

# FAQs

(frequently asked questions)

## about "MDRP" (Multi Drug Resistant Pseudomonas )

### What is MDRP?

Pseudomonas is a germ or bacteria that is found naturally in soil, water and plants. It is often able to grow and survive in standing water and solutions including disinfectants. Antibiotics are medications used to treat infections caused by bacteria. The increased use of antibiotics has led to the creation of types of Pseudomonas, which are hard to treat. They are called multi-Drug resistant because many antibiotics used to treat infections do not work.

Pseudomonas can be found in many areas of the body without causing an infection. This is called the carrier state. It can be found in the throat and feces. It may cause a problem for patients in the hospital who have a low resistance to infection.

### What are the symptoms of pseudomonas?

When an infection with Pseudomonas occurs, the symptoms depend on where the infection is. For instance, with a wound infection, it will cause redness of the surrounding skin and a discharge from the wound. If it is in the urine, it may cause burning when urinating. It may also cause the need to urinate more frequently.

### Can Multi-Drug Resistant Pseudomonas be treated?

Yes. If an infection occurs you will be given antibiotics. If you have a multi-drug resistant Pseudomonas, but do not have an infection (the carrier state), antiseptic soap may be used.

### How is it spread?

It may be spread by touching people who have it or by handling things that they have used. Washing your hands well is the most important thing you can do to stop the spread of Pseudomonas.

It is found in sink drains, faucets, and counters it may also be spread by splashing water on face cloths.

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## What happens if I have Multi-Drug Resistant Pseudomonas?

If you have Multi-Drug Resistant Pseudomonas, you will have a room of your own or share a room with someone who also has it. This helps to protect you and prevent the spread to others. While in the hospital you will be in Contact Precautions.

## What are Contact Precautions?

Contact Precautions help reduce the risk of spreading infections to patients, visitors and staff:

- A sign is placed on your door to let staff and visitors know that you are in Contact Precautions.
- People entering your room must wear a gown and gloves. Supplies are stored outside your room.
- Everyone helping you with personal care must wear a gown and gloves.
- Before leaving your room, everyone must take off their gown and gloves and wash their hands.
- You have to stay in your room unless you need to go for a test or x-ray. If you need to leave, a staff member will help you get ready. You will need to wear a clean patient gown or clean clothing.
- Do not go to common areas such as the hospital café, other patient rooms or the waiting room.
- Wash hands well and often. Use soap and water or the alcohol based hand rubs.

**IF YOU DO NOT SEE YOUR PROVIDERS CLEAN THEIR HANDS, PLEASE ASK THEM TO DO SO.**

## May I have visitors?

Yes. Healthy people are not at risk for developing infections with Multi-Drug Resistant Pseudomonas. Visitors must wear a gown and gloves while in the room. They must remove the gown and gloves and wash their hands when leaving the room. Visitors should not go to common areas such as the lounge without first washing their hands.

**If you have questions, please ask your doctor or nurse.**

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