

Infection Control

Pathogen Primer

VISA

Vancomycin-Intermediate *Staphylococcus aureus*

VISA is a type of antibiotic-resistant bacteria. While most staph bacterial infections can be treated with vancomycin, VISA has developed resistance. However, VISA infections are very rare, and as of 2010, all strains of VISA have been found to be susceptible to at least one antibiotic.

How *Staphylococcus aureus* is spread

Staph infections are one of the most common skin infections in the United States and are often easily treated. Staph bacteria lives on the skin of approximately 30% of the population. It is spread through direct contact with a contaminated person or object. An infection occurs when the bacteria enters an open cut or wound. More serious illnesses can occur when the infection progresses from the skin to the bloodstream.

Facts about VISA

- Only 8 VISA infections have been reported in the US
- People infected with VISA usually had underlying health issues, such as kidney disease or diabetes, or previous infections with MRSA
- Visit the CDC MRSA Webpage for more information

Prevention

Good hand hygiene, regular cleaning and disinfecting of surfaces.

Multi-Clean Disinfectant Products with VISA Claims

- MC Disinfecting Wipes
- Millennium Q 64
- Century Q 256
- Microcide TB



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