NORTHUMBERLAND HILLS HOSPITAL

Vancomycin-Resistant Enterococci (VRE)

July - September 2012

Posted October 26, 2012 (Reported quarterly at the end of the following month)

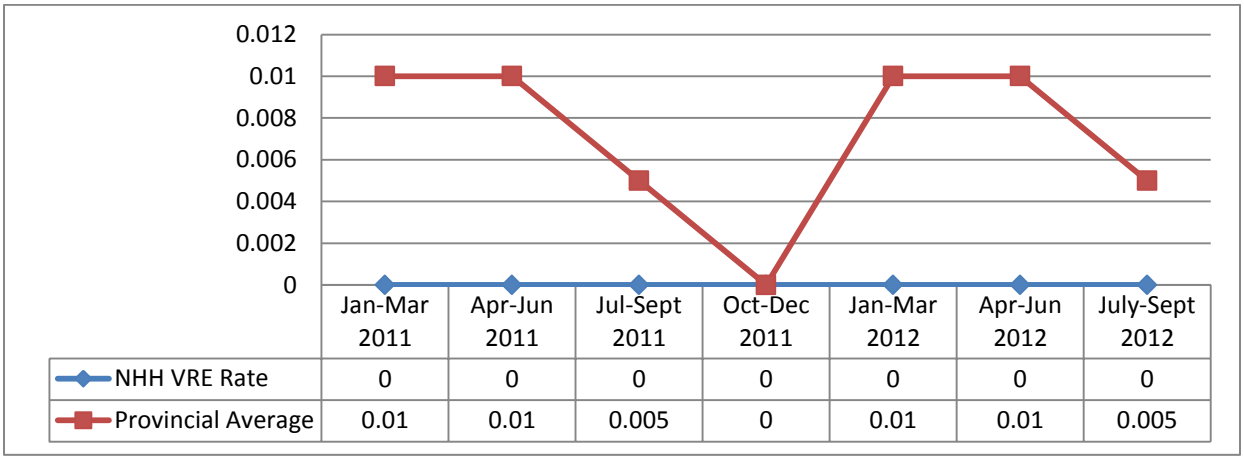
What is Vancomycin-Resistant Enterococci (VRE)?

Enterococci are bacteria found normally in the intestinal tract (bowels) of most individuals, and on high contact surfaces such as toilet seats, door handles and bedpans. Generally the bacteria do not cause harm, but sometimes they can lead to infection. Vancomycin-resistant enterococci (VRE) are strains of enterococci that are resistant to the antibiotic vancomycin. If a person has an infection caused by VRE, such as a urinary tract infection or blood infection, it may be more difficult to treat.

For more information on Vancomycin-Resistant Enterococci (VRE), click *here*.

NHH Rate of Vancomycin-Resistant Enterococci (VRE)

per 1,000 Patient Days



	Jan-Mar 2011	Apr-Jun 2011	Jul-Sept 2011	Oct-Dec 2011	Jan-Mar 2012	Apr-Jun 2012	July-Sept 2012
NHH VRE Rate	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Provincial Average	0.01	0.01	0.005	0	0.01	0.01	0.005

	Jan - Mar 2011	Apr – Jun 2011	Jul - Sept 2011	Oct – Dec 2011	Jan – Mar 2012	Apr – Jun 2012	Jul – Sept 2012
# New Cases, NHH	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

A case is a patient identified with laboratory confirmed bloodstream infections with VRE. A blood stream infection (bacteraemia) is defined by a single positive blood culture for VRE. VRE bacteraemia rates are determined by the number of patients newly diagnosed with hospital-acquired VRE bacteraemia, divided by the number of patient days in that month, multiplied by

1,000. Patient days are the number of days spent in a hospital for all patients. Hospitals reporting less than 5 cases are not permitted to give the specific number but, rather, report “less than 5 cases” to avoid inadvertently identifying specific patients. Hospitals with zero cases also report their status.