

Carbapenem-resistant Enterobacteriaceae (CRE): Coming to a hospital near you?

Jon Otter, PhD FRCPath

Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust

www.ReflectionsIPC.com

@jonotter

Contents

- What's the problem?
- A brief overview of CRE microbiology and epidemiology
- Sizing the threat
- Infection prevention and control challenges and strategies
- Your questions

THE END OF
ANTIBIOTICS IS NIGH

What's the problem?



“CRE are nightmare bacteria.”

Dr Tom Frieden, CDC Director



“If we don't take action, then we may all be back in an almost 19th Century environment where infections kill us as a result of routine operations.”

Dame Sally Davies, Chief Medical Officer



“If we fail to act, we are looking at an almost unthinkable scenario where antibiotics no longer work and we are cast back into the dark ages of medicine where treatable infections and injuries will kill once again.”

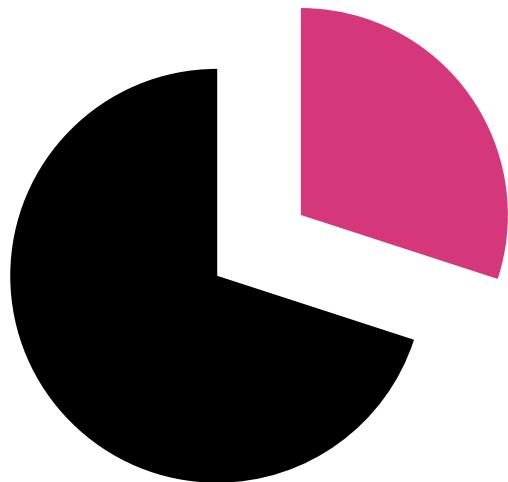
David Cameron, Prime Minister, UK



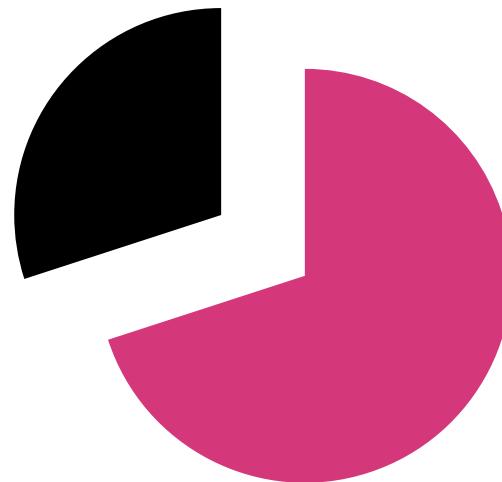
“The rise of antibiotic-resistant bacteria, however, represents a serious threat to public health and the economy.”

Barack Obama, President USA

Rising threat from MDR-GNR



% of all HAI caused by GNRs.



% of ICU HAI caused by GNRs.

Non-fermenters

Acinetobacter baumannii
Pseudomonas aeruginosa
Stenotrophomonas maltophilia

Enterobacteriaceae

Klebsiella pneumoniae
Escherichia coli
Enterobacter cloacae

What's the problem? Resistance

	30 Jun 2014 00:00	BC - Blood culture	AICU - AICU	CNS - Coagulase Negative Staphylococcus																													
				GPC - Unidentified Gram positive coccus	▼																												
	30 Jun 2014 00:00	ASC - Ascitic fluid	AICU - AICU	SE - Staphylococcus epidermidis																													
				KP - Klebsiella pneumoniae	▲																												
Organism KP - Klebsiella pneumoniae		<table><tbody><tr><td>AK - Amikacin</td><td>R</td></tr><tr><td>AMP - Ampicillin</td><td>R</td></tr><tr><td>AUG - Augmentin</td><td>R</td></tr><tr><td>CAZ - Ceftazidime</td><td>R</td></tr><tr><td>COL - Colistin</td><td>R</td></tr><tr><td>CP - Ciprofloxacin</td><td>R</td></tr><tr><td>CPD - Cefpodoxime</td><td>R</td></tr><tr><td>CXM - Cefuroxime</td><td>R</td></tr><tr><td>ERT - Ertapenem</td><td>R</td></tr><tr><td>GEN - Gentamicin</td><td>R</td></tr><tr><td>MER - Meropenem</td><td>R</td></tr><tr><td>TAZ - Pip/Tazobactam</td><td>R</td></tr><tr><td>TGC - Tigecycline</td><td>R</td></tr><tr><td>TRI - Trimethoprim</td><td>R</td></tr></tbody></table>				AK - Amikacin	R	AMP - Ampicillin	R	AUG - Augmentin	R	CAZ - Ceftazidime	R	COL - Colistin	R	CP - Ciprofloxacin	R	CPD - Cefpodoxime	R	CXM - Cefuroxime	R	ERT - Ertapenem	R	GEN - Gentamicin	R	MER - Meropenem	R	TAZ - Pip/Tazobactam	R	TGC - Tigecycline	R	TRI - Trimethoprim	R
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What's the problem? Mortality

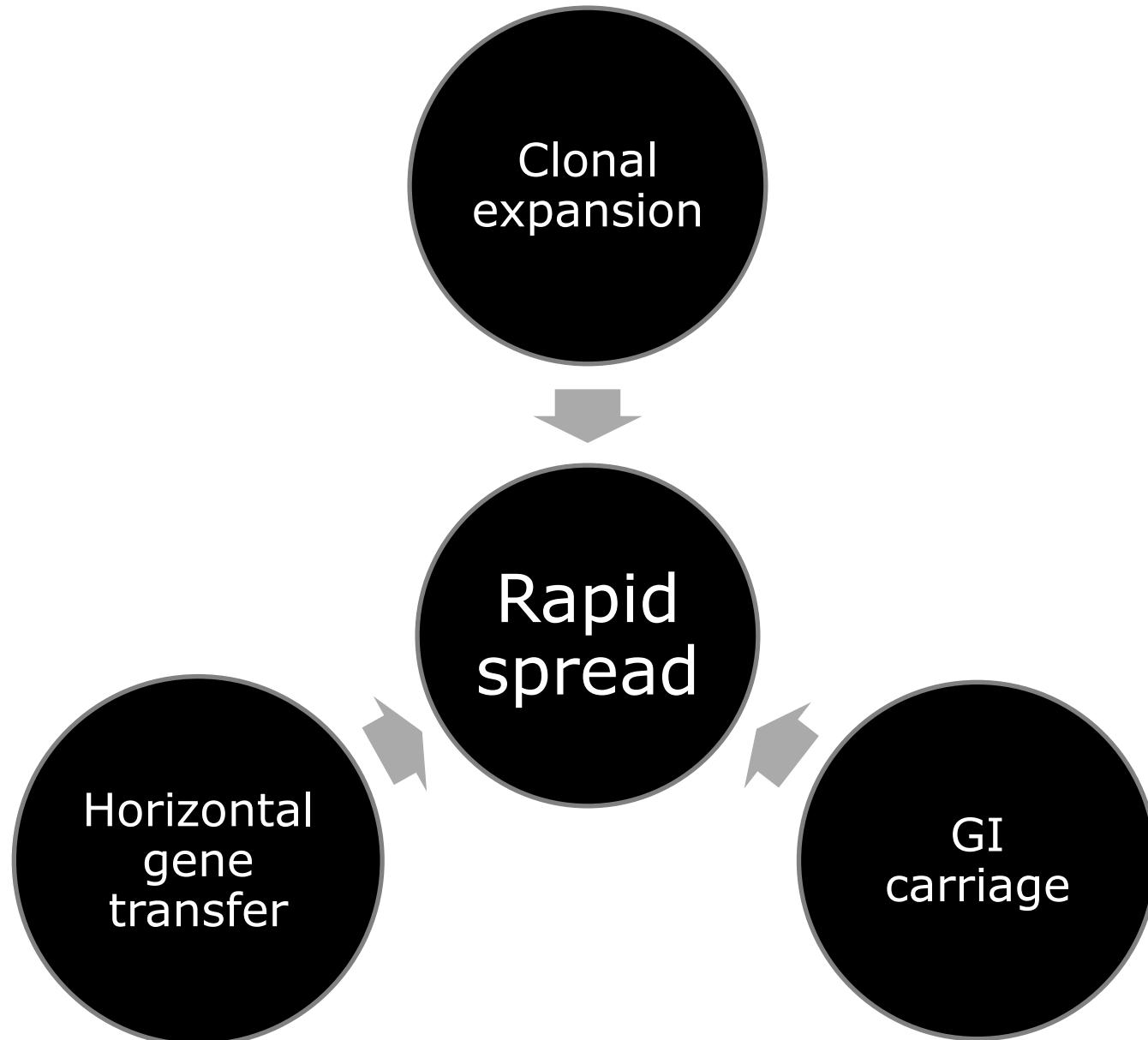
	Enterobacteriaceae	Non fermenters
Organism	AmpC / ESBL	CPE
Attributable mortality	Moderate	Massive (>50%)

Shorr et al. Crit Care Med 2009;37:1463-1469.

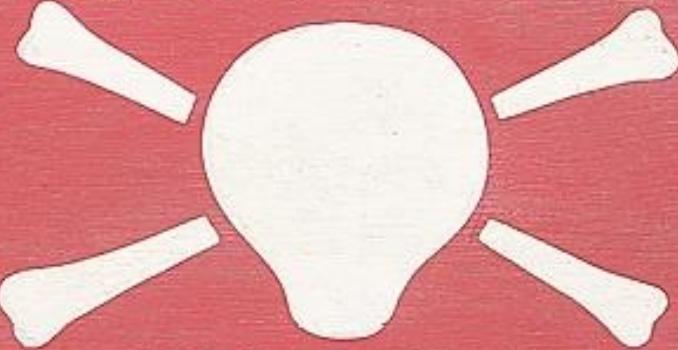
Patel et al. Infect Control Hosp Epidemiol 2008;29:1099-1106.

Falagas et al. Emerg Infect Dis 2014;20:1170-1175.

What's the problem? Rapid spread



DANGER



MINES

Acronym minefield

CPE

MDR-GNR

CPC

ESBL

MDR-GNB

CRO

CPE

CRE

CRC

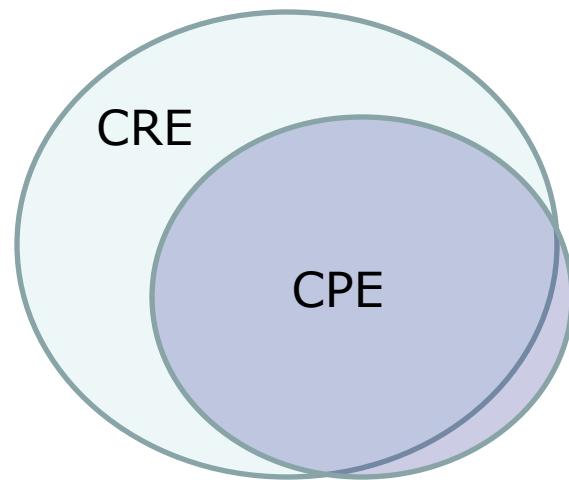
KPC

CRAB

What are CRE?

Carbapenem-resistant Enterobacteriaceae (CRE) – Enterobacteriaceae that are resistant to carbapenems by any mechanism.

Carbapenemase-producing Enterobacteriaceae (CPE) – Enterobacteriaceae that are resistant to carbapenems by means of an acquired carbapenemase.

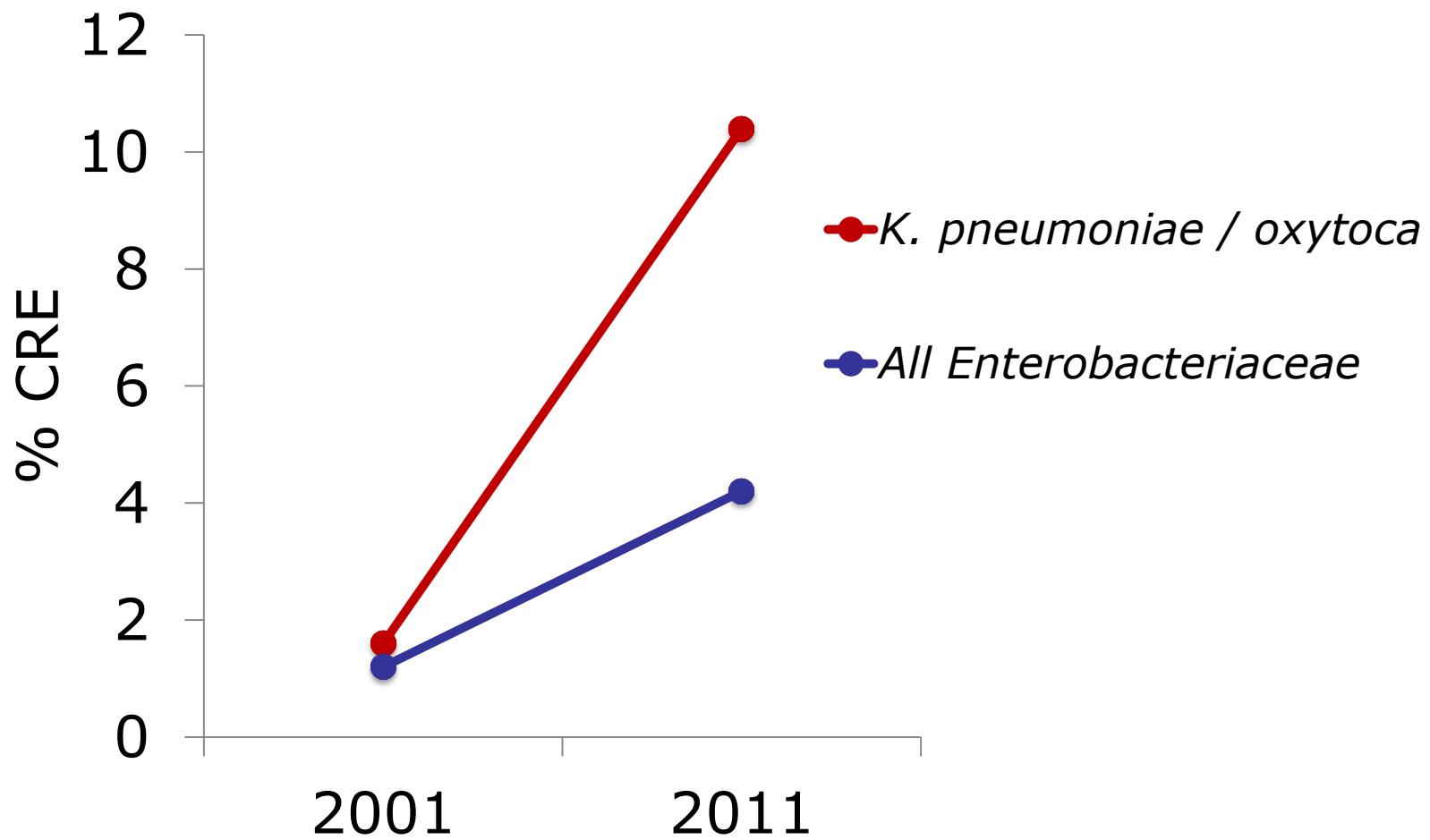


Understanding the enemy

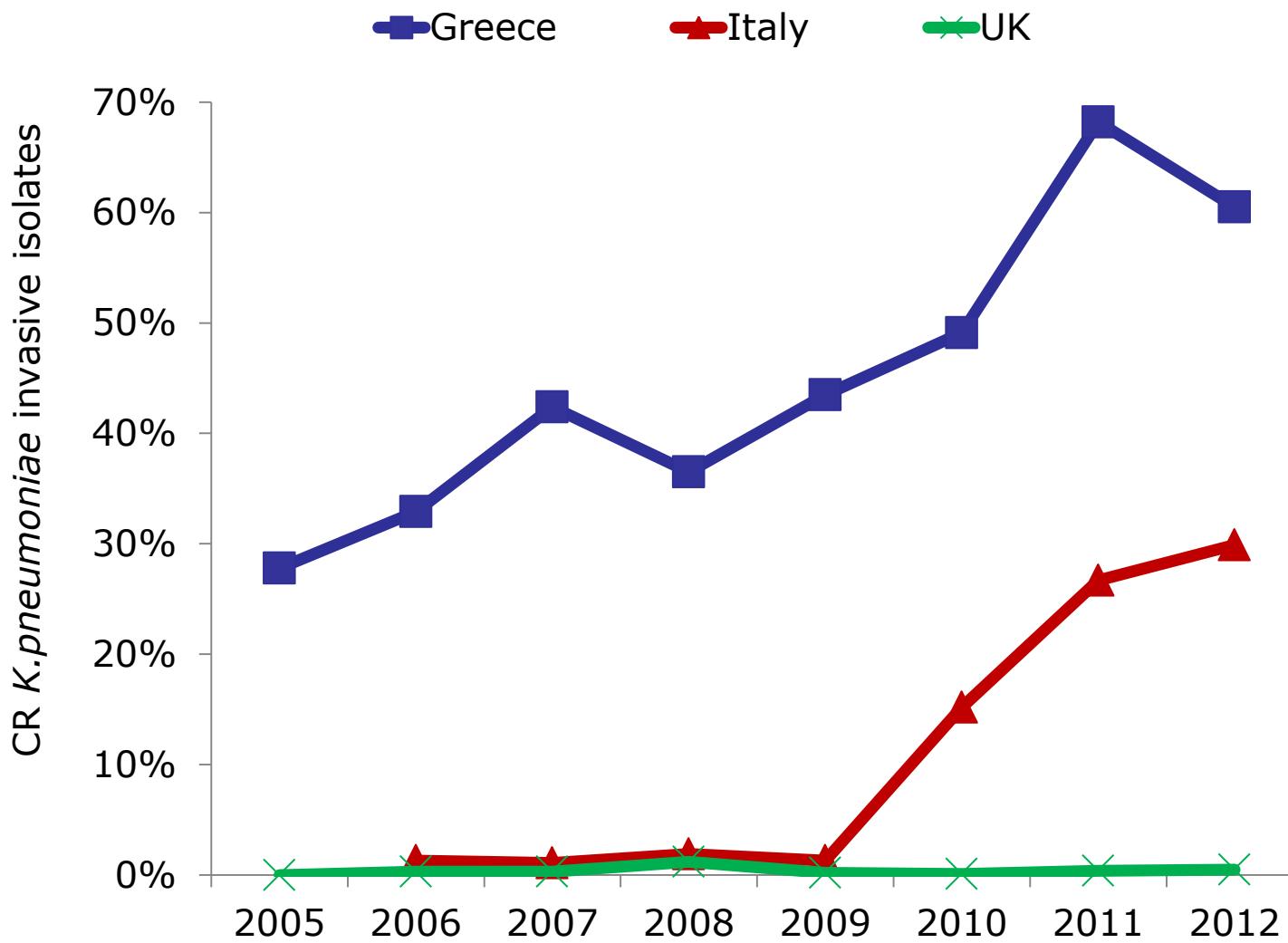
Pathogen	CRE¹	MRSA	VRE	<i>C. difficile</i>
Resistance	+++	+	+	+/-
Resistance genes	Multiple	Single	Single	n/a
Species	Multiple	Single	Single	Single
HA vs CA	HA & CA	HA	HA	HA
At-risk pts	All	Unwell	Unwell	Old
Decolonisation	No	Yes	No	No
Virulence	+++	++	+/-	+
Environment	+/-	+	++	+++

1. Carbapenem-resistant Enterobacteriaceae.

CRE in the USA



Invasive CRKP trends



Colistin resistance in Italy

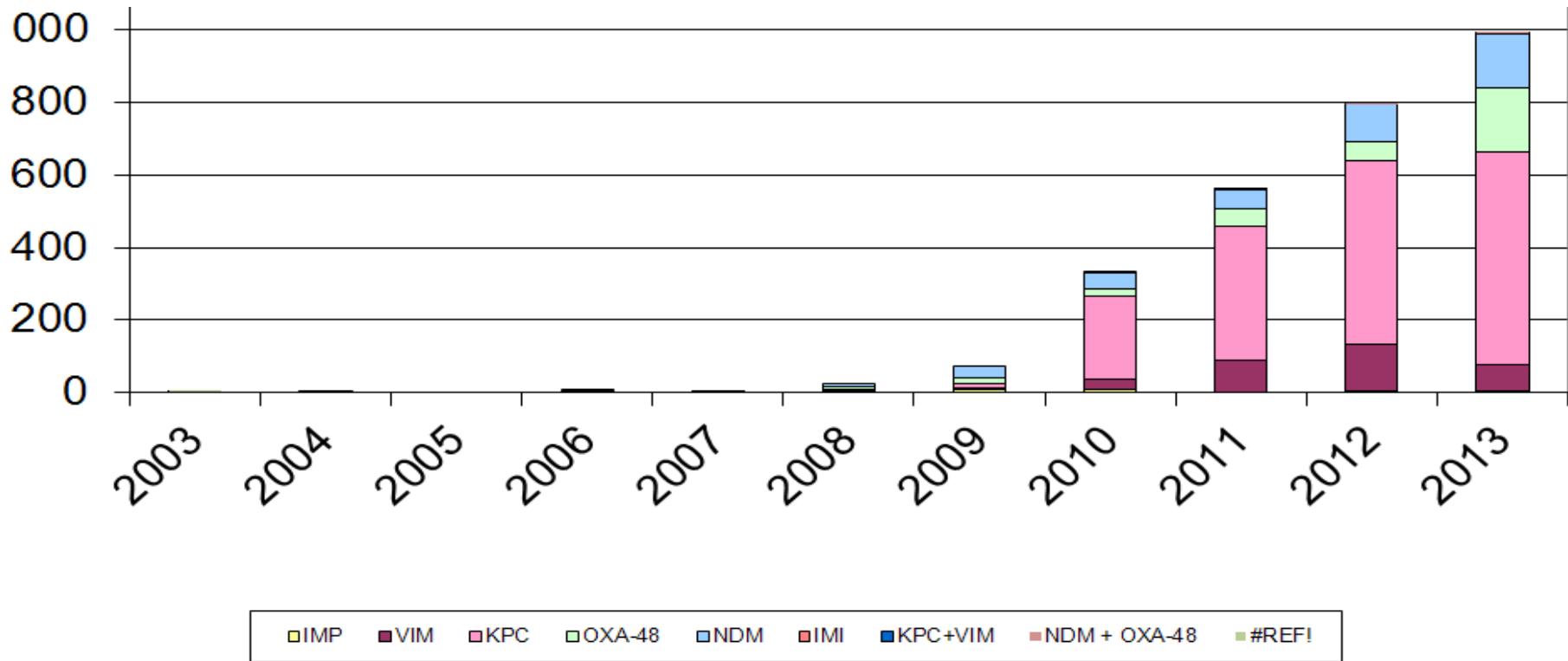


Survey of 191 CRE from 21 labs across Italy.

43%

Colistin resistant *K. pneumoniae*.
Range = 10-80% for the 21 labs.

Emergence of CRE in the UK



CRE in the UK and US



PHE Gateway number: 2013-499

To: Chief Executive Officer
CC: Director of Nursing
Medical Director

27 February 2014

Dear Chief Executive Officer,
**Re: Addressing the infection risk
of carbapenem-resistant organisms**

We are taking the unusual step of writing to address the risk posed to trusts and *Enterobacteriaceae* and other *carbapenemase-producing* one of the currently face, and the failure to contain have substantial human health and financial extremely difficult to treat as they are antibiotics. Management of these infections also significantly more costly for the health service.

In order to minimise the risk posed to patients and to ensure that you could ensure, as a minimum, 'Acute trust toolkit for carbapenemase-producing *Enterobacteriaceae*'.

Additionally, to ensure that trusts are fully equipped to manage the risk posed by *carbapenemase-producing Enterobacteriaceae*, we are providing a national 'Acute trust toolkit for carbapenemase-producing organisms' since 2000 and confirming up to 25 positive samples on a voluntary basis. PHE will continue to support trusts available to professional colleagues national efforts to address the public health issue.

These infections are already causing numbers of infections, confirming a 'Resource for Health' Associate producing organisms since 2000 and confirming up to 25 positive samples on a voluntary basis. PHE will continue to support trusts available to professional colleagues national efforts to address the public health issue.

1. Acute trust toolkit for the early detection of *Enterobacteriaceae* available at: <http://www.hscic.gov.uk/webs/HFAweb/HFAweb>



Acute trust management of carbapenemase- producing *Enterobacteriaceae*



Patient Safety Alert

Alert reference number: NHS/PSA/Re/2014/004
Alert stage: Two - Resources

Enterobacteriaceae are a large family of bacteria that usually live harmlessly in the gut of all humans and animals, but, in the wrong place, can cause serious infection. Worldwide, a small but increasing number of strains of *Enterobacteriaceae* have been resistant to carbapenem antibiotics, which have been defined by WHO as critically important antibiotics.

Carbapenemases are enzymes made by some strains of these bacteria, which allow them to destroy carbapenem antibiotics and cause resistance.

Increasing trends in sporadic infections, clusters of outbreaks of carbapenemase resistance in *Enterobacteriaceae* (CRE) have been observed in a number of NHS trusts in England. There is a high risk of this problem becoming more widespread unless early and decisive action is taken by Trusts.

These bacteria represent a significant challenge in terms of prevention, treatment and control. Standard measures to prevent and control transmission can have serious consequences for both patients, who may require more complex treatment to manage their infection, and hospitals in terms of ward closures and protracted patient stays.

As a result of the escalating problem, Public Health England (PHE) is providing national support to organisations and trusts across the country to monitor trends in the aim of minimising morbidity and preventing further outbreaks. Because the resources are now available NHS England has been able to proceed to issuing a Stage 2 alert without a previous Stage 1 alert.

PHE have recently published a toolkit for acute trusts to assist them with the early detection, management and control of carbapenemase-producing *Enterobacteriaceae*. A key aspect of the control measures is to take special action to prevent the spread of carbapenemase resistance, known to have high levels of CRE in UK hospitals with recent clusters of outbreaks of CRE.

This alert is to bring this significant infection prevention and control challenge to the attention of the NHS and to signpost the toolkit developed to support the NHS in both controlling existing transmission problems and preventing further spread.

The toolkit along with 'UK Standards for Microbiology Investigations: Laboratory Detection and Reporting of Bacteria with Carbapenem-Hydrolysing β -lactamases (Carbapenemases)' can be found at: http://www.hscic.gov.uk/webs/HFAweb/HFAweb/HPAweb/HPAweb/HPAweb/C_1317140378529

BSAC antibiotic susceptibility testing guidance is available at: www.bsac.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2012/02/AST-testing-and-reporting-guidance-v1-Final.pdf

Implementation advice on the toolkit can be obtained from local PHE Centres: www.gov.uk/government/publications/phe-centre-addresses-and-phone-numbers/phe-local-and-regional-contact-details

Patient Safety | Domain 5
www.england.nhs.uk/patientsafety

Contact us: patientsafety.enquiries@nhs.net
Visit our website: www.england.nhs.uk/patientsafety
Report incidents: www.england.nhs.uk/reportingincidents

Publications Gateway Reference: 01166

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Stage Two: Resources Addressing rising trends and outbreaks in carbapenemase- producing *Enterobacteriaceae*

Actions

Who: Chief Executives of NHS trusts and foundation trusts providing acute care and independent hospitals.

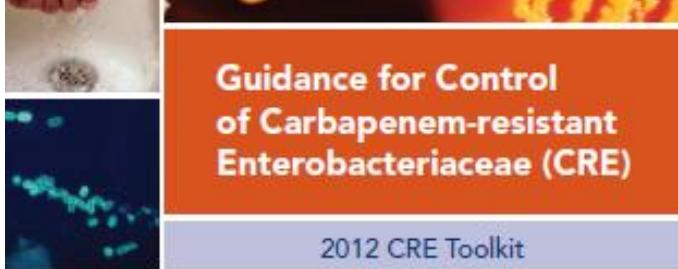
When: To commence immediately and completed by 30 June 2014

1 Bring this alert to the notice of the Director for Infection Prevention and Control (DIPC) and infection control staff to instigate the development of the board level CRE management plan.

2 In discussion with relevant clinical experts establish if there are have been cases of CRE in the organisation and consider if immediate action is required locally to reduce the risk of such an incident / outbreak occurring.

3 In the light of the local situation the Infection Prevention and Control Committee to plan for local adoption and dissemination of the Acute Trust CRE toolkit to influence clinical practice. This will include advising front line staff of the issue and the Trust's plans for addressing CRE.

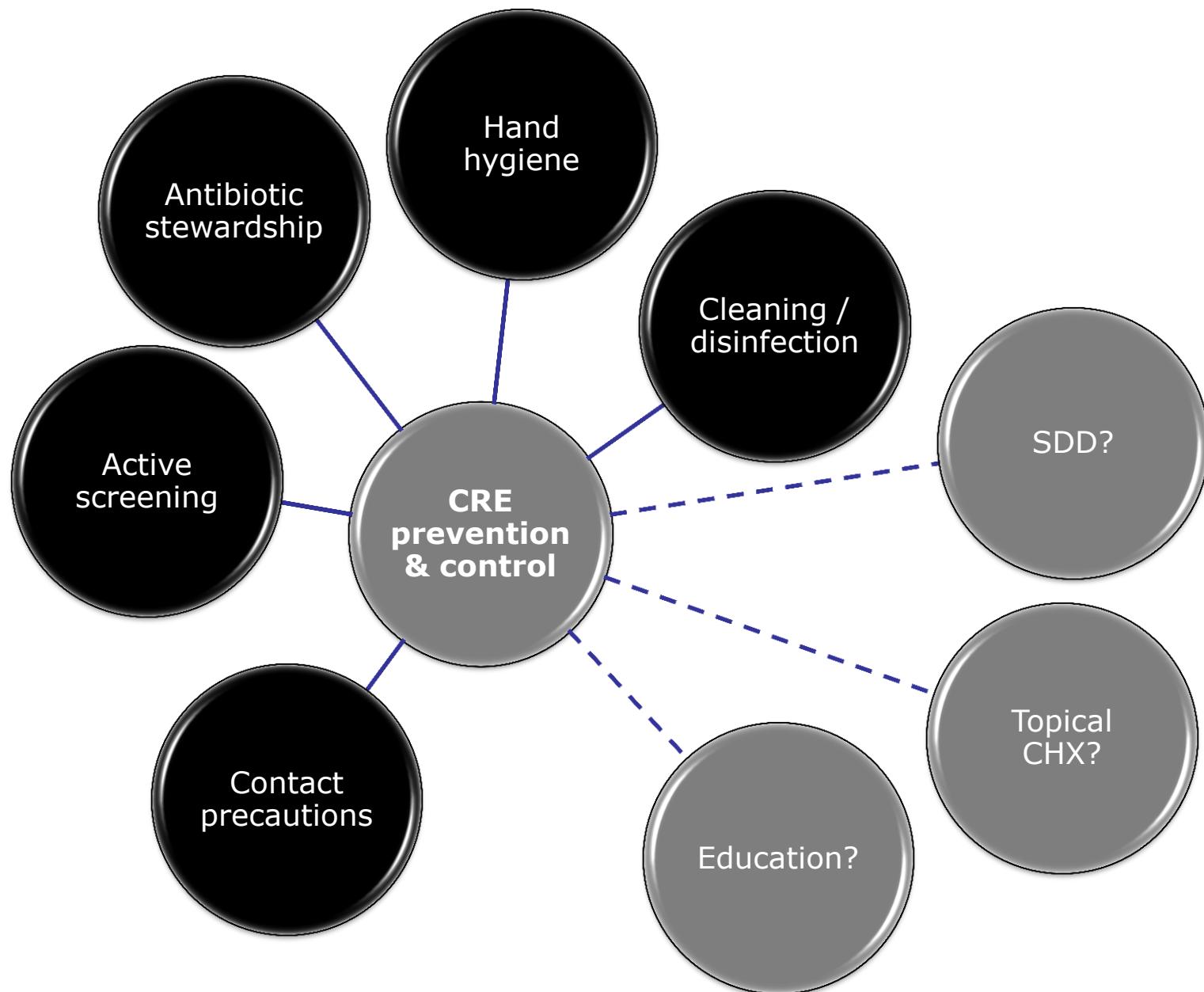
Note: This alert is being sent to GPs for information



Guidance for Control of Carbapenem-resistant *Enterobacteriaceae* (CRE)

2012 CRE Toolkit





Who do I screen?

PHE CPE Toolkit screening triggers:

- a) an inpatient in a hospital abroad, or
- b) an inpatient in a UK hospital which has problems with spread of CPE (if known), or
- c) a ‘previously’ positive case.

Also consider screening admissions to high-risk units such as ICU, and patients who live overseas.

How do I screen?

- Rectal swab is the best sample
 - Insert no more than 2cm into rectum
 - Twist gently and withdraw
 - Want to see faeces on swab.
- Patient education as to why this is needed in order to overcome taboos
- Avoid rectal swabs in children and those with low platelets.
- Alternate specimen is faeces but have to wait for the patient to 'go'

You have positive case: now what?

'Contact precautions'

Single room+glove/gown
Consider staff cohort

Contact tracing

Trigger for screening
contacts or whole unit?

Flagging

Patient notes flagged
Receiving unit informed

Education

Staff
Patient / visitor

Cleaning / disinfection

Use bleach or H_2O_2 vapor
at discharge

Decolonization?

'Selective
decontamination' /
chlorhexidine bathing?

The challenge of endoscopes



- Cluster of 39 cases of NDM-producing CRE linked to contaminated duodenoscopes.¹
- No failures in endoscope reprocessing identified, yet outbreak strain cultured from reprocessed endoscope.
- Prompted calls for more sterilization rather than high-level disinfection of endoscopes.²

Meticulously cleaning duodenoscopes prior to high-level disinfection should reduce the risk of transmitting infection, but may not entirely eliminate it. ([FDA Feb 23 2015](#)).

1. Epstein *et al.* *JAMA* 2014;312:1447-1455.
2. Rutala & Weber. *JAMA* 2014;312:1405-1406.

Conclusions

- This is a new an evolving problem
- Recognition of patient carriers is vital
- Appropriate management of identified carriers is crucial
- Information may change in time if we see more cases
- Important to try and stay up to date and carry on with safe infection prevention precautions...