

Outbreak Database

Report

Query: AID:2503

Article Title:

**"Outbreak of *Serratia marcescens* in a
neonatal intensive care unit: contaminated
unmedicated liquid soap and risk factors"**

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About the Outbreak Article

Title	Outbreak of <i>Serratia marcescens</i> in a neonatal intensive care unit: contaminated unmedicated liquid soap and risk factors
Authors	Buffet-Bataillon S, Rabier V, Bétrémieux P
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Study Type	case-control study
Further Outbreaks	0
Comments	
URL	http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/19246120?ordinalpos=19&itool=EntrezSystem2.PEntrez.Pubmed.Pubmed_ResultsPanel.Pubmed_DefaultReport
Articles Related	

Outbreak Setting

Age	Newborn
Country	France
Department	Neonatology
Facility	Intensive care unit
Time Period	04/2006 to 08/2006
x-Phasic	monophasic

Microorganisms

Investigation	Phenotype, Genotype
Microorganisms	1. Serratia marcescens

Development

Type	Description	Phase
Sources		
Care equipment	Samples of the single soap dispenser collected from room no. 10 grew <i>S. marcescens</i> .	
Transmissions		
Contact	The soap dispenser acted as a continuous source of <i>S. marcescens</i> , facilitating handborne transmission of <i>S. marcescens</i> by healthcare workers.	
Risk Factors		
Procedure	Infants with <i>S. marcescens</i> colonisation or infection were more likely to have been exposed to a central or percutaneous venous catheter and had longer exposure to endotracheal intubation.	
Setting	Hospitalisation in the room contaminated by the unmedicated soap was a risk factor for infection or colonisation with <i>S. marcescens</i> .	
Measures		
Modification of care/equipment	The potential source of infection could be reduced by using 'airless' dispensers. Unmedicated soap was removed from patient rooms after each discharge.	
Patient screening/surveillance	All neonates on the unit were screened for respiratory and gastrointestinal carriage. This screening was repeated weekly and for each new admission.	
Isolation/cohorting		
Personnel training	An education program was instituted to reinforce adherence to universal precautions, and the use of alcohol-based hand rub for all care.	
Hand washing/hand disinfection		

Infections or Colonizations	
Number	Type
Infections	
3 (exact)	Unknown location
Colonizations	
5 (exact)	Respiratory system

Number of Cases			
Number	Type	Fatality Total	Fatality Infection
5 (exact)	Patients	(not mentioned)	(not mentioned)