The prevalence of methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) and incidence of MRSA infections are increasing among all types of healthcare facilities and the community. This article uses discharge data from acute care facilities to assess incidence of MRSA infections among Michigan residents.

**MRSA Classification Methods**

Data from all discharges of Michigan residents from acute care facilities were purchased from the Michigan Health and Hospital Association by the Michigan Department of Community Health. Discharge data from 2002 through 2008 were analyzed for MRSA infection, selecting cases using ICD-9 diagnoses for *Staphylococcus aureus* infection along with the ICD-9 code for resistance to penicillins. These *S. aureus* infections include MRSA pneumonia, bloodstream, and other locations (e.g. skin/soft tissue).

**General Characteristics**

- The average length of stay in the acute care facility for a patient discharged with MRSA was 11.9 days.
- The average age of a patient with MRSA was 59.4 years.
- Of the MRSA cases, 52.9% were males, and 47.1% were females.
- Of all MRSA infections: 16% were pneumonias, 14% were septicemias, and 70% were “other” infections (mostly skin and soft tissue).
- Total costs reported by the acute care facility was $48,897 per discharge.
Nationally, age is an established risk factor for MRSA. The Michigan data also support this finding. In Michigan and nationally, the highest rate of MRSA infection was among aged 65 years and older. An increased rate is also seen in infants. Research in this area is ongoing.

The average length of stay varied between 10 and 13.7 days by race. Similarly, the total charge of the patient’s hospitalization varied by race with the most costly hospitalization experienced by Asian and Black populations.

For more information, please visit: http://www.cdc.gov/mrsa
For Michigan specific MRSA information, please visit: www.michigan.gov/hai or Michigan MRSA Report.
For questions about MRSA, please contact your local health department, and the Michigan Antibiotic Resistance Reduction coalition MARR website. For specific medical advice, please contact your physician.
For questions regarding this study, please contact the author listed below.

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