COVID-19’s Impact on Antimicrobial Resistance and Healthcare-Associated Infections

Researchers investigated the association between COVID-19 surges and multidrug resistant infections in 148 HCA Healthcare-affiliated hospitals across 17 states.

Key Findings
This set of hospitals experienced an additional 24% of hospital-onset multidrug resistant infections than expected between March – September 2020.

- Hospital-onset methicillin-resistant staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) increased by +30%
- Hospital-onset vancomycin-resistant enterococci (VRE) increased by +44%
- Multidrug resistant Gram-negative organisms increased by +27%
- Clusters of hospital-onset pathogens increased as the COVID-19 burden increased

Recommendations
Increased antibiotic resistant infections undermine pandemic response and medical care, and action needs to be taken now.

The bipartisan Pioneering Antibiotic Subscriptions to End Upsurging Resistance (PASTEUR) Act, S. 2076/H.R. 3932, is a key opportunity to better prepare our nation by strengthening our antibiotic pipeline and improving antibiotic use.

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