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Mölndals hospital



Östra hospital

Background

- Experience from patients cared for in source isolation
- Long experience from patients transmitted with MRSA
- Long experience from MRSA outbreaks, small as well as large

Quotations



- ”I feel radioactive!”
- ”I feel like a ball!”
- ”I feel like I am plaguesmitten!”
- ”Am I going to heaven with this?”

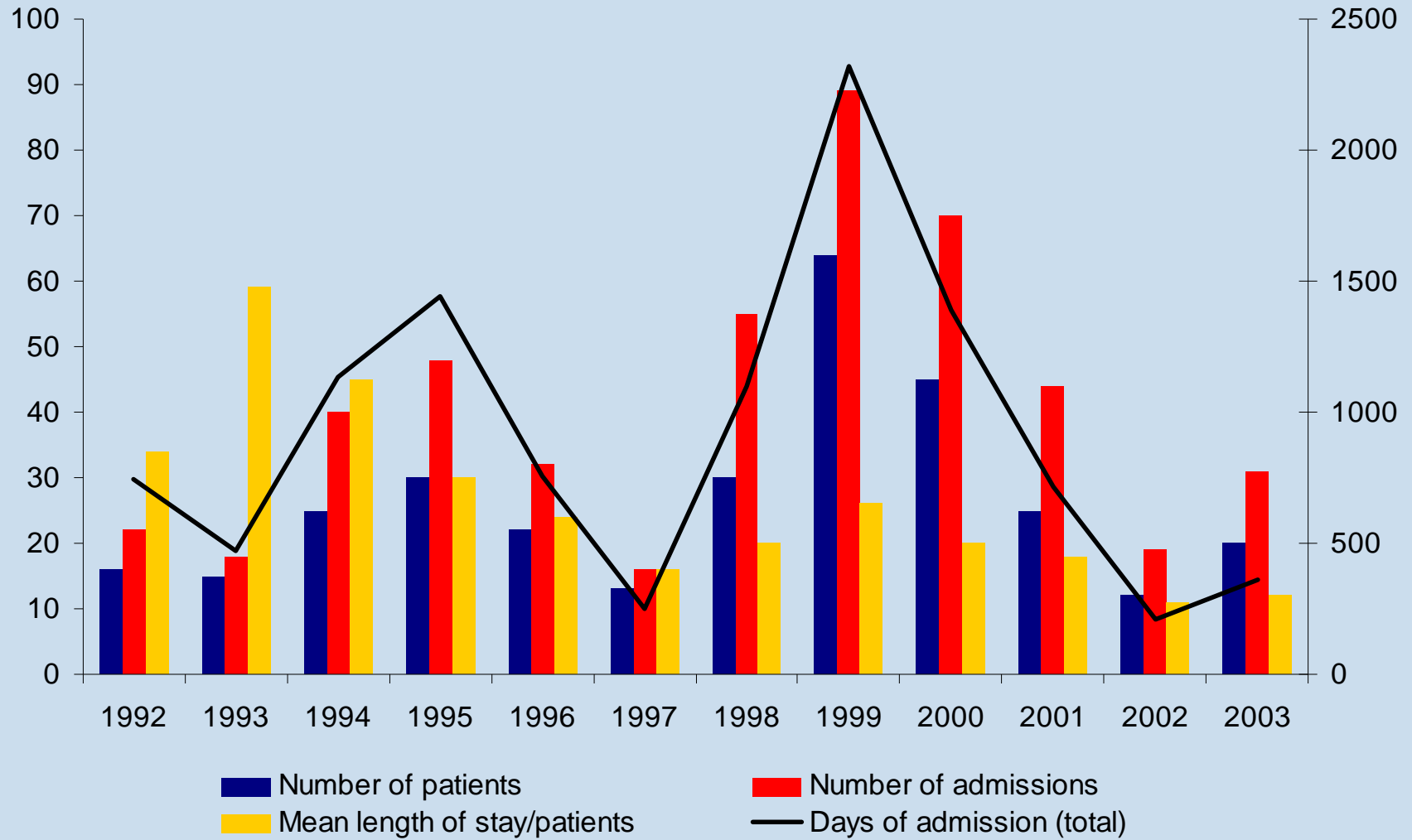
Patients positive for MRSA are directly moved

- Isolation ward at the department of infectious diseases
- Always within 24 hours
- Often within a couple of hours



MRSA research:

- Resistance
- Medication problems
- Different methods (PCR, PFGE, SPA)
- Risk factors
- Isolation care
- Economy



What is hiding behind the figures?

The aim was to find out

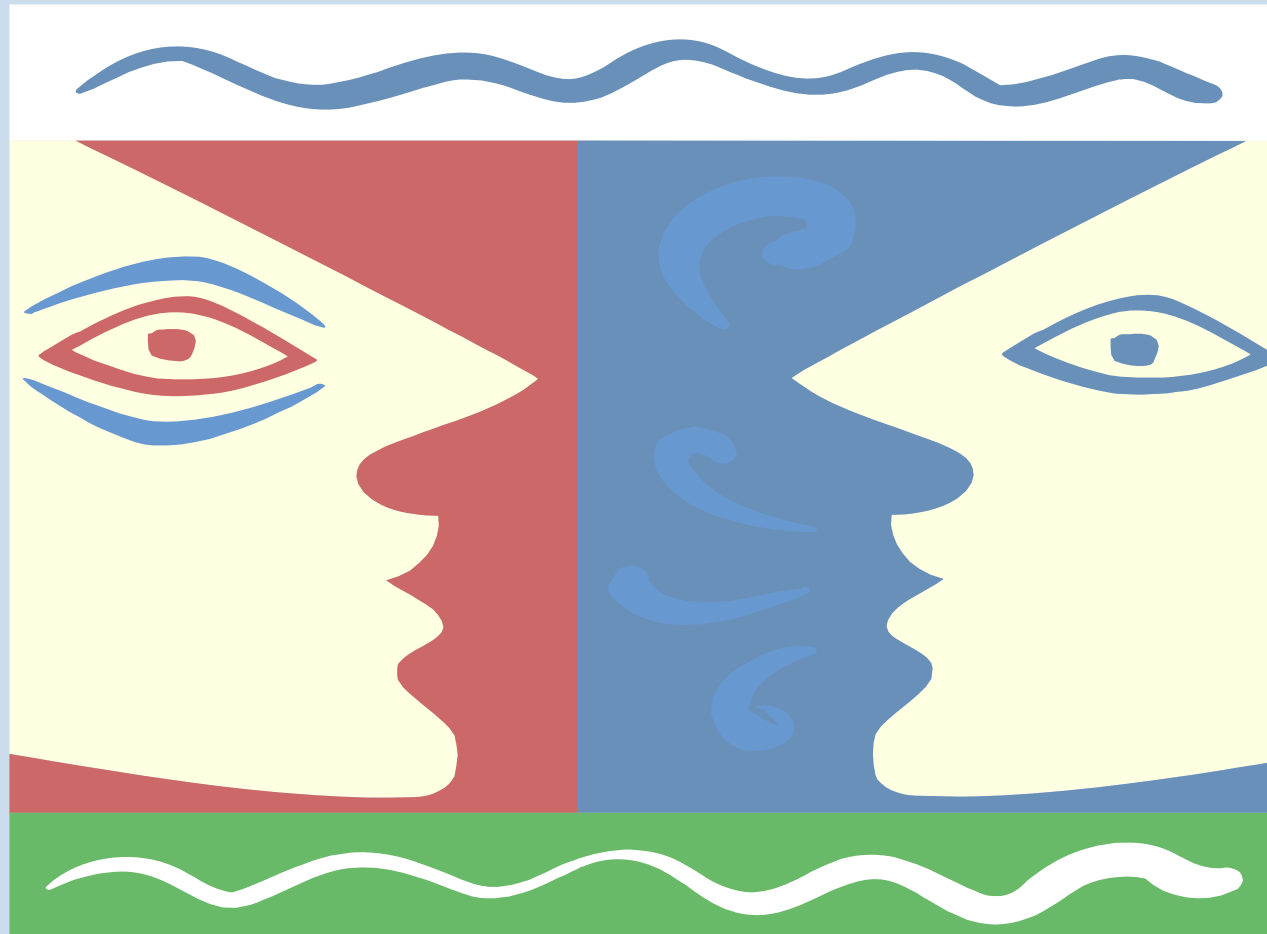
- How are the patients?
- What does it mean to be contagious?
- What kind of feelings appear in source isolation?

The criteria to be included

- Adult patients
- Contracted E-MRSA 16 during the MRSA outbreak 1997-2001
- Cared for in source isolation at the Department of Infectious Diseases in Göteborg during at least one week

Patient	Sex	Age	Principal diagnosis	Isolation care
I	M	55	Cancer GI	10 days
II	M	66	Stroke, tracheostoma	3 months
III	M	67	Cancer throat	3 months
IV	M	35	Cancer sinus maxillae	1 week
V	K	40	Cancer GI, SSI	6 weeks
VI	K	76	SSI after femoral bypass	3 weeks

In depth interviews with hermeneutic approach inspired by fenomenology



Analysis

Kicked home

Should not mix with others

rehabilitation

sad

Out of control

waiting, delayed

Explained to be healthy

Guilt and shame

gravity

Cancelled,

Lack of information

frightened

Not wanted

mistake forced

belongin to the transmitted

carriercard

affected

isolated

Not acceptable

plaguesmitten

unpleasant

Stuck with contagion

Result – Categories

- Disease trauma
- Attitudes from relatives and staff, being contagious
- How MRSA was contracted
- Information – mixed messages
- No longer contagious – healthy or sick?
- Source isolation

Critics

- The number of included?
- Sample selection
- Could the result be generalized?



Result – Disease trauma

- Swedish legislation was not followed
- The patients with MRSA did not get access to care and rehabilitation on the same terms as non infected patients



Result - Attitudes

- Responsibility
- Daily life quality consequences



Result – How MRSA was contracted

- The patients have knowledge about hygiene



Result - Information



a complex issue

Source isolation – Protective isolation

- To be cared for in source isolation is totally different from being isolated due to another reason
- To be isolated depending on protective issues for your own safety is quite another thing

Result – source isolation

- Deprivable of liberty
- Excluded
- Without control
- Miasma





Care in source isolation affects patients psychologically

- Vulnerable
- Depressed
- Angry
- Stigmatised
- Worried
- Out of control
- Dirty



Lewis AM, Gammon J, The Pros and Cons of Isolation and Containment, Journal of Hospital Infection 1999 43:19-23

Gammon J, The Psychological consequences of source isolation: a review, Journal of Clinical Nursing 1999;8:1321

Catalano G, Houston SH Anxiety and Depression in Hospitalized Patients in Resistant Organism Isolation, Southern Medical Journal Vol 96, nr 2, Febr 2003

Consequences of source isolation

- No spontaneous visits from nurse/dr
- As few planned visits as possible
- Isolated patients are less documented
- Isolated patients get less support

Stelfox HT, Bates D, Redelmeier D, Safety of Patients Isolated for Infection Control, JAMA October 8, 2003-Vol 290 No. 14

Result

- Insulted and offended by the personnell's carelessness
- Guilt and shame
- Worse conditions to be treated adequately
- Lacking information



Conclusion

- **Everyone** is responsible!!!!
- Knowledge about MRSA and transmission must increase!
- Source isolation should be minimized as much as possible.
- First priority – adherence to basic practices!!

Hand wash is not enough to
stop transmission!





Hand disinfection

Gloves

To much used

Falsely give you
security

Gloves spread
microbes as efficient
as bare hands





Visor

Plastic apron
Single use





Correctly dressed!!!

Your hands are your responsibility



**MRSA, as well as other microbes,
does not show!**



Thank you for your attention!

Scand J Caring Sci 24, 101-07 2010

“Patients Experiences from Being Infected
with MRSA During Hospitalisation and
Subsequently Cared for in Isolation”

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Lisbeth Hellström