Abstracts from the Antimicrobial Resistance and Infection Control Conference 2018

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Oral presentations

**OP-1**
Role of effective communication in improvement of hand hygiene compliance in emergency department
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Antimicrobial Resistance and Infection Control 2018, 7(Suppl 1):OP-1

**Background:** Hospital Acquired Infection (HAI) burden patients, complicate treatment, prolong hospital stay increase costs and can be life threatening. Several studies showed that HCAI affect 4.6% to 9.3 % of hospitalized patients. Adequate Hand hygiene among health care personnel could prevent an estimated 15-30% of HCAI. Numerous studies over last few decades have shown that hand hygiene compliance rate is generally less than 50% of all opportunities ineffective communication with staff or employee during transition of care is potential cause of non-compliance with hand hygiene practice by health care personnel.

**Aim of the study:** The study was directed for effective communication with continuous feedback about performance.

**Methods:** As communication is the ability to convey information both effectively and efficiently. We combined multiple tools of communications. We started to use four types of effective communication in this study.

1. Visual communication, (a-highly visual passive screen saver, b-Tickers).
2. Verbal communication (Recorded video messages).
3. Non-verbal communication.
4. Written communication: (a- High impact alert messages, silent notification, do not disturb patient, b- Survey and quizzes for the staff).

**Results:** Improvement and increase hand hygiene compliance rate in ER reaching 74% after intervention. Compliance rate was 55% in October 2017 before implementing the study then it reached 64% after one month and recently it reached 74% in February 2018 with implementation of effective communication tools.

**Conclusion:** Simple measures to enhance communication through getting employee attention about the importance of hand hygiene by high impact alert messages, high visual screen saver, tickers survey and quizzes.

**OP-2**
Penicillin resistance among *Streptococcus pneumoniae* isolates at a tertiary care center in South West Saudi Arabia: five years retrospective study
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Antimicrobial Resistance and Infection Control 2018, 7(Suppl 1):OP-2

**Background:** The emergence of different infections caused by penicillin-resistant strains of *Streptococcus pneumoniae* has become a worldwide concern. The magnitude of the problem in South West Saudi Arabia was not investigated.

**Methods:** Laboratory data on pneumococcal isolates was collected retrospectively from January 2010 to December 2014 from hospitalized patients in the main tertiary care hospital of Al Baha, South West Saudi Arabia. Minimum inhibitory concentrations (MICs > or = 2 mg/L) was used to detect the resistance isolates.

**Results:** During the five year duration, a total of 201 *S pneumoniae* isolates were identified, most of which (61%) 124/201 were isolated from respiratory specimens (sputum, tracheal aspirates, bronchoalveolar lavage), followed by eye swabs (15%) 30/201, blood (12%) 25/201, ear swabs (7%) 15/201 and CSF (3.4%) 7/201. The resistance rate of *S pneumoniae* was 71 % (43/60) on year 2010, 76% (35/46) on year 2011, 61% (22/36) on 2012, 68% (20/29) on 2013 and 66% (21/30) on 2014 respectively with an overall resistance of 70% (141/201).

**Conclusions:** The data confirm the presence of penicillin-resistant *S pneumoniae* in South West Saudi Arabia. This is in agreement with other studies that covered other parts of the country. The high resistance identified might indicate a potential concern and warn of further spread among individuals. Thus good penicillin control with periodical antibiotic surveillance may improve the current situation and attempt to slow down the accelerating problem of resistance to penicillin.

**OP-3**
Withdrawn

Poster presentations

**PP-1**
Knowledge, attitude, safety practice of nutrition labels of university students
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Antimicrobial Resistance and Infection Control 2018, 7(Suppl 1):PP-1

**Background:** There are limited studies conducted in Saudi Arabia to assess the knowledge, attitude and safety practice of the college students regarding nutrition labeling.

**Objectives:** The purpose of the study were to assess knowledge, attitudes and practice (KAP) about nutrition labeling among university students.

**Method:** A cross sectional survey was planned to assess knowledge, attitudes and practice (KAP) about nutrition labeling among students of University of Hail. The subjects were surveyed through a previously standardized self-administered questionnaire for questions related to their favorite food, nutrient content, knowledge, attitudes and practice of using nutrition labels. In addition, self-reported weight and height was collected and body mass index was...
calculated. The statistical analysis was done using Statistical Package for Social Sciences software (version 16.0).

Results: There was a significant difference (p < 0.05 or 0.000) between the mean scores of knowledge, attitude and practice between the nutrition and non-nutrition students. The nutrition students reported a very good knowledge on nutrient content ($\chi^2=22.539$, ORV-5.685), total calories ($\chi^2=93.253$, ORV-14.233), cholesterol ($\chi^2=28.232$, ORV-5.792), expiry date ($\chi^2=7.901$, ORV-0.850), food poisoning ($\chi^2=11.355$, ORV-14.235) stated in the nutrition labeling of the foods and was statistically highly significant (P<0.000). The attitudes of the nutrition students on reading information ($\chi^2=12.816$, ORV-15.881), making healthy food choice ($\chi^2=12.729$), taste ($\chi^2=6.420$, ORV-4.253), checking ingredients ($\chi^2=10.835$, ORV-6.006) and packaging ($\chi^2=6.708$, ORV-3.386), food allergies ($\chi^2=9.499$, ORV-7.197), food safety ($\chi^2=9.562$) were all found to be highly significant (P<0.01 or 0.000). The practises of nutrition students on reading list of ingredients ($\chi^2=7.320$, serving size $\chi^2=12.335$), health claims ($\chi^2=8.809$), vitamins and mineral content ($\chi^2=11.904$), and checking the hygiene ($\chi^2=8.717$) was statistically significant (P<0.05, or 0.01).

Conclusion: Nutrition labels and its awareness were more useful tools for students and had a direct impact on the health status of the students. It is suggested to perform successfully designing, organizing and implementing the nutrition education programs in the institutions which will promote the level of knowledge about nutrition and nutrition labels thereby improving their food habits and lifestyle.

PP-2
Antibiotics- loaded nanoparticles to treat drug resistant bacteria
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Antimicrobial Resistance and Infection Control 2018, 7(Suppl 1):PP-2

There is worldwide concern about the rapid emergence of resistant bacteria and their resistance to commonly used antibiotics. Nowadays, the need for innovative strategies for developing antimicrobial drugs is becoming a necessity against antibiotic multi-resistant bacteria that have become of critical concern in public health. To overcome this multidrug-resistance problem, we studied for the first time a green, simple, and low-cost synthesis of silver nanoparticles using Juniperus excelsa leaves extract, to be used as alternative agents against multidrug-resistant bacteria. The synergistic effect of AgNPs with antibiotic was also studied. Multi-drug resistant bacteria were collected from Taif hospitals patients with skin infections. Phenotyping, biotyping and molecular characterization using 16S rRNA gene analysis of nonrepetitive multidrug-resistant (MDR) bacterial isolates were performed. The study of later nanoparticles was characterized using FTIR, XRD, UV-Vis spectrophotometer and TEM. The antimicrobial studies were initially carried out by the determination of inhibition zone (ZIN), the minimal inhibitory concentration (MIC) and minimal bactericidal concentration (MBC). The biomolecules in the aqueous Juniperus excelsa leaves extract function as both safeties and capping agents for biosynthesis of AgNPs. The shapes of AgNPs were spherical and hexagonal. The particle sizes ranged from 16.08-24.42 nm. The antimicrobial effect of AgNPs and their synergistic effect with antibiotic were studied against Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) and Proteus mirabilis. MICs of AgNPs against tested MDR bacteria ranged from 48-56 μg/ml, while MBCs of AgNPs against tested strains ranged from 72-96 μg/ml. Synergistic effects of AgNPs with cephalexinopines, ampicillin and erythromycin, and showed 3 folds increase in the inhibition zone against tested strains. Consequently, we suggest that phyto-synthesized AgNPs are good alternatives in the treatment of diseases because of the presence of bioactive agents. Also, it showed a strong synergistic effect of AgNPs with antibiotic on tested bacteria. Consequently, it may be used to activate the antibiotics. These results indicate that AgNPs and AgNPs with antibiotic showed strong antibacterial properties on multi-drug resistant bacteria, which could be exploited in developing better dressings for wounds.

PP-3
Assessment of the knowledge, attitude and practice about food safety among Saudi population in Taif
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Antimicrobial Resistance and Infection Control 2018, 7(Suppl 1):PP-3

Foodborne diseases outbreaks continue to be problem indicating the failure of population to adhere to safe practices during food preparation. Thus, this study aimed to assess the knowledge, attitude, and practices (KAP) of food safety awareness among public Saudi population. This study involved 136 persons from Taif Saudia Arabia. The food safety KAP among 136 Saudi population was assessed using a questionnaire. The study involved 54.4% females and 45.6% males, 56.6% work outside health field and 43.4% in health care field. 82.4% from urban area and 17.6% from rural area and 81% within the age group from 21-30 years old. 75.7% of the population had good attitude and practice towards health and food safety and washing hands before eating. Further population had low attitude on other related items such as unimportant of expire date in food safety 44.8%, unimportance of reading the instruction label on the canned food 59.5%, unimportance of checking the refrigerator temperature 77.9%, and unimportance of changing the cutting knife used between meat and vegetables cutting 66.9%. As regard knowledge, 61.8% of population had good knowledge about best temperature for bacterial growth which is between 4 to 50 °C and about 73.5% of population had good knowledge about diseases that could be transmitted through food, but only 30.9% of population had knowledge about best method of meat thawing.

In conclusion, the suggestion of this study was that Saudi population had adequate food safety knowledge, but perceived knowledge failed to be translated into practices, therefore necessary to hold training programs through workshops or to include courses in the schedule of ministry of health.

PP-4
Successfully control of methicillin resistance Staphylococcus aureus in neonatal intensive care unit in Taif, Saudi Arabia
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Antimicrobial Resistance and Infection Control 2018, 7(Suppl 1):PP-4

Background: Methicillin resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) is a critically important pathogen in neonatal intensive care units (NICUs) population and has been associated with both endemic and epidemic infections. Staphylococcus aureus nasal colonization is a well-known independent risk factor for infection.

Purpose: To decolonize neonatal MRSA organisms admitted to NICU at King Faisal Medical Complex, TAIF.

Methods: Eighty-three nasal swab samples were screened for MRSA during October – November 2017. Staphylococcus aureus were identified as round white colonies positive to Gram stain, catalase and slide agglutination tests. Methicillin-resistant phenotype was confirmed according to

Antimicrobial Resistance and Infection Control 2018, 7(Suppl 1): PP-4
Background: The prevalence of antibiotic resistance among clinical isolates in 2010 and 2017

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Antimicrobial Resistance and Infection Control 2018, 7(Suppl 1):PP-6

Background: Klebsiella species are found everywhere in nature leading to a wide range of diseases including pneumonia, septicemia, meningitis and soft tissue infections. Recently, pathogens have developed resistance to antibiotics posing serious threats to human health globally.

Objectives: This work highlights comparatively the incidence and pattern of antibiotic resistance for clinical Klebsiella isolates in 2010 and 2017.

Methods: Fifty-five Klebsiella isolates (20 in 2010 and 35 in 2017), from blood of patients admitted to ICU, were tested for their sensitivity to fifteen antibiotics including Amoxicillin/Clavulanic acid, Ampicillin/Sulbactam, Piperacillin/Tazobactam, Aztreonam, Meropenem, Imipenem, Cefotaxime, Ceftriaxone, Cefazidime, Cefoperazone/Sulbactam, Amikacin, Tobramycin, Gentamicin, Trimethoprim/Sulfamethoxazole and Doxycycline.

Results: In 2010, the resistance percentages to the tested antibiotics ranged from 0-30%, however this percentage increased by 2-3 folds in 2017 especially towards tobramycin, cefotaxime, ceftriaxone, cefazidime, piperacillin/tazobactam, cefoperazone/sulbactam and ampicillin/sulbactam.

Conclusion: The change in pattern and incidence of resistance among pathogens is alarming requiring collaborative efforts among health sector partners to combat this phenomenon.
most affected area. Bore hollow needle was the most device causing sharp injuries. Sharp injuries during operation were the most circumstances during which exposures occurred followed by waste collection.

PP-8
Incidence of healthcare associated infections in acute care hospitals in Taif, Saudi Arabia
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Antimicrobial Resistance and Infection Control 2018, 7(Suppl 1):64

Background: Health care-associated infections (HAI)s increase mortality, length of hospital stay, costs of care, bacterial resistance, antibiotic usage, and other adverse events. Monitoring HAI indicators is one of patient safety component. We describe the distribution of HAI in three hospitals in Taif, Saudi Arabia.

Methods: A retrospective study was conducted on three acute care hospitals during the year 2017. Patient population, surveillance, calculation of incidence rate and ratio, benchmarking and interpretations were conducting according to National Safety Healthcare Network (NHSN) USA.

Results: Incidence rates of ventilated associated pneumonia (VAP) were high (> 90 percentile) with median utilization ratio (50-75 percentile) followed by catheter urinary tract infections (75-90 percentile) with median utilization ratio (50-75 percentile) in adult intensive care units (ICU). Incidence rate of central line associated bloodstream infections (CLABSI) was high (>90 percentile) despite of low utilization ratio (10-25 percentile) in adult ICU of post graduate teaching hospital. However, the incidence rate of CLABSI was (25-50 percentile) with the same utilization ratio (25-50 percentile) in ICU of graduate teaching hospital. Incidence rate and ratio of VAP, CAUTI and CLABSI were high (>90 percentile) in medical/surgical department of post graduate teaching hospital. Incidence rate of CLABSI and CAUTI were high (> 90 percentile) with low utilization ratio in ICU and Medical/Surgical department of pediatric non-teaching hospital. Incidence rates of Appendix (APPY) and cesarean section (CSEC) infections were low (0.9% and 0.64%, respectively).

Conclusion: Action plan is needed to reduce VAP and CLABSI in all hospitals. Surveillance should be revised and improved to avoid underestimation HAI. Chronic patients should be excluded from the medical/surgical departments.

PP-9
Molecular characterization of antibiotic resistant E. coli isolated from UTI patients
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In this work, 50 clinical Escherichia coli were isolated from urine of UTI patients in King Abdulaziz hospital, Taif city, KSA. Their ages ranging from two months to 90 years containing 31 females, 12 males and 7 children. Antibiotic susceptibility of isolates was tested on 25 antibiotics. Our finding showed a resistance to all antibiotic except Meropenem. The percentage of resistance was ranged from 100% for penicillin to 2% for imipenem. In addition, 30% of the isolates appeared as for Extended Spectrum Beta-Lactamase (ESBL) positive. Out of the 50 isolates we noted theexistence of 46 profiles and 74% of isolates are considered as multi-drug resistance strains. Distribution of antibiotic resistance genes realized by Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) showed that the genes oxeC3-JV and blaSHV were identified in 33.33% of isolates. In addition, the genes qnrA, blaCMY and dfrA1 were found in 37.25%, 19.60 and 17.64% of the isolates respectively. In total, 17 different genotypes were detected and 12 isolates (24%) do not include any genes in their genomes.

PP-10
Hand hygiene practices among medical students
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Antimicrobial Resistance and Infection Control 2018, 7(Suppl 1):64

Background: Hand hygiene is a cost-effective method in preventing infection transmission. Hand hygiene practices have been found to be faulty in most healthcare settings. We conducted a study to evaluate the awareness, and compliance of hand hygiene among undergraduate medical students during their clinical phase at Taif University Medical College, Saudi Arabia.

Methods: A questionnaire based on World Health Organization’s concept of “Five Moments for Hand Hygiene” was used to evaluate the awareness of the indications for hand hygiene and compliance was observed during Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE) sessions. Sixty students including thirty-six males (60%) and twenty-four females (40%) participated voluntarily in the study.

Results: The average awareness regarding the positive indications of hand hygiene was 56%. Rest of the 44% of students was either not sure or unaware of the indications of hygiene. Only 29% of students were able to identify all the five indications for hand hygiene in the questionnaire. Compliance as assessed during OSCE sessions was only 17% with no significant difference between the genders.

Conclusion: It was concluded that serious efforts are needed to improve the hand hygiene practices among medical students.

PP-11
Antibiotic resistance of Escherichia coli Strains isolated from animal original food in 2007 and 2015
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Antimicrobial Resistance and Infection Control 2018, 7(Suppl 1):64

Introduction: Escherichia coli is commonly found in intestinal tracts and, as a result of fecal contamination or contamination during food animal slaughter, is often found in foods of animal origin. Objectives: This study was conducted to determine the antibiotic sensitivity pattern of E. coli isolated from different types of animal original foods collected randomly from street-vendors and supermarkets in Giza.

Methods: Thirty-one isolates of Escherichia coli recovered in 2007 and twenty-seven isolated recovered in 2015 were examined to better understand the prevalence of antimicrobial resistance among these organisms. Antimicrobial susceptibility testing was performed using 15 antimicrobials including chloramphenicol, ampicillin, amoxicillin-clavulanic acid, cephalexin, cefotin, ceftriaxone, gentamicin, sulfamethoxazole, trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole, nalidixic acid,
The antibiotic susceptibility test was performed using the agar disk diffusion test.

**Results:** The results indicated that there was an increase in the frequency of resistance to a majority of antimicrobials tested. The overall incidence of drug resistant *E. coli* was 18% in 2007 increased to 62% in 2015. Extended Spectrum β-Lactamase (ESBL) producers were more detected in 2015.

**Conclusion:** Multidrug resistant strains of *E. coli* are a matter of concern as resistance genes are easily transferable to other strains in the human and might pose a potential health risk to the consumer. Therefore, in order to avoid this, good hygienic practices during handing and processing of these foods are necessary.

**Molecular characterization of carbapenem resistant Enterobacteriaceae from intensive are units of a tertiary care hospital od Islamabad, Pakistan**

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**Background:** Enterobacteriaceae are gram negative rods causing serious infections in intensive care units (ICUs) of hospitals. They are glucose fermenter, catalase positive and oxidase negative. These organisms are showing resistance to several classes of antimicrobials and resistance genes are spreading by acquired plasmids in bacterial population. Resistance to carbapenem group of antimicrobials is an emerging problem for clinicians and surgeons. Because after this class of antibiotics, no other treatment regimen is left workable to treat infections.

**Methods:** This research was a descriptive, cross sectional study. A proforma was used as a tool for data collection. Eighty three isolates of CRE from intensive care units samples were processed in 9 months duration from July 2015 to March 2016. This study was conducted in department of Pathology, Microbiology, Shaheed Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto Medical University, Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences, Islamabad. Data was collected through samples coming from ICUs. And organisms were cultured on blood and Mac Conkey agar. Organisms were identified, confirmatory tests were done and sensitivity of drugs was checked by Kirby Bauer disc diffusion method according to CLSI manual 2014. Resistant organisms to imipenem and meropenem were preserved in glycerol broth at -800C. MIC of imipenem was checked by using E-strips. Their molecular characterization was done using the conventional PCR targeting NDM, KPC, VIM and IMP genes.

**Results:** Minimum age of patient was 2nd day of life while maximum age of patient was 80 years of life. There were 36 (43%) females and 47 (57%) males. Out of 83 samples, 22 (26.5%) were from urine, 22 (26.5%) were from endotracheal tube tip, 12(14%) were from blood, 11 (13%) were from pus, 11 (13%) were from tracheal secretions, 3(4%) were from fluids and 2(3%) were from catheter tip.

In this study, out of 83 samples of CRE, 62(75%) were klebsiella pneumoniae, 14(17%) were e.coli, 2(2.25%) were klebsiella specie, 2(2.25%) were enterobacter agglomerans, 2(2.25%) were enterobacter cloacae and 1(1.25%) were klebsiella oxytoca. From total of 83 samples isolated from intensive care units, 83(100%) were found sensitive to Tigecycline, and Polymyxin B 34 (41%) were sensitive to Chloramphenicol, 14 (16.9%) were sensitive to Aztreonam, 12(14.5%) were sensitive to Amikacin. There were 0(100%) resistance to Imipenem, Meropenem, Ertapenem, Amoxicillin +Clavulanic acid, Ceftriaxone, Ceftazidine, Tazobactam+Pipercillin, Ciprofloxacin, Gentamicin, Tobramycin, Sulfamethoxazole+Trimethoprim, Nitofurantoin, Nalidixic Acid. The minimum inhibitory concentration of imipenem were between ranges of 4 μg/ml to more than 32 μg/ml. NDM was isolated in 56% isolates. VIM, KPC, IMP was not found in any study isolates.

**Conclusion:** CRE are 100% resistant to Imipenem, Meropenem, and Ertapenem in this study. Tigecycline and polymxin B are parental drug which is found effective against CRE isolates.14.5% of CRE isolates were sensitive to Amikacin in our study. MIC of imipenem showed 100% resistance for CRE isolates. NDM gene was present in 56% samples. Whereas VIM gene, KPC gene, IMP genes were not detected in our CRE samples. NDM positive isolates were 48% Klebsiella pneumoniae.

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