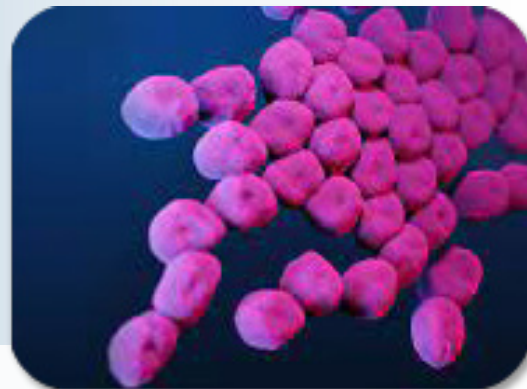


Carbapenem-Resistant *Acinetobacter baumannii* (CRAB)



What Healthcare Staff Need To Know

WHAT is CRAB?

- It is a bacteria (germ) that can survive in healthcare settings for a long time.
- Infections caused by CRAB rarely occur outside of healthcare settings.

WHY are experts concerned? WHY should we be concerned?

- It can be spread from person-to-person, or from contaminated surfaces and shared medical equipment. It can live on surfaces for months.
- Many people who carry CRAB do not have any signs or symptoms; this is called colonization. Colonized people can still be a source of transmission.
- CRAB infections are often difficult to treat and can lead to death in very sick patients.

WHO is at the greatest risk of getting CRAB?

- People in healthcare facilities who have unhealed wounds or tubes that go into their body (e.g., feeding tubes, breathing tubes, and central venous lines).
- People with weakened immune systems.
- Other risk factors include having a complex medical history, recent surgery, or disrupted skin integrity.
- In general, healthy people are low risk for CRAB colonization or infections.

HOW can I protect our patients from CRAB?

- Use contact precautions (i.e., hand hygiene, gown, and gloves) when caring for a person with known or suspected CRAB.
- Thoroughly disinfect surfaces and medical equipment.
- Clean and disinfect the patient's room.
- If in a skilled nursing facility, Enhanced Barrier Precautions may be appropriate.

WHERE can I get more information?

- www.sdhai.org