

Staphylococcus aureus Infection, Vancomycin-Intermediate (VISA) or Vancomycin-Resistant (VRSA)

Agent: *Staphylococcus aureus* (bacteria) that has developed intermediate or complete resistance to the antibiotic vancomycin, based on susceptibility testing.

Mode of Transmission: Person-to-person spread through direct contact or through contact with contaminated materials or surfaces.

Signs/Symptoms: Dependent on site of infection (e.g., skin, bone, urinary or respiratory tract). Infection may develop into toxic shock syndrome. Asymptomatic colonization can occur.

Prevention: Preventive measures include appropriate use of antibiotics to treat infections, good hand hygiene, and proper cleaning and disinfecting of contaminated surfaces.

Two cases of VISA infection were reported in Virginia in 2011. One infection occurred in a female in the 20-29 year age group from the southwest region with a history of treatment with vancomycin. The other infection occurred in a male in the 50-59 year age group from the central region. These are the third and fourth cases of VISA reported in Virginia, with the prior cases occurring in 2007 and 2010. VRSA has never been reported in a Virginia resident.