, Jeanmarie Mayer, Linda Rider, Makoto Jones, Mary Fortini, Stephanie Williams, Tariq Mosleh

### Agenda Topics:

#### Introductions

1:00–1:05 Introductions

#### Action Steps/Plan

1:05–1:40 [Project Firstline website](#)

Review action plan and outcomes

Action plan updates

MDRO survey

Which routes/pathways to take to disseminate information within this subcommittee

IPC resource list (IPC program education and guidance)

#### Situational Awareness

1:40–1:50 Current state of MDROs

#### Additional Questions/Discussion Topics

1:50–2:00 Ways to increase attendance

IP Spotlight: Discussing challenges/successes in facilities

IP and LTC representative open discussion

#### Convene

### Discussion:

#### Introductions

- Subcommittee chair: Elena Snelten
- Additional representation
- Approve minutes
  - Elena approves, Chrissy seconds

#### Action Steps/Plan

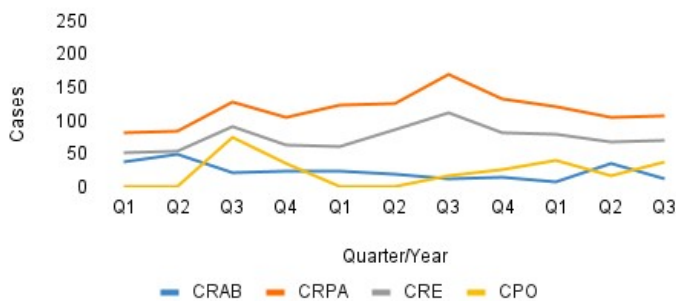
- [Project Firstline website](#)
  - Project Firstline is a CDC initiative to bring infection prevention and control trainings to frontline healthcare staff.

- The new DHHS Project Firstline website includes training and education resources including self-paced modules, group training experiences, and highlighted CDC Project Firstline resources.
- Review action plan and outcomes
  - Interfacility transfer form has been published and can be used across the state
  - Working on training for that can be implemented in nursing schools.
- Action plan updates
  - MDRO survey
    - We are working on a survey that asks about IPC training, identifies gaps, and helps us understand where we can provide more information.
    - This survey will ideally go to infection preventionists of the facility, but we will send to the administration if IP for that facility isn't identified.
- Which routes/pathways to take to disseminate information within this subcommittee
  - Continuing to look for ways to encourage participation.
- IPC resource list (IPC program education and guidance)

**Situational awareness**

- Current state of MDROs

Carbapenem Resistant Organism Cases in Utah, 2021-2023



- Graph of current CROs in Utah received by UPHL. We have seen a slight increase in CPO in the last quarter and a decline in CRAB in the last 3 months.
- This graph is shared in the HAI/AR Monthly Digest. If you'd like to be added to the digest recipient list, please let Giulia know.
- Dr. Mayer asked if there is a way to change the definition of CRPA.
  - Angela said the team met yesterday and there seems to be a consensus to change the disease reporting rule around CRPA. More details to come.
- Dr. Mayer asked if there is a way we can see a graph of all CROs that have been reported instead of just the ones from UPHL. Angela said we can look into that and see if we have access to that information accessible on Epi trax.
  - Giulia said that we are currently working on getting this data from Epi trax. Angela said we are hoping to review the isolates received compared to the isolates reported.

- Dr. Mayer said it would be helpful to know more information about the reported CPOs without identifying the facility/individual.
- Tariq asked if we have 2019-2020 data. There is data for those years, but we don't display that data because we don't have good data since many facilities stopped collecting CRO data during the beginning of the pandemic.
- *C. Auris* (Angela)
  - We have had our first locally acquired case in Utah. So far we have only identified the one, but have not been able to identify when or where this case was acquired. We put together a letter that includes updated screening recommendations as well as provides information about *C. auris*.
  - We are recommending admission screening be conducted on transfers from LTACHs (3 in Utah) and nursing home ventilator units (9 in Utah), as well as continued travel history.
  - Letter also provides background info on why it's important to detect *C. auris*. and discusses how *C. auris* colonized patients can be asymptomatic, covering what precautions need to be in place.
  - Letter will be sent out with the minutes as well as to a list of IPs that we have. This letter will go out either this afternoon or tomorrow morning. If others would like this letter, we can send it to them as well.
  - Dr. Mayer asked what time period 'recent' includes. Angela said we didn't define that, if it is a direct transfer, that individual should be screened. Facilities should use their discretion when deciding who to screen. The information in this letter includes recommendations and facilities can decide how best to implement.

#### **Additional Questions/Discussion Topics**

- Ways to increase attendance
  - Reach out to 1 individual (nurse admins, IPs, clinic managers, wound care specialists, etc.) to attend the next meeting
- IP Spotlight: Discussing challenges/successes in facilities
  - Elena: Respiratory viruses are spreading among healthcare staff. Seeing a lot of spread between healthcare workers, so the decision to go back to masking for the majority of staff to protect patients and to be an example to the community was made. Want to convey that it is ok to mask to protect yourself, your patients, and the community. Staff are to mask even at the nursing station. Initial hesitancy was about 50/50. Once it was presented as thank you for being a team player and coming to work, but you exposed your fellow coworkers and high risks patients, staff were more accepting of this change. Elena went on rounds before this meeting and said compliance is very high. Masking will be required until Jan. 15 in the main patient tower and in patient areas with specialty clinics and mental health clinics. Will evaluate masking needs after Jan. 15.
    - Dr. Mayer asked about their PTO: Elena said PTO includes sick leave and annual leave. They also have the ability to work with HR as well if they run out of leave.

- Ashley: They are working on recommendations from DHHS. Very busy with trying to increase surveillance.

- IP and LTC representative open discussion

**Convene - Giulia De Vetorri**

Every eight weeks

- 2/8/2024

Minutes will be posted to the HAI website

- <https://epi.health.utah.gov/uhip-governance-minutes/>