

The Renal Association UK Renal Registry



Reported Infections Amongst Patients Receiving Dialysis Between January 2015 and December 2015

'Super bugs' like MRSA, MSSA and E.coli can be fatal for dialysis patients. Simple things like hand washing however, might reduce the number of these infections. Another problem is C. Diff infections which can be an unintended result of antibiotic treatment for infections. This paper describes MRSA, MSSA, E.coli and C.Diff infections in patients who were receiving dialysis in 2015.

The number of reported infections in 2015 were:

- MRSA: 31 infections
- MSSA: 560 infections
- E.coli: 405 infections
- C.Diff: 245 infections

For each infection type we also looked at infection rates at each centre over time. Infection rates are the number of dialysis patients in every 100 at a centre that had a type of infection over a year. It is expressed as the number of infections for every 100 dialysis patient years. Note that before 2015, we collected data from May to April rather than January to December. As such, the previous 12 month period covered 2013/2014 rather than just 2014.

Looking at results from 2015 compared with previous years, the MRSA and C.Diff infection rates remained stable. The median infection rate for MRSA was 0.15 infections per 100 dialysis patient years in 2013/2014 and 0.13 in 2015. For C.Diff, it was 1.1 infections per 100 dialysis patient years in 2013/2014 and 1.0 in 2015. The MSSA and E coli infection rates have increased slightly since 2013/2014. The median infection rate for MSSA in 2015 was 2.4 infections per 100 dialysis patient years compared with 2.2 in 2013/2014. The median infection rate for E coli in 2015 was 1.7 infections per 100 dialysis patient years compared with 1.5 in 2013/2014.

The stable numbers of MRSA and C Diff infections are reassuring. It suggests that the measures taken to prevent infection are working. Developing measures to reduce MSSA and E coli infections should help reduce the burden of infection in dialysis patients.

For the complete annual report, please visit the UK Renal Registry website:
www.renalreg.org/reports/2016-nineteenth-annual-report/