

Tables & Figures for Welcome to the wards: Microbial contamination of medical student's items during a first clinical rotation.

Table 1: Medical student demographics and risk factors for exposure

Medical student no.		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Gender		F	M	F	M	M	F	F	M
Clinical rotation	Respiratory	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
	Cardiology	✓	✓			✓		✓	
	GM		✓			✓		✓	
	Anaesthetics	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
	Oncology			✓	✓		✓		✓
	Gastro			✓					✓
	ID			✓	✓		✓		✓
	Haematology	✓					✓	✓	
	Renal			✓	✓		✓		✓
	Neurology	✓	✓					✓	
Personal illness		✓		✓		✓			
Use of mobile phone in toilet		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Frequency of phone decontamination	Never		✓		✓			✓	✓
	Occasionally	✓		✓		✓	✓		
Frequency of stethoscope decontamination	Never	✓							✓
	Occasionally		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	

✓ = Yes; F = female, M = male, GM = General Medicine; Gastro = Gastroenterology; ID = Infectious Diseases; URTI = Upper respiratory tract infection;

Table 2: Potential pathogenic bacteria recovered from student samples Feb-July 2019

Collection interval Medical Student	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	MSSA ^{F,P}	MSSA ^{F,P,S}	MSSA ^{F,P,S}	MSSA ^{F,P}	X	X
2	—	—	—	—	—	X
3	Smar ^{F,P}	—	—	—	X	Pspp ^P
4	—	—	—	—	X	—
5	—	—	—	—	—	X
6	—	—	—	—	Aspp ^F Pdis ^S	Ajun ^F
7	—	—	—	Anos ^F	X	X
8	—	—	Abau ^{F,P} Pspp ^P MSSA ^P	—	X	Ahyd ^F Anos ^F Easb ^F Efae ^F

X = did not attend F = Finger imprints from dominant hand; P = Mobile phone; S = Stethoscope

Abau = *Acinetobacter baumannii*; Ajun = *Acinetobacter junni*; Ahyd = *Aeromonas hydrophila*; Anos = *Acinetobacter nosocomialis*; Easb = *Enterobacter asburiae*; Efae = *Enterococcus faecalis*; MSSA = Methicillin sensitive *Staphylococcus aureus*; Pdis = *Pantoea dispersa*; Pspp = *Pseudomonas species*; Smar = *Serratia marcescens*

Figure 1: Horse blood agar (HBA; left) plate and HBA/MacConkey agar biplate with large cream colonies of methicillin sensitive *Staphylococcus aureus* cultured from all dominant hand finger imprints (left) and mobile phone (right) from Student 1 at Collection 3.

