

D-1260

ABSTRACT

OBJECTIVES:

To determine the prevalence of gastrointestinal tract colonization with antibiotic resistant enterococci at ward entry and to study the incidence and risk factors for nosocomial acquisition of colonization with resistant enterococci

DESIGN AND SETTING:

A prospective cohort study conducted between 1st of July 2001 and 31st of August 2001. A 559 bed 3 orthopaedic units and a 57 bed plastic surgery / burns unit in a 2926 bed tertiary care teaching hospital in Colombo.

PATIENTS:

A total of 125 patients admitted to orthopaedic wards and burns / plastic surgery units during the study period.

METHODS:

Rectal swabs were obtained within 24 hrs of admission to the study ward and repeated at weekly intervals for two weeks. Patients harbouring antibiotic resistant enterococci at the time of admission or after admission were compared with patients who were not colonized. Clinical and epidemiological risk factors for colonization were obtained by an interview on admission and abstracted prospectively by daily chart review.

D1260