

Change in Contact Precautions Policy for Patients with MRSA, ESBL, and VRE Colonization

- S:** For preservation of PPE criteria for Contact Precautions related to multi-drug resistant organisms are being modified.
- B:** Supply Chain has been monitoring the supply of PPE. To preserve our stockpile for COVID in preparation for the COVID pandemic, Infection Prevention has performed a risk assessment and literature review of isolation precautions. Current YNHHS policy requires contact isolation precautions for patients flagged with MRSA, VRE, and ESBL* colonization in the past year.
- A:** Changes in the contact isolation policy will be implemented beginning today, March 17, 2020. This does not include the NNICU.
- R:**
- Patients who are colonized with MRSA, VRE, and ESBL will no longer require contact precautions.
 - Patients with active MRSA, VRE, and ESBL infections identified by positive clinical specimen during the current hospitalization will continue to require contact precautions.
 - The “Iso Reason” for active clinical infections with MRSA, VRE and ESBL will be resolved upon discharge.
 - Patients with other infectious diseases requiring contact isolation precautions are not affected by this change.
 - Screening patients for MRSA and VRE colonization is to be paused.
 - Pre-op *S. aureus* screening is to continue per the current protocols.

* ESBL includes those specimens that are resulted as ESBL and also other specified MDR-organisms not including MDR-*C. auris*.