# Infection Control Pathogen Primer

## VRE

#### Vancomycin-Resistant Enterococci

Enterococci are bacteria that are commonly found in human intestines and the female genital tract. These bacteria can occasionally cause infections. Enterococci that have developed a resistance to the antibiotic vancomycin are called VRE. This type of infection is most commonly found in hospitals.

#### How VRE is spread

VRE is spread by skin contact, often from the hands of healthcare providers. It can also be spread by touching contaminated surfaces. VRE can live in human intestines and the female genital tract without symptoms, but sometimes causes infections of the urinary tract, bloodstream, or surgical sites.

#### Who is at risk for a VRE infection

The people most at risk include hospital patients, those with weakened immune systems, or those who have previously been treated for a vancomycin-resistant bacterial infection. Most VRE infections can be treated with antibiotics other than vancomycin, and are not life-threatening.

#### Prevention

Good hand hygiene, regular cleaning and disinfecting of surfaces, especially in hospitals and healthcare facilities.

### **Multi-Clean Disinfectant Products with VRE Claims**

- Millennium Q 64
- E-Fecticide 128
- Century Q 256
- MC Disinfecting Wipes
- Microcide TB
- Peroxi-Cide















