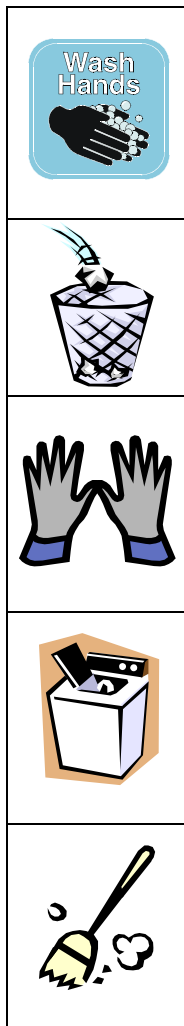




PATIENT INFORMATION

MRSA/VRE at Home

What precautions should family caregivers take for infected persons in their homes? Healthy people are at low risk of getting infected. But they can carry and spread the germs through physical contact. In the home, the family and caregivers should be careful in the following areas at all time.



HAND WASHING

Wash hands with soap and water

- after physical contact with the person who has MRSA/VRE.
- before leaving the home.

USE TOWEL ONCE

After hand washing, you should dry hands using

- cloth towel (use only once and launder);
- paper towel.

USE GLOVES (The 3 “Ws”)

Use 3 “Ws” to help you remember using gloves.

- **W**hen providing care, think ahead if there is a chance to contact body fluids.
- **W**ear disposable gloves if you may contact the person’s body fluids.
- **W**ash hands after removing the gloves.

CHANGE LINEN

Linens should be changed and washed

- based on your routines _____;
- when they are soiled.

CLEAN UP

The patient’s environment (sofa, tables, floor...) should be cleaned

- routinely;
- when soiled with body fluids.

* **MRSA** - methicillin/oxacillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*; **VRE** - vancomycin-resistant enterococci

This information is rewritten based on Issues in Healthcare Settings- Antimicrobial Resistance (reviewed 12-4-00) from Division of Healthcare Quality Promotion, National Center for Infectious Diseases, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Provided as a courtesy by:

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