

## **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 2012. Both infections occurred in black males in the 30-39 year age group, with one reporting a history of treatment with vancomycin. The cases were reported from the central and eastern regions. These are the fifth and sixth cases of VISA reported in Virginia, with the prior infections occurring in 2007 (1 case), 2010 (1 case), and 2011 (2 cases). VRSA has never been reported in a Virginia resident.