

MRSA Screening Compliance Statement

Background

Bedford Hospital NHS Trust is committed to delivering clean, safe care to all patients.

The NHS Operating Framework for 2010/11 continues to place cleanliness and HCAs as one of five national priorities that require particular and sustained attention. MRSA screening for all elective admissions continues as identified in previous frameworks and for all emergency admissions as soon as practicable or by 2011 at the latest.

The Department of Health (DoH) has requested assurance from trusts that MRSA screening is in place. All trusts that have elective admissions should have firm plans in place to ensure that relevant patients are screened and systems for assurance.

Scope of MRSA screening

All elective admissions to Bedford Hospital NHS Trust are screened for MRSA except for the following groups:

- Day case ophthalmology
- Day case dental
- Day case Endoscopy
- Minor dermatology procedures
- Children unless they are already in a 'high risk' group
- Maternity/obstetrics except for elective caesareans and 'high risk' patients

All emergency inpatient admissions to the hospital are screened for MRSA.

Timing of screening

MRSA screening takes place at pre-operative assessment for most elective admissions.

Elective admissions that do not attend a pre-operative assessment appointment or are not surgical admissions are screened within twenty-four hours of admission.

Emergency admissions are screened within twenty-four hours of admission.

Assurance

Longitudinal monitoring of compliance with the policy is undertaken by the hospital, matching screen to patient, reported to the Trust Board and commissioning body as part of the key performance indicators.