

Healthcare-associated infections

Approximately 4 100 000 patients are estimated to acquire a healthcare-associated infection in the EU every year. The number of deaths occurring as a direct consequence of these infections is estimated to be at least 37 000.

The most frequent infections are urinary tract infections, followed by respiratory tract infections, infections after surgery, bloodstream infections, and others (including diarrhoea due to *Clostridium difficile*). Multi-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) is isolated in approximately 5% of all healthcare-associated infections.

Approximately 20–30% of healthcare-associated infections are considered to be preventable by intensive hygiene and control programmes.



IN FOCUS

Directory of online resources for prevention and control of antimicrobial resistance and healthcare-associated infections now includes CRE, MRSA and CDI
ECDC gathered guidance documents on prevention and control of infection with carbapenem-resistant Enterobacteriaceae (CRE), methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) and *Clostridium difficile* infections (CDI) that are available online and are published by EU/EEA Member States, ECDC, other agencies and professional societies. This online directory gives an overview of available documents with measures to prevent and control antimicrobial resistance and healthcare-associated infections.

[Directory of online resources for prevention and control of antimicrobial resistance and healthcare-associated infections](#)

ANNUAL EPIDEMIOLOGICAL REPORT



Annual epidemiological report 2014 – respiratory tract infections – tuberculosis

Scientific Publication - Jan 2015



→ [See chapter 2.6: Antimicrobial resistance and healthcare-associated infections - Antimicrobial resistance; Antimicrobial use](#)

See the archive of previous Annual Epidemiological Reports

NEWS

"SAVE LIVES: Clean Your Hands":
Reducing the spread of antimicrobial resistance in long-term care facilities 05 May 2014

"Protecting hospital patients from healthcare-associated infections is a joint task", says ECDC Director at the European Health Forum Gastein 03 Oct 2013

ECDC point prevalence survey: healthcare-associated infections still a major public health problem, one in 18 patients in European hospitals affected 04 Jul 2013

→ [View all news](#)

EVENTS

Healthcare Infection Society (HIS) Conference 2014
Lyon, France
16 Nov 2014 - 18 Nov 2014

Healthcare-associated infections workshop at European Health Forum Gastein
Gastein, Austria
02 Oct 2013 - 03 Oct 2013

PUBLICATIONS

Systematic review of the effectiveness of infection control measures to prevent the transmission of carbapenemase-producing Enterobacteriaceae through cross-border transfer of patients 08 Dec 2014

Systematic review of the effectiveness of infection control measures to prevent the transmission of extended-spectrum beta-lactamase-producing Enterobacteriaceae through cross-border transfer of patients 08 Dec 2014

Point prevalence survey validation protocol – Version 2.1 - Point prevalence survey of healthcare-associated infections and antimicrobial use in European acute care hospitals 24 Sep 2014

→ [View all publications](#)

EUROSURVEILLANCE ARTICLES

Letter to the editor: Vaccinating healthcare workers: evidence and ethics
15 January 2015
[Read more...](#)

Author's reply: Vaccinating healthcare workers: ethics and strategic behaviour
15 January 2015

03 Oct 2013 - 03 Oct 2013

Second joint meeting of Antimicrobial
Resistance and Healthcare-associated
Infections (ARHAI) Networks

Berlin, Germany

26 Nov 2012 - 28 Nov 2012

[→ View all events](#)

[Read more...](#)

**Control of carbapenemase-producing
Klebsiella pneumoniae: a region-wide
intervention**

30 October 2014

[Read more...](#)

[View all Eurosurveillance articles](#)