

Tameside and Glossop Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust



If you have a visual impairment this leaflet can be made available in bigger print or on audiotape. If you require either of these options please contact the Patient Information Centre on 0161 922 5332

Language, Interpretation and Patient Support Service (LIPS): If you require an interpreter to assist your appointment, please ask an appropriate family member to contact our central booking office between **Monday to Friday 8am to 5pm** on **0161 922 6991** to arrange this for you. Further information can be found on the Trust public website <https://www.tamesidehospital.nhs.uk/patients/lips.htm>

語言翻譯及病者支持服務 (LIPS):

如果閣下需要翻譯員在您的預約當日幫助您的話 請找一名合適的家庭成員 0161 922 6991 聯絡本中

央預約辦事處來您您安排 我們的辦公時間是星期一至星期五 上午 8 時至下午 5 時

Językowo Tłumaczeniowa Usługa Pomocy dla Pacjenta (Language, Interpretation and Patient Support Service LIPS):

Jeśli potrzebujesz pomocy tłumacza w trakcie swojej wizyty, proszę poprosić odpowiedniego członka rodziny o skontaktowanie się z Centralnym Biurem Zamówień (Central Booking Office), w celu zorganizowania tłumacza pomiędzy poniedziałkiem a piątkiem w godzinach od 08:00 - 17:00 pod numerem 0161 922 6991.

لیگوئج، انٹریٹیشن اینڈ پیٹینٹ سپورٹ سروس (Lips)

اگر آپ کو اپنی اپائنٹمنٹ کے لئے مترجم کی مدد کی ضرورت ہو تو براہ مہربانی اپنے خاندان کے کسی موزوں فرد سے کہیں کہ وہ ہمارے سنٹرل بنگ آفس سے پیر سے جمعہ 8.00 بجے صبح سے 5.00 بجے شام کے دوران 0161 922 6991 پر فون کر کے اس کا بندوبست کریں۔

Help us to help you It is important that we keep your records up-to-date. If the information about you is incorrect, we may be unable to contact you should we need to inform you about any changes to your appointment. Therefore, if you change your GP/Dentist, address or telephone number, please contact us as soon as possible. Please provide a mobile number where possible as we operate an appointment reminder service via text message.

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**Vancomycin-Resistant
Enterococci (VRE)**
Patient Information Leaflet
Infection Prevention

What are enterococci?

Enterococci are bacteria found in the faeces of most humans and animals. The most common infections caused by enterococci are urinary tract infections and wound infections. These infections plus a variety of other infections, including infection of the blood stream (bacteraemia), heart valves (endocarditis) and the brain (meningitis) can occur in severely ill patients in hospital. Enterococci also frequently colonise open wounds and skin ulcers, but they do not cause the patient any illness.

What are VRE?

In 1986 the first vancomycin-resistant enterococcus (VRE) was detected in the UK. Similar strains have now been found worldwide. The genetic material which makes enterococci resistant to vancomycin has probably been passed on from other types of bacteria that do not cause human disease but which are already vancomycin-resistant. VRE behave like other enterococci and cause the same range of infections; they are not more or less likely to cause illness than vancomycin-sensitive enterococci.

In normal healthy people illness due to VRE is very rare, hence family members and household contacts of patients with VRE are not at any risk and normal social hygiene practices (e.g. hand hygiene) should prevent them acquiring the organism.

Treatment of VRE infections?

Those people found to be harmlessly colonised by VRE in their gut or elsewhere need no special treatment with antibiotics or antiseptics. Over a period of time many of these people become spontaneously clear of VRE. Serious infections often need prolonged treatment, sometimes with several antibiotics being given together by injection.

How is the spread of VRE prevented?

Restricting the use of antibiotics, especially Vancomycin, Teicoplanin and Cephalosporins to those patients who really need them will help to limit the development of more VRE. In hospitals, scrupulous hand washing by all hospital staff between patient contact, thorough cleaning of the hospital environment and proper decontamination of equipment should all help to prevent the spread of VRE. Most patients with VRE, whether they are suffering illness or not, will be nursed in a single room while they are in hospital to minimise the risk of spreading any bacteria to other vulnerable patients. Staff will wear disposable gloves and aprons while caring for you.

REFERENCE

Public Health England Website

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/enterococcus-species-and-glycopeptide-resistant-enterococci-gre>

If you have any questions you want to ask, you can use this space below to remind you.