

MULTIDRUG-RESISTANT ACINETOBACTER (MDR-A)

WHAT IS MULTIDRUG-RESISTANT ACINETOBACTER (MDR-A)?

Multidrug-resistant Acinetobacter (MDR-A) are a specific group of bacteria that are resistant to antibiotics called carbapenems and penicillins.

SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS

MDR-A's can cause many types of infections, such as pneumonia, urinary tract infections (UTI's) and blood stream infections as well as infections within wounds. A person can also not experience symptoms especially with respiratory secretions and wounds. These are harder to treat because they are very resistant to antibiotics.

HOW DOES IT SPREAD?

Acinetobacter species of bacteria can be found in water, animals, soil and humans. The bacteria are spread through direct person-to-person contact or through contaminated surfaces, devices, or equipment.

MDR-A often affects people with existing conditions such as diabetes or a compromised immune system.

HOW IS IT TREATED?

This infection is generally treated with antibiotics. Healthcare providers will send a specimen to the laboratory and test which set of antibiotics would best work against the bacteria. Because they are resistant to many antibiotics, it makes them difficult to treat with available antibiotics.



PREVENTION

There are methods that can assist in lessening the chances of getting MDR-A. Thoroughly washing hands and cleanse all medical equipment can help prevent transmission. It is important to remind healthcare providers and caregivers to clean their hands before touching patients or handling medical equipment. Also, when prescribed antibiotics remember to take exactly as instructed.



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FOR MORE INFORMATION
Visit the CDC here: [MDRA- CDC](#)

This fact sheet is for information purposes and is not meant to be used for self-diagnosis or as a substitute for consultation with a health care professional.