MULTIRESISTANT BACTEROIDES FRAGILIS: SHOULD WE BE WORRIED?

Reports of multi-drug resistant Bacteroides fragilis have begun to appear in the published literature.\textsuperscript{1,2} If this issue is not addressed now, over time, B. fragilis infections will undoubtedly follow the pattern of other multi-drug resistant bacterial infection such as Staphylococcus aureus. As B. fragilis infections generally arise from the endogenous intestinal microbiota and is non-spore forming, the approach to combating the spread of multi-drug resistant infection will be likely to be different to that of other infections, although B. fragilis cross-infection in the hospital setting has been documented\textsuperscript{3}.

We are therefore seeking comment and suggestions from our membership on this issue prior to raising it at a forthcoming meeting of the UK Antimicrobial Resistance and Healthcare Associated Infections Advisory Committee.

Please email comments to

societyanaerobicmicrobiology@googlemail.com

and include the following information

*Name

*Affiliation

*Postal address

Any arising documentation will be circulated to those who contribute and relevant comments will be attributed.

With best wishes

Professor Sheila Patrick, Chair, and the SAM committee.

