



**LONG TERM CARE**  
**INFECTIOUS DISEASE**  
**EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM**

**Georgia Long Term Care  
Infectious Disease Educational  
Program Biannual e-Newsletter:**

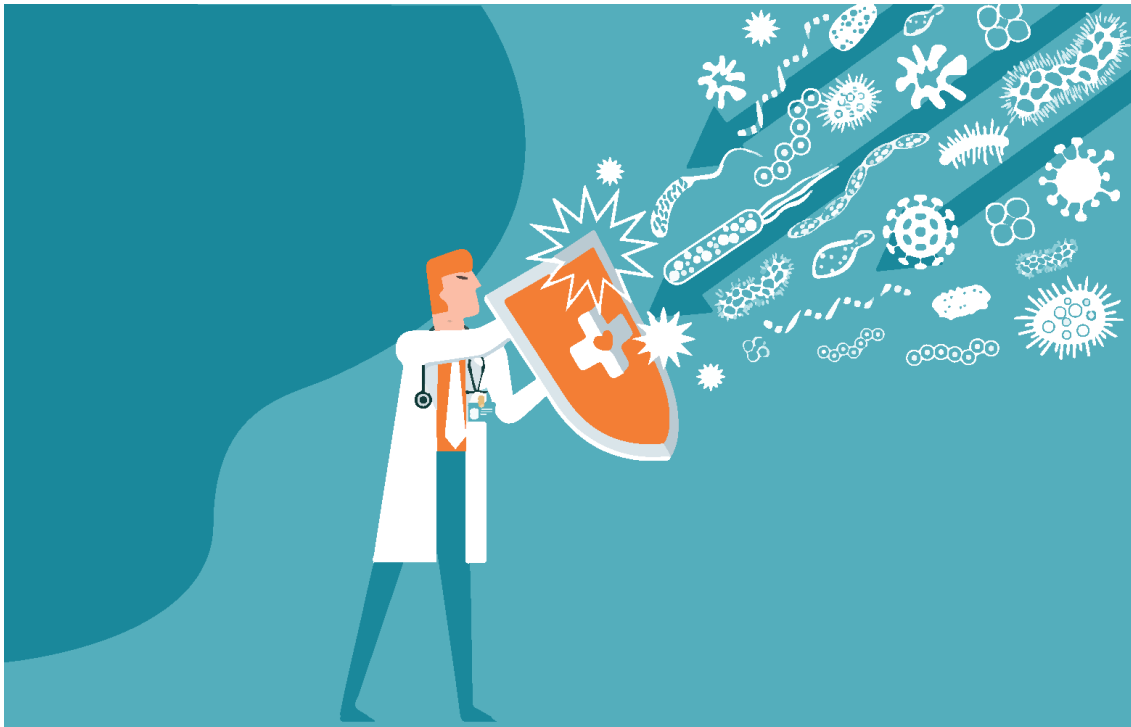
*Fall 2022*

Welcome, we're glad you're here.

Another perk of attending a Georgia Long Term Care Infectious Disease Educational Program - Foundations/Principles Course is gaining access to this bi-annual newsletter curated for nursing home staff members like you.

Be sure to check out our webpage for other helpful resources.

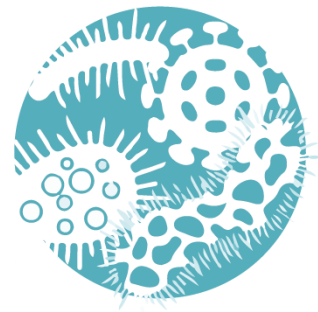
[GA LTCIDEP Webpage](#)



**Focus Area:**  
*Multidrug-Resistant Organisms (MDROs)  
and Enhanced Barrier Precautions*

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***Multidrug-Resistant  
Organisms***



**What are they?**

Multidrug-resistant organisms (MDROs) are microorganisms, primarily bacteria, that are resistant to one or more classes of antimicrobial agents.

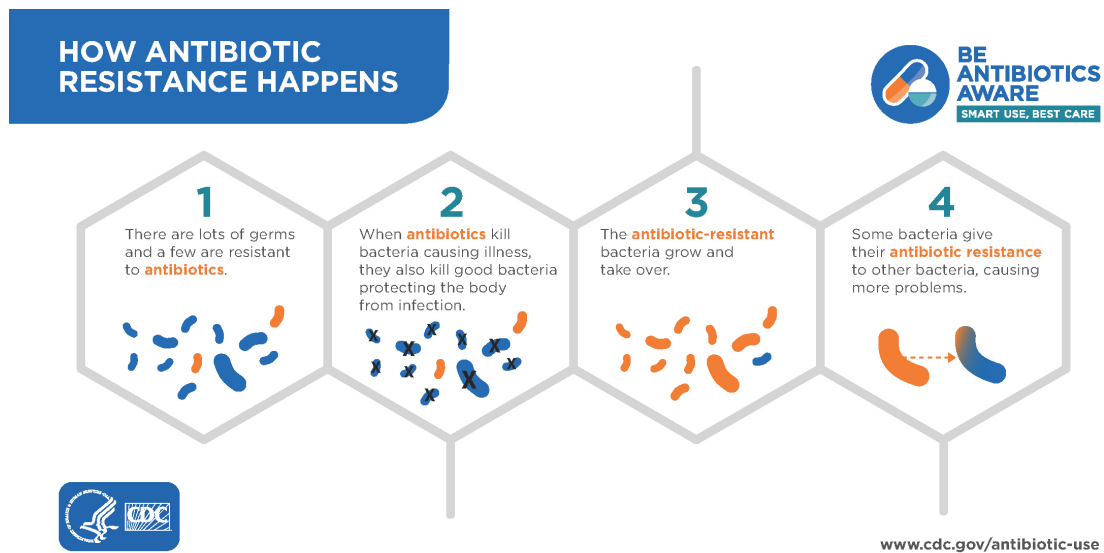
Methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) is an example of a MDRO because despite its name describing resistance to one agent, MRSA is frequently

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resistant to most available antimicrobial agents (1). Other examples of MDROs include *Candida auris*, Vancomycin-resistant Enterococci (VRE), and more.

### What causes MDROs?

The misuse and overuse of antibiotics is a primary cause of antibiotic resistance. Misuse occurs when antibiotics are prescribed for a period of time, such as a 10-day regimen, but the patient does not complete the dosage for various reasons. Antibiotic overuse refers to the over-prescription of antibiotics when prescribed for an infection which may be viral instead of bacterial.



### How do MDROs impact long term care?

MDROs are often found in healthcare settings and can cause significant impacts. Large studies have identified over 50% of nursing home residents have MDROs on or in their body, especially in wounds or medical devices like urinary catheters (2). Nursing home residents are especially vulnerable to infections which can be problematic as treatment options for MDROs are limited.



## ***Enhanced Barrier Precautions***

Enhanced Barrier Precautions (EBP) is a new approach to personal protective equipment (PPE) use recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). It includes targeted gown and glove use as a strategy to interrupt the spread of multidrug-resistant organisms (MDROs) (1).

EBP is a CDC recommended precaution for certified long term care facilities but is not required by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

EBP recommends staff wear a gown and gloves while performing high-contact care activities with all residents who are at a higher risk of acquiring or spreading and MDRO including:

- Residents known to be infected or colonized with an MDRO
- Residents with an indwelling medical device including central venous catheter, urinary catheter, feeding tube (PEG tube, G-tube), tracheostomy/ventilator regardless of their MDRO status
- Residents with a wound, regardless of their MDRO status

Examples of **high-contact resident care activities** requiring gown and glove use for EBP include:

- Dressing
- Bathing/showering
- Transferring
- Providing hygiene
- Changing linens
- Changing briefs or assisting with toileting
- Device care or use: central line, urinary catheter, feeding tube, tracheostomy/ventilator
- Wound care: any skin opening requiring a dressing

EBP do not require residents be placed in a private room or restrict them from group activities, but are required for Contact precautions (2).

## References

1. <http://www.hicpac.gov/hicpac/pdf/EnhancedBarrierPrecautions-H.pdf>
2. <https://www.cdc.gov/hai/pdfs/containment/Letter-Nursing-Home-Staff-508.pdf>

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## Upcoming LTCID - Principles Courses:

Click [here](#) to download a full schedule with links to register.

Like our Facebook page to stay up to date on course offerings as they are scheduled.

Facebook Page

## Additional Resources

- [CDC EBP Presentation](#)
- [CDC Implementation of PPE in Nursing Homes to prevent MDROs](#)
- [CDC MDRO EBP Resident Family Letter](#)
- [CDC MDRO EBP Staff Letter](#)
- [GDPH EBP Presentation](#)
- [MDRO Toolkit](#)

