



Singapore Healthcare Management 2016

# Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (MRSA) Alert Tools In The Ward To Minimize Chances of Cross -Contamination

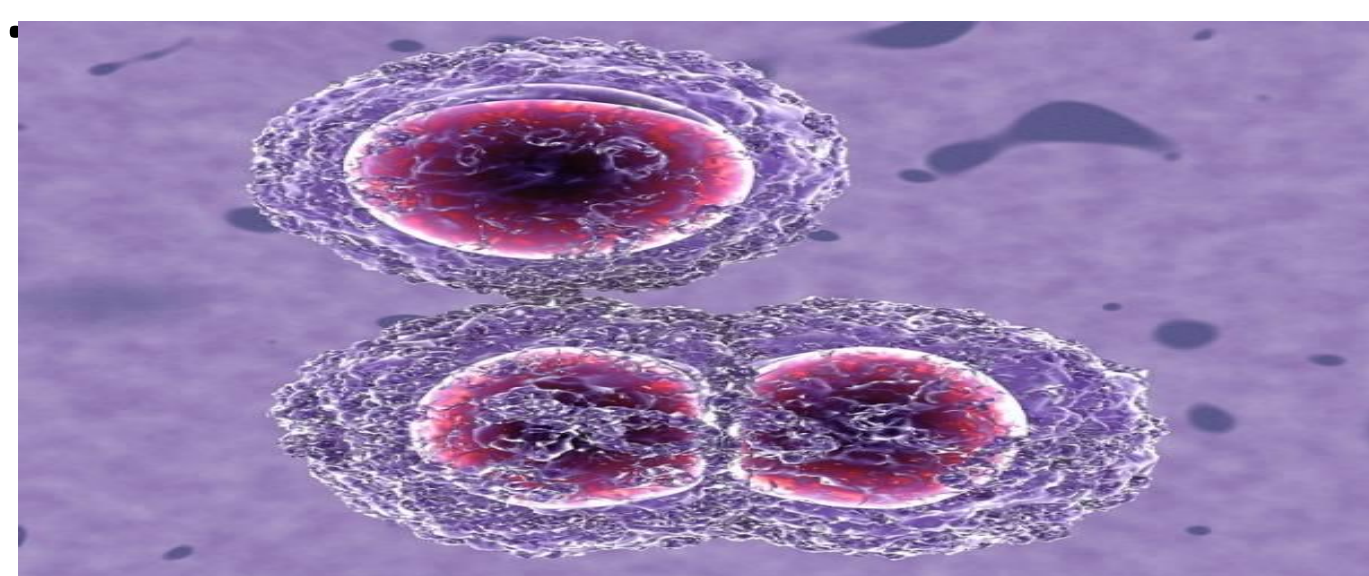
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## Introduction

MRSA are bacteria that develop resistance to several antibiotics. In the community, most MRSA are skin infections. More severe or potentially life –threatening MRSA infections occur frequently in patients in healthcare setting. This creates impact on healthcare, as the bacteria are commonly carried on the skin or in the nose of asymptomatic individuals. The mode of spread is usually person-to-person by direct skin contact, mostly by hands. It is important for all healthcare staff to be aware when handling MRSA patient, hence to prevent cross contamination



**Our Aim**

To create awareness to the healthcare team attending to patients who are positively screened with MRSA.

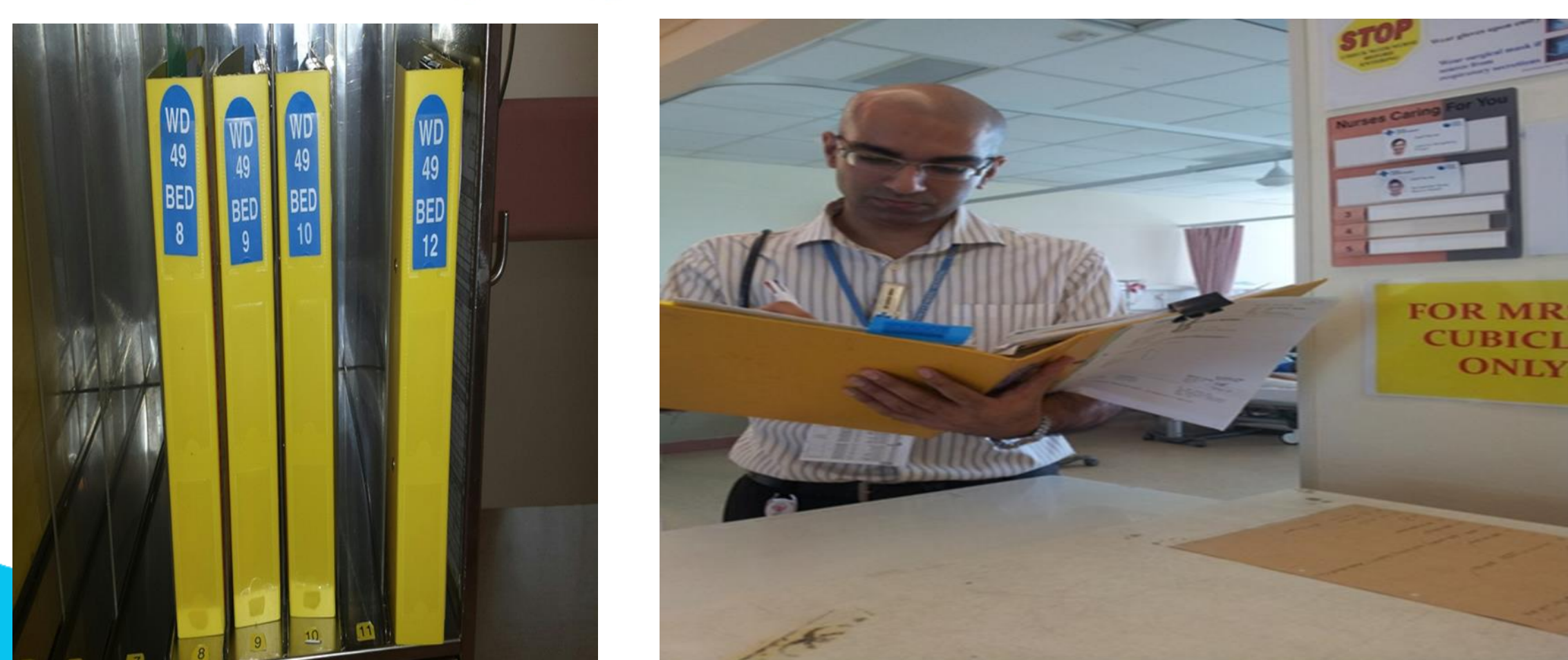
## Methodology

**Before** 🤔



1) MRSA Patients will have yellow board at the foot which is often overlooked by the Healthcare Members

**After** 😊



To create awareness among all health care professionals. The yellow case file is a first line alert to the healthcare team that the patient needs to be attended with contact precautions

## Methodology

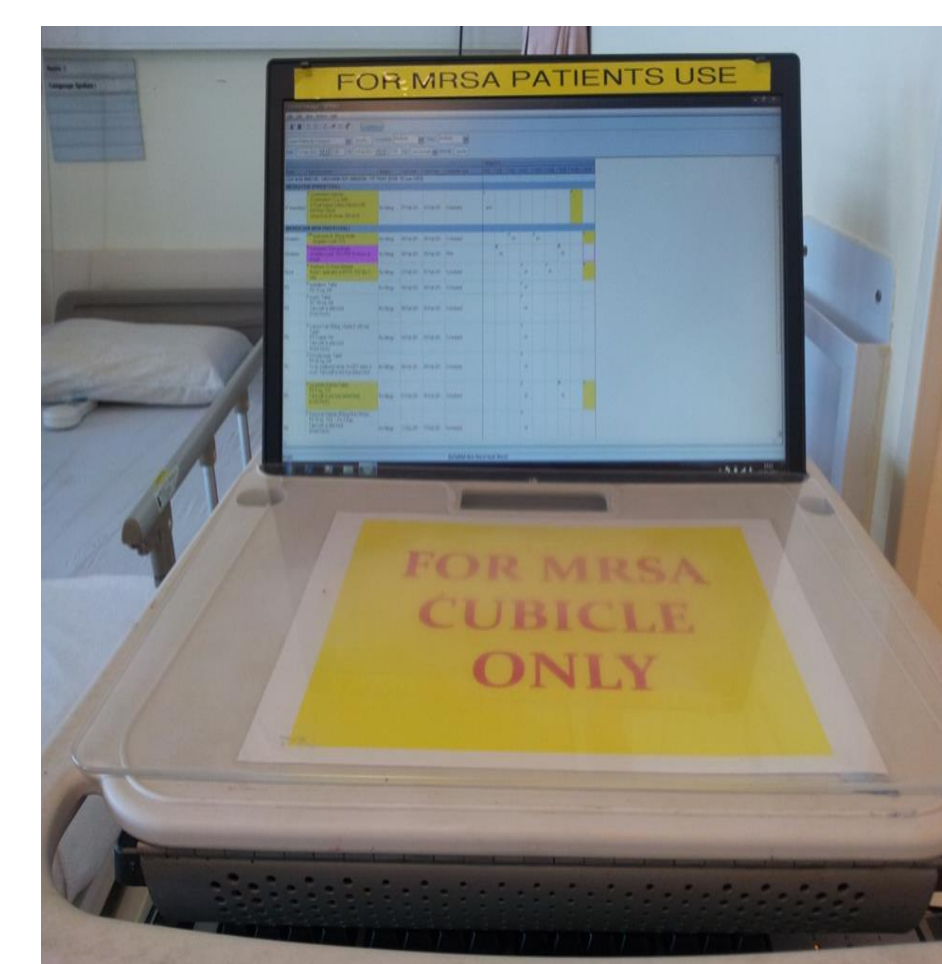
2) Two different coloured gowns, blue and white are placed in MRSA cohort cubicles. Each cubicle has its own colour either blue or white.

This is to ensure the healthcare teams de-gown and wash their hands before entering to another MRSA cubicle.



### Other MRSA Initiatives Alerts

3) Use of dedicated non-essential items may help decrease items transmission due to contact with these fomites  
Disposable BP Cuffs, Individual Yellow Stethoscopes, IV Pumps/Poles, Case notes folder & Computers



4) In the MRSA cubicles, we had implemented a ‘parking lot’. It is a **Marked Zone** alerting staff PPE has to be don.



## Results



A survey was done to evaluate the usefulness of the yellow files and the result was 100%.

Other MRSA alert tools has also created awareness to the healthcare team that they need to comply with Contact Precautions Measures and practice Hand Hygiene at all times. Monthly MRSA Positive Acquisition Rates are monitored .

## Conclusion



These alert tools creates awareness to all healthcare team in preventing cross contamination