

# Nursing Home Multi-Drug Resistant Organism (MDRO) Guide

START

Determine resident status



Follow color code to the right to identify any risks and determine the appropriate precautions and placement.

Resident Clinical Status / History

## Recognizing the Risk

## Precautions & Placement

Colonization or active infection with an MDRO

Acute diarrhea, draining wounds or other sites of secretions that are unable to be covered or contained.

All residents who have another infection which requires Contact Precautions (e.g., *C. difficile*, diarrhea of unknown etiology, etc.)

### Contact & Standard Precautions

#### Preferred single room.

If not available, place with a roommate who has the same MDRO and no other infectious diseases. Roommates should not have indwelling medical devices or wounds.

Use PPE required for contact precautions (gowns & gloves) and any additional PPE as needed as part of standard precautions.

Colonization or active infection with an MDRO

Infection for colonization when Contact Precautions do not apply

### EBP & Standard Precautions Routine Placement

- Use PPE during high-contact resident care activities such as dressing, bathing, showering, transferring, providing hygiene, changing linens, wound care, device care, changing briefs or helping with toileting.
- Resident(s) can participate in group activities.
- EBP should be maintained for the entire stay or until resolution of the wound or discontinuation of the indwelling medical device that placed them at higher risk.

No known history has an indwelling device or wound

Has not had a positive test in the past for an MDRO but currently has indwelling device or a wound

No known history, and no indwelling devices, or wounds

No previous tests positive for an MDRO and currently does not have any indwelling devices or wounds or other infection that would warrant Transmission-Based Precautions

### Standard Precautions Routine Placement

Using the right PPE, the right way, and at the right time reduces the risk of germs spreading.



## Definitions:

- **MDROs** - types of bacteria that are resistant to the drugs used to treat them. Examples include Methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA), Extended-Spectrum Beta-Lactamases (ESBLs), Vancomycin-resistant *Enterococcus* (VRE), Carbapenem-resistant *Enterobacterales* (CRE) and Carbapenem-resistant organisms/ (CROs), Carbapenemase producing CRE and CRO (CP-CRE/CP-CRO), *Candida auris*, Vancomycin-Resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (VRSA).
- **Active Infection** - residents exhibits signs and symptoms of an infection.
- **Colonization** - refers to having a germ on, or in, the body but it is not causing infection. Colonized people can spread the germ to others.
- **Indwelling medical devices** - provides a direct pathway for pathogens in the environment to enter the body and cause infection. Examples include but are not limited to central lines (including hemodialysis catheters), indwelling urinary catheters, feeding tubes, tracheostomy tubes, and endotracheal tubes, ventilators.
- **Wound**: any skin opening requiring a dressing such as for chronic wounds (e.g., pressure ulcers, diabetic foot ulcers, unhealed surgical wounds, and chronic venous stasis ulcers). This does not include shorter-lasting wounds, such as skin breaks or skin tears covered with a Band-Aid or similar dressing.
- **Standard Precautions**- the minimum infection prevention practices that apply to all resident care, regardless of their infection status or clinical histories in any setting where health care is delivered.
- **PPE** - personal protective equipment, such as gowns, gloves, eye protection, masks, respirators.
- **Contact Precautions** - are transmission-based precaution put in place in addition to Standard Precautions to prevent the spread of infections most often spread by direct or indirect contact with a resident or their environment.
- **Enhanced Barrier Precautions** - are an infection control intervention designed to reduce the spread of resistant organisms in nursing homes to reduce the spread of resistant organisms in nursing homes.
- **Transmission-Based Precautions** - are the second tier of basic infection control and are to be used in addition to Standard Precautions for residents who may be infected with certain infectious agents for which additional precautions are needed to prevent transmission.

## Additional Information/Resources:

- U.S. CDC Implementation of EBP in Nursing Homes: <https://www.cdc.gov/hai/containment/PPE-Nursing-Homes.html>
- U.S. CDC Project Firstline EBP Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NoL8PVp5KKc>
- U.S. CDC Project Firstline EBP Pocket Guide: <https://www.cdc.gov/hai/pdfs/containment/EBP-PocketGuide-508.pdf>
- U.S. CDC Project Firstline Recognize the Risks: <https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/projectfirstline/healthcare/recognize-risks.html>



Have a question?

Contact: [MECDC.HAI@maine.gov](mailto:MECDC.HAI@maine.gov)

