

Decrease in pediatric *S. aureus* infections due to MRSA

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(HealthDay)—The proportion of pediatric *Staphylococcus aureus*

infections due to methicillin-resistant *S. aureus* seems to be decreasing in pediatric populations, according to a study published online March 1 in *Pediatrics*.

Deena E. Sutter, M.D., from the San Antonio Military Medical Center in Fort Sam Houston, Texas, and colleagues examined *S. aureus* susceptibility data for [pediatric patients](#) receiving care in the U.S. Military Health System. They collected microbiology and demographic data for years 2005 through 2014 and examined correlations with antibiotic susceptibilities. Overall, 41,745 *S. aureus* isolates from 39,207 pediatric patients were included in the study.

The researchers found that over the 10-year period there was an overall increase in susceptibility of isolates to oxacillin; in 2014, over 60 percent of isolates were oxacillin-susceptible. Over the study period, *S. aureus* susceptibility to clindamycin decreased; there was a decline from 90 to 83 percent in methicillin-susceptible *S. aureus* susceptibility to clindamycin (P

"Similar to recent trends seen in adults, the proportion of pediatric *S. aureus* infections secondary to methicillin-resistant *S. aureus* appear to be decreasing, as is variability in U.S. geographical resistance rates," the authors write. "Increasing clindamycin resistance among methicillin-susceptible *S. aureus* should raise caution in the use of empirical clindamycin in presumed *S. aureus* infection."

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