



Supporting our Smokefree Trust

In order to look after the health of our staff, patients and visitors, we ask you politely not to smoke while you are on the hospital grounds.

If you would like support and advice to quit smoking, our Pharmacy shop on the main corridor can help you with further information, so just pop along and have a chat with a Pharmacy stop smoking advisor.

Alternatively, the following Advice and Services are available to you:

Stockport Stop Smoking Service, ABL Health
stockportwellness@ablhealth.co.uk | **0161 870 6492**
For confidential stop smoking advice and support.

NHS Choices & National Smokefree Helpline
www.nhs.uk/live-well/quit-smoking | **0300 123 1044**

Stop Smoking Midwife
Contact our Hospital Switchboard on **0161 483 1010**
and ask for the Stop Smoking Midwife

	Grazed knee. Sore throat. Cough. Stock your medicine cabinet.	Self-care
	Unwell? Unsure? GP surgery closed? Need help?	NHS 111
	Diarrhoea. Runny nose. Painful cough. Headache.	Pharmacy
	Vomiting. Ear pain. Stomach ache. Back ache.	GP surgery
	Choking. Chest pain. Blacking out. Blood loss.	Stepping Hill Hospital A&E or 999 Emergencies only

If you require the leaflet in large print, another language,
an audio tape or braille, Please contact:

Patient and Customer Services

Tel: 0161 419 5678 **Email:** PCS@stockport.nhs.uk

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CARBAPENEMASE PRODUCING ENTERO- BACTERIACEAE (CPE)

INFECTION PREVENTION

Patient Information Leaflet

WHAT ARE 'CPE'?

Carbapenemase Producing Enterobacteriaceae (CPE) are bugs which can live in the gut of humans and animals. At times CPE are harmless and there are no signs or symptoms because a person's immune system keeps them in check. This is called 'colonisation'. If they get into other parts of the body e.g. the urine or the blood, they can cause an infection and will need treatment. This can happen in patients who have a weakened immune system.

CPE infections can be tough to treat because they are resistant to lots of antibiotics, including 'Carbapenems' which are only used in severe cases. CPE can also pass their resistance on to other bacteria, making them harder to treat as well.

It is vital that patients who have a CPE infection or colonisation are moved to a side room. We hope that this will stop the spread of CPE and it will reduce the risks to all patients.

HOW DO PEOPLE GET CPE?

People can get CPE if they have been in hospitals abroad but also if they have been in certain hospitals in London and Manchester. You must let your doctor know if you have been in a hospital in a different country so that they can care for you properly.

You can also become colonised with CPE if you have taken lots of antibiotics in the past. This is because the resistant bugs that survive after you have taken antibiotics can then grow.

CPE are often passed from person to person after touching bed rails, toilets or devices. This means that it is important to regularly wash your hands with soap and water.

WHY AM I BEING TESTED?

You will be tested for CPE if:

- You have been a patient in the last 12 months in a hospital in a foreign country or UK
- You have been admitted into augmented care or high risk unit.
- You have been previously identified as CPE+

HOW WILL I BE TESTED?

The best way to see if you have CPE is to take a quick swab from your rectum (back passage) or to collect a stool sample (a sample of your poo). This is where the bugs will be. The sample will be sent to the test centre and the results will be sent to your doctor on the hospital ward. While you are waiting for the results you may be kept in a side room as a safety measure.

WHAT IF I TEST NEGATIVE?

This means that you are not infected or colonised with CPE and you may be moved back to the ward area. You could be tested for CPE again if you are in hospital at another time.

WHAT IF I TEST POSITIVE?

If you test positive for CPE it means that you have these bugs in your body, but it does not always mean that you are infected. If your doctor thinks you show signs of infection they will contact the microbiology doctors. They will suggest some antibiotics that are suitable to treat the infection.

You will stay in a side room with your own toilet or commode while you are in hospital. The staff will wear aprons and gloves when they are caring for you. They will wash their hands when they leave, which is standard practice at Stepping Hill.

CAN I STILL HAVE VISITORS?

CPE is not a problem for healthy people and so you are still encouraged to have family and friends come to visit. We ask that they wash their hands before they leave your room and don't mix with other patients on the ward. This makes it easier for us to prevent the spread of the bugs.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN I LEAVE HOSPITAL?

CPE may stay in your system for a long time. At present there is no way of knowing if patients have become decolonised or attempting decolonisation. If you are ever in hospital again in the future you should let the doctors know that you have been colonised with CPE (or show them this leaflet).

You can go home if your doctor thinks it is suitable. We advise that you let your GP know that CPE was identified while you were in Stepping Hill.

CONTACT US

Infection Prevention Team

(Hospital Queries)

0161 419 4669

(Mon to Fri - 08:00 to 17:00)

Infection.prevention@stockport.nhs.uk

Health Protection & Control of Infection Unit

(Community Queries)

0161 426 5488

(Mon to Fri - 08:30 to 16:30)

healthprotection@stockport.gov.uk