

Nile's Law (SB 1058)



Effective January 1, 2009, California hospitals will be required to implement certain procedures related to health care associated infections. Nile's Law (SB 1058) requires Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus (MRSA) testing within 24 hours of admission. Below is the list of patients that will require MRSA nasal swabbing by the RN once the patients are admitted:

DIRTS

D = Dialysis (peritoneal and hemodialysis patients)

I = Intensive Care Unit Patients (includes PICU, NICU and CVICU)

R = Re-admission patients within 30 days prior to current admission

T = Transferred from a skilled nursing facility

S = Scheduled for surgery, **only** if they have one of the above conditions

Process that each RN must follow to comply with Nile's Law (SB 1058):

Check in CIPS – alert section to see if patient was previously identified as MRSA positive.

Culture will not be necessary if the patient already has a history of positive MRSA on file.

1. Physician will order the MRSA nasal culture. (order sets are being updated)
2. Nurse will collect the culture. (Culture must be obtained within the first 24 hours of admission)
 - a. Use a BBL culture swab collection.
 - b. Insert sterile dry swabs 1-2 cm into the right nostril and gently rotate swabs against the inside of the nostril for 3 seconds. (enough pressure should be used when swabbing the nares, that it is a tickling sensation and not painful)
 - c. Using the same swab, repeat Step B in left nostril.
 - d. Place swab back into the transport media tube and label with name and medical record number. Sticker MRSA NASAL CULTURE “87081ZJ” must be placed on the microbiology requisition and on the transport media tube.
 - e. Send specimen and requisition to the lab.
 - f. Check results in 24 hours. If positive, isolate the patient using contact precautions. Nursing may initiate proper isolation precautions without a physicians order.
3. The Attending Physician will document the positive result in the progress notes and provide an initial patient education sheet about the positive results.
4. Nursing will provide reinforcing education about the result and document per unit routine.

Send ONE culture per patient, DO NOT send multiple cultures!

