

“To assess an intervention to limit community-associated methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) dissemination” David et al (2014).

Reference:

David, M.Z., Siegel, J.D., Henderson, J., Leos, G., Lo, K., Iwuora, J., Porsa, E., Schumm, L.P., Boyle-Vavra, S. and Daum, R.S. (2014) A Randomized, Controlled Trial of Chlorhexidine-Soaked Cloths to Reduce Methicillin-Resistant and Methicillin-Susceptible *Staphylococcus aureus* Carriage Prevalence in an Urban Jail. *Infection Control and Hospital Epidemiology*. 35(12), p.1466-1473.

Chlorhexidine-soaked cloths reduce MRSA carriage [@ivteam #ivteam](http://ctt.ec/hrf3S+)

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Abstract:

Objective: To assess an intervention to limit community-associated methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) dissemination.

Design: Randomized, controlled trial.

Setting: County Jail, Dallas, Texas.

Participants: A total of 4,196 detainees in 68 detention tanks.

Methods: Tanks were randomly assigned to 1 of 3 groups: in group 1, detainees received cloths that contained chlorhexidine gluconate (CHG) to clean their entire skin surface 3 times per week for 6 months; group 2 received identical cloths containing only water; and group 3 received no skin treatment. During the study, all newly arrived detainees were invited to enroll. Nares and hand cultures were obtained at baseline and from all current enrollees at 2 and 6 months.

Results: At baseline, *S. aureus* was isolated from 41.2% and MRSA from 8.0% (nares and/or hand) of 947 enrollees. The average participation rate was 47%. At 6 months, MRSA carriage was 10.0% in group 3 and 8.7% in group 1 tanks (estimated absolute risk reduction [95% confidence interval (CI)], 1.4% [−4.8% to 7.1%];). At 6 months, carriage of any *S. aureus* was 51.1% in group 3, 40.7% in group 1 (absolute risk reduction [95% CI], 10.4% [0.01%–20.1%];), and 42.8% (absolute risk reduction [95% CI], 8.3% [−1.4% to 18.0%];) in

group 2.

Conclusions: Skin cleaning with CHG for 6 months in detainees, compared with no intervention, significantly decreased carriage of *S. aureus*, and use of water cloths produced a nonsignificant but similar decrease. A nonsignificant decrease in MRSA carriage was found with CHG cloth use.

Trial registration: [ClinicalTrials.gov](https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/study/NCT00785200) identifier NCT00785200.

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