



RECENT REPORTS AND USAGE GUIDELINES FOR **ACTIV8 IN THE PREVENTION OF INFECTION BY **CLOSTRIDIUM DIFFICILE**.**

30th May 2007

The following report shows the most recent test results achieved against Clostridium Difficile spores. The results show a reduction in excess of 1000 fold in C-diff spores during the test at its working formulation.

There is also a recent change in Clostridium difficile guidance which has been implemented by Professor Brian Duerden. It now states that Chlorine based products as well as Sporicidal agents may be used – Activ8 is the only Sporicidal agent.

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We have tested Activ8 against a purified spore preparation from C. diff. we are one of the few labs that can actually do this test. The test is a modification of the EN standard test EN 13704 that is designed to show "sporicidal" activity of a disinfectant in the laboratory. The pass is a 1000-fold reduction in spore activity in one hour. A new Activ8 formulation has passed under these conditions and, indeed, this test is very difficult to pass. This result clearly demonstrates that Activ8 has effective sporicidal activity against C.diff at Activ8's normal working concentration. This is a very good indicator that Activ8 would be effective against C. diff spores on environmental inanimate surfaces in a hospital contaminated with C. diff. It is likely that environmental C. diff spores are responsible for the transmission of C. diff and subsequent hospital acquired infection. This puts activ8 in an elite group of disinfectant agents.

Best Regards

Chris

GUIDELINES FOR THE PREVENTION OF INFECTION BY CLOSTRIDIUM DIFFICILE.

Why use the care bundle?

This care bundle is based on EPIC guidelines, expert advice and other national infection prevention and control guidance. It should support implementation of local and national policy. The purpose is to act as a way of improving and measuring the implementation of key elements of care.

The risk of infection reduces when all elements within the clinical processes are performed every time and for every patient. The risk of infection increases when one or more elements of a process are not performed or excluded.

Element of the care process

The list of elements to reduce and prevent infection caused by Clostridium Difficile are based on the above guidance and include those outlined below.

Prevention of spread of Clostridium difficile

- Prudent antibiotic prescribing
- Prescribe antibiotics according to local policy: minimise use of broad spectrum antibiotics
- Review antimicrobial reduction daily
- Include stop dates of antimicrobial prescriptions

Correct hand hygiene

- Wash hands with soap and water before and after each contact with CDAD patient
- Implement 'cleanyourhands' campaign trust wide

Environmental decontamination

- Implement enhanced cleaning in areas with CDAD patients
- Use chlorine tested disinfectants or other sporicidal products to reduce environmental contamination with Clostridium difficile spores as per local policy
- Ensure drop clean and decontamination of rooms after discharge of CDAD patients

Personal protective equipment

- Always use disposable gloves and apron when handling body fluids and when caring for patients with CDAD

Isolation / cohort nursing

- Always use a single room if available
 - Cohort care for CDAD patients should be applied if single rooms are not available
- NB. The use of alcohol hand rubs in a Clostridium difficile outbreak situation is ineffective

Using the compliance tool

1. Each time a case element is performed insert a tick in the relevant column. If the action is not performed leave it blank
2. Do this for each action, ensuring you tick it only when an element of care is performed correctly

3. Calculate the totals and compliance levels by using the tools provided (on the CD or at <http://www.clean-safe-care.nhs.uk>)
4. Your goal is to perform every element of care every time it is needed. The 'All elements are performed' box should have a tick when every care element is given correctly. This should total to 100% compliance when all care elements have been given correctly on every occasion.
5. Where elements have not been performed overall compliance will be less than 100%. This provides immediate feedback for users on those elements missed and actions can then be taken to improve on compliance levels.
6. %compliance for individual care elements shows you where you need to focus effort to improve overall compliance
7. The number of times when all elements are performed should be the same as the number of observations you perform. For example if you monitor this process 10 times, then there should be 10 occasions when elements are performed.

When completed the calculator tools on the CD (or at <http://www.clean-safe-care.nhs.uk>) will automatically show compliance graphs and run-charts for each element of care and for overall compliance with each high impact intervention. This will show you where to focus your improvement efforts to achieve full compliance.

Also see:

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_075499

Example

Element	Care Element 1	Care Element 2	Care Element 3	Care Element 4	All Elements performed
Observations					
1	v		v	v	
2	v	v		v	
3	v	v	v	v	
4	v	v	v		
5	v	v	v	v	v
Total Number of times an individual element was performed	5	4	4	4	1
% When all elements care were given	100%	80%	80%	80%	20%

The example shows that whilst most care elements were performed (eg 80%) for individual action, on only one occasion were ALL elements performed correctly. Therefore the risk of infection was significantly increased and overall compliance with this procedure was 20%.

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