

# A year at a glance 2010/11 and progress on tackling healthcare associated infections

Derek Butler



Registered Charity No. 1115672

<http://mrsaactionuk.net>

# MRSA Action UK members and friends Westminster Abbey 8<sup>th</sup> July 2010



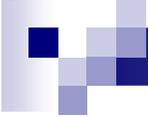


# July 2010

## **MRSA Action UK Memorial Event Westminster Abbey 8th July 2010**



As always our Memorial Event was a very moving occasion and the help and support of everyone made it a very special day to remember, it was a privilege to be able to meet friends, members and colleagues from around the UK and the USA. Jeanine Thomas, our colleague from Chicago, Illinois, had a surprise in store for Derek Butler. Jeanine presented an award which recognised his work and the work of our Charity and colleagues from across healthcare.



# Message from our Patron and President

“MRSA Action UK is the forerunner in bringing those important issues to the public. We must never forget that it is patients - real people, with families and loved one – which we are talking about”



“MRSA Action UK’s eagle eye will be watching events as they unfold and responding appropriately”



# June 2010

**Reducing HCAs 2010 - A Health Economy  
Approach to Quality Care,  
Tuesday 16th June 2010**



Edwina Currie gave a moving and passionate presentation by telling the stories of seven people who had died from MRSA, only one of whom had this recognised on the death certificate. Slides showing numbers of *Clostridium difficile* cases prompted some debate. The North West had the highest number of cases than any other region, with two thirds being in the community. Edwina said she would put money on this being due to antibiotic prescribing policies and quoted good practice in other Trusts.

*“Figures for MRSA bacteraemias and C.diff cases both in hospitals and in the community are now published weekly, and we have made effective use of this refreshing transparency. At one conference I was able to tell a keynote speaker that instead of perfection at her hospital it was in fact the worst offender in the north-west. Now she knows, and there are fewer excuses, fewer places to hide.”*



# June 2010

**Prevention and control of infections  
in care homes conference  
London, 22 June 2010**

Guest Speaker Edwina Currie attended the conference with providers, commissioners and regulators, presenting the risk factors involved, and the spread and decontamination of infections in care homes.



**MRSA Action UK presented  
A Healthcare Infection - A Lifetime  
Legacy at Warrington PCT's  
Infection Control Study Day on 29th  
June 2010**



# September 2010

## **GovToday conference 8th September 2010**

Reducing Healthcare Associated Infections 2010 was an opportunity for Maria Cann and Derek Butler to catch up on the latest developments following the change in government and publication of "Equity and excellence: Liberating the NHS" The paper introduced changes to the structure and governance of healthcare.

There were interesting insights into reducing the risks of infection through the use of new technologies. Professor Didier Pittet and his analogy of the stepwise prevention of catheter-related infection, 30% are avoidable through essential measures involving basic hygiene, surveillance and feedback.

60-80% were avoidable through education on technical aspects, care bundles and techniques such as asepsis, a further 90+% may be avoidable through the use of technologies such as coated catheters, dressings and technology to prepare the surgical site.

# September 2010

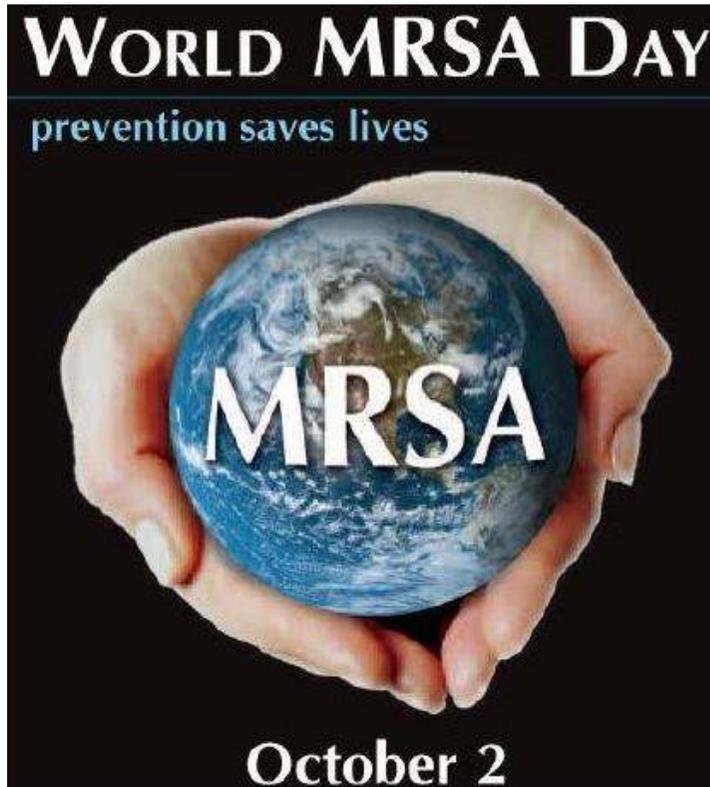
Derek Butler presented  
A Healthcare Infection - A Lifetime Legacy  
at Sherborne over-fifties club AGM  
27th September 2010



Dr Valerie Maret MBE PhD, Derek Butler and Sue Spratt

Derek Butler, Maria Cann and John Galvin met with Sherborne over-fifties club following an invitation from our member Sue Spratt. Staff from the local NHS Trust attended and the event offered the opportunity for questions and advice. Derek related the stories of people of all ages showing how important it is to always think about preventing infections in any healthcare environment. The untimely loss of seven people in Derek's presentation demonstrated the legacy for everyone involved in their care.

# October 2010



**World MRSA Day, raising awareness and looking beyond 50 years since the discovery of MRSA**

October 2nd is World MRSA Day. Here in the UK Kings College Hospital held an awareness day on Friday 1st October 2010.

There were awareness raising events throughout October with MRSA Action UK visiting other NHS Hospital Trusts giving patient and relative case studies during infection prevention and control training events with staff and the public.....

# October 2010



East and North Hertfordshire   
NHS Trust

5<sup>th</sup> October  
Edwina Currie Patron,  
MRSA Action UK spoke at the  
East & North Herts Annual Infection  
Prevention & Control Study Day in  
Stevenage

  
SURF  
hcai service users research forum

5<sup>th</sup> October  
Maria Cann attended the service user  
research forum focusing on innovation in  
medical devices and designing out  
infection

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**6th October Infection Control:  
working together to fight infection**

Derek Butler and Maria Cann joined colleague Juliet Magee, Infection Control lead at Bedford Hospital on the way staff have developed a culture of zero tolerance to avoidable infections from Board to Ward

 **MRSA Action UK**

<http://mrsaactionuk.net>

# October 2010



## 15th October Infection Prevention & Control Study Day

The Heart of England Foundation Trust invited Edwina Currie to its Infection Prevention and Control Study Day. Mandy Reynolds Infection Prevention and Control nurse at Heart of England Foundation Trust said "I feel that all healthcare professionals should hear the patients' perspective and Edwina puts it across perfectly"

Linking in with MRSA Awareness Month and Global Handwashing Day, staff at Bedford Hospital held it's Patient Safety Open Day on **Saturday 16th October** joined by Derek Butler and Maria Cann who met many staff, patients and the public on the day. The event received good media coverage including TV interviews

# October 2010



## NHS Online HEAL Awards

Recognising and rewarding healthcare excellence and leadership at  
The Royal College of Surgeons, 25th October 2010



Left: Barbara Windsor, Derek Butler and Maria Cann. Right: Juliet Magee, Sara-Jane, Director of Nursing & Patient Services Eiri Jones and Jane, proud winners Bedford Hospital



# November 2010

Hull and East Yorkshire Hospitals



NHS Trust

**Infection Matters 2010 Symposium**  
**Friday 26th November 2010**

Hull & East Yorkshire Hospitals NHS Trust's annual symposium, targeted at infection prevention, has attracted some very influential national speakers. This year Hull & East Yorkshire Hospitals NHS Trust raised the profile to a regional audience and MRSA Action UK shared the patient and relative perspective.

Derek Butler presented "A Healthcare Infection - A Lifetime Legacy" touching on how avoidable infections such as MRSA ripple through families and friends of those affected, and staff too. Other speakers included Gavin Barlow, Consultant Physician & Hon. Clinical Senior Lecturer, at Hull & East Yorkshire Hospitals NHS Trust.

# February 2011

## JULES AND STEVE COMPLETE THE GREAT BENTLEY HALF MARATHON 2011



On Sunday 6th February Julia and Steve Owen completed the first of their nine planned runs in memory of Steve's dad Don, raising awareness and funds for MRSA Action UK. Don sadly passed away after contracting MRSA following a knee operation.

The venues and dates where Julia and Steve will be running this year span the length of the UK:

- **Bath** Half Marathon March 6<sup>th</sup> 2011
- The **Newham** Classic 10K on April 10th 2011
- The **Edinburgh** Marathon May 21st-22nd 2011
- The **Southend** Half Marathon June 12th 2011
- The **Great British** 10K July 10th 2011 (**London**)
- A four mile run dressed as nuns around **Tower Hill** 11th September 2011 (on Jules birthday)
- 'Run to the Beat' Half Marathon starting from the O2 arena, **Greenwich**, on 25th September 2011
- The **Great South** Run (10 miles) in **Portsmouth** October 30th 2011



# February 2011

## Patient Safety 2011

8th February 2011 – QEII Conference Centre, London

MRSA Action UK's presentation was delivered to an audience of 500 delegates who were moved by the stories of our members' experiences.

Derek gave examples of incidents that should not have happened and where feedback had landed on deaf ears when we tried to raise issues about the poor standards of care, and without doubt in at least six of the cases the failures resulted in the contraction of avoidable healthcare associated infections that were contributory factors, and in some cases the cause of their premature deaths.

Delegates were moved by hearing about the experiences and we have been invited to attend Barts and the London NHS Trust's Infection Prevention study day.

From our efforts to influence we can be proud that we are having an impact, not just by meeting healthcare professionals in this environment, but also by influencing those who make decisions and make a difference. A lot of what was said in this conference about the future regulation and patient safety has come about as a direct result of the outcry from patients and patient organisations such as ourselves. We have made strident representation on the need to act on incidents when they were reported in the same way that other industries do.



**2011 LIVERPOOL HALF MARATHON**  
Sunday, March 27th, 2011



Daniel Lloyd ran the Liverpool Half Marathon in memory of his Nan Patricia who tragically died after contracting MRSA during dental treatment. Dan is pictured after the race. Dan then went on to complete the Liverpool Mersey 10k Tunnel run. Dan says "I can't thank everyone enough for the donations and support, it's very much appreciated."

We would like to thank you Dan, we know your Nan would be so proud of you.



Lynn, Eric and Adele are pictured with Dan after the race  
To support Daniel visit  
<http://www.justgiving.com/Daniel-Alexander-Lloyd>

# Unison Annual Health Conference,

4th - 6th April 2011 at the BT Convention Centre, Liverpool



Unison's Annual Health Conference at the BT Convention Centre in Liverpool was well attended by delegates and health professionals from across the UK. We had the opportunity to engage and share experiences and useful information. MRSA Action UK's stand drew a lot of attention and we were able to take some learning away from the event ourselves.

With this being the 50th Anniversary year of the publication of MRSA in the British Medical Journal, we took the opportunity to discuss this with delegates who visited the stand. We held a free prize draw over 2 days in a mini quiz to attract the interest of delegates. They needed to read the information on our stall to find answers to the quiz, resulting in information, leaflets and posters on hand hygiene being taken away for use in their hospitals and care facilities. Carol Johnson won the draw on the first day and is pictured with Derek.



## 5<sup>th</sup> May - Clean Hands Save Lives World Health Organisation Annual Hand Hygiene Day

### Patient and healthcare workers form an alliance for hand hygiene at the Royal College of Nursing, London

On the 5<sup>th</sup> May MRSA Action UK met with colleagues from across healthcare at the Royal College of Nursing where we formed a 'patient and healthcare worker alliance' focussing on hand hygiene and the next steps to keep the focus and build on the success of the clean<sup>your</sup>hands campaign. Work will take place in two strands, the main theme being in health and social care. A sub-group will look at the wider community and hand hygiene, Derek Butler will be working with Susie Singleton and Julie Storr on the wider community, including education and schools. Maria Cann will be focussing on the health and social care main group.





ADVANCED STERILIZATION PRODUCTS

## Taming the Environment: Novel Approaches to Reduce Healthcare Associated Infections Educational Symposium

Wednesday 11th May 2011

Martin Kiernan chaired the event and set the scene with where we had come from and the work that was ongoing in infection prevention and control. The National Audit Office report in 2000 showed that there was more of a focus on the terminology 'control' rather than 'prevention', it was believed that between 5% to 20% of healthcare acquired infections were preventable, that meant we believed that between 80% to 90% were unpreventable. In 2006 there were over 55,000 cases of C.diff reported in the over 65s, which was a public scandal.



Derek said the most important people in his presentation were the young people, as if we take our eye off the ball then we could be leaving the next generation with a future where antibiotics will be ineffective, setting healthcare back to the era before they existed. If we have the ability to put things right then it is incumbent on us to do so.

The nine people and their families that featured in Derek's presentation were a stark reminder of why it was so important to do all we can to do things right and take a zero tolerance approach to avoidable harm and healthcare associated infections.

Royal College of Nursing  
of the United Kingdom  
The 2011 International Nursing Research  
Conference

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2011

Harrogate International Centre

Maria Cann and Andrea Whitfield of the Healthcare Associated Infection Research Network attended the International Nursing Research Conference to share and relate the benefits of involving patients and working collaboratively in research bids for funding. Andrea demonstrated how members had been recruited through an initial event in London and through networks; local groups and through other members and patient groups, all of whom have an interest in healthcare associated infections and research; no other specific skills were required.

## What is SURF?

- Service User Research Forum
- Part of the HCAI Research Network, funded by the Department of Health (England), set up in 2007
- Aims to involve patients and the public in all aspects of research process – not as participants
  - Work with external researchers
  - **Develop own collaborative projects**
- Currently 8 core members from around England
- Most current activity is voluntary (unpaid)



UNIVERSITY OF  
WEST LONDON

SURF 



## The Big Lunch, Grange Park Community Garden, Blackpool - Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> June



Maureen Horn, Grange Park Residents Association, told the children how their enthusiasm and interest in growing their own food had impressed Derek Butler and Maria Cann, and when they heard about the theme of healthy eating and the work of the community with the Eden Project, they wanted to help and make The Big Lunch a memorable day. Staphon the superbug did make it a day to remember for the children and was invited back to the Cherwell Centre to meet more friends.



Maureen has instilled the importance of good hand hygiene through her work with the children at The Cherwell Centre and in the Community Garden, planting and growing fruit and vegetables, with the focus on health and well-being. The children learn about healthy eating and how this helps to keep them fit and well. They were keen to join in and share their learning with Derek and Maria.



Anglia Ruskin  
University



*Fulbourn Campus*



*Chelmsford Campus*

Derek Butler is pictured at the Chelmsford campus for one of three infection prevention seminars at Anglia Ruskin University. On the 24<sup>th</sup> June we visited Fulbourn, and the 27<sup>th</sup> June Peterborough, the seminar in Chelmsford on the 29<sup>th</sup> June was also an opportunity to link with Melanie Bird.



Following the sessions we were invited to give our views and input in relation to the new curriculum and the Essential Cluster Skills in relation to infection control that are being developed. There will also be future seminars and we are looking forward to playing an active role in their development.



**Tuesday 21 June 2011, The Brewery, London**

Our Patron Edwina Currie joined the debate as special guest contributor at GovToday's Maintaining Patient Safety: Breaking the Cycle of Infection Conference and Exhibition. The event was chaired by ITN's medical correspondent Sue Saville, and was well attended with eminent speakers lending their expertise to tackling healthcare associated infections. Of specific interest were the presentations on hand hygiene and the panel debate, where the subject of universal screening was discussed.



*Professor Didier Pittet CBE MD, MS, Professor of Medicine and Hospital Epidemiology, Hospital Epidemiologist, and Director of the Infection Control Programme, Geneva Faculty of Medicine; Edwina Currie, Patron, MRSA Action UK; Dr Peter Moss, Vice President, British Infection Association; Rose Gallagher, Advisor in Infection Control, Royal College Of Nursing*

The failure to involve the charity in the review of screening was raised by Derek Butler. Although many of those in attendance at the conference believed it was not necessary to undertake universal screening, there were those who believed that the policy needed to be considered carefully before making any decisions to revert to risk based screening.

A significant factor that was revealed in relation to the MRSA / MSSA screening of all in patients at Blackpool Victoria NHS Trust, those that would be considered high risk did not show a high level of colonisation. The data will be analysed and the debate goes on, Edwina made a valid point to the Minister who attended at the end of the afternoon panel debate, and that was to listen to the patients.

## Hand hygiene and the school setting

- Systematic review on the effectiveness of antimicrobial rinse-free hand sanitizer interventions in the elementary school setting

### Main results

- Significant difference reported in favor of the intervention in all 5 selected studies
- The quality of reporting was low
- Due to a large amount of heterogeneity and low quality of reporting, no pooled estimates were calculated

Meadows E et al, *BMC Public Health* 2004



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SAVE LIVES  
Clean Your Hands

## Effect of Hand Hygiene on Infectious Disease Risk in the Community Setting: A Meta-Analysis

Allison E. Aiello, PhD, Rebecca M. Coulborn, BS, Vanessa Perez, MS, and Elaine L. Larson, PhD, RN

*Am J Public Health*, 2008

- Systematic review and meta-analysis
- January 1960 – May 2007
- Improvements in hand hygiene resulted in:
  - reductions in gastrointestinal illness of 31% (95% CI, 19-42)
  - reductions in respiratory illness of 21% (95% CI, 5-34)
- The most beneficial intervention was hand-hygiene education with use of non antibacterial soap.

Antibacterial soap showed little added benefit compared with use of nonantibacterial soap



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SAVE LIVES  
Clean Your Hands

Professor Didier Pittet's presentation reinforced what we have been saying all along, a good public information campaign is needed to promote hand-hygiene. evidenced quite clearly the reduction in absenteeism in both schools and workplaces where campaigns had taken place, and getting children involved at a very young age sets the scene for their future behaviour.

Lord Howe attended at the end of the conference and announced the award that would go to the TEAM project from the Department of Health's Innovation, Excellence and Service Development Fund. The project, currently supported by 12 third sector organisations, aims to link up with around 150 groups. Over the next two years, participating voluntary sector organisations will work together to help each other to empower and motivate patients and the public to participate more actively and effectively in healthcare.



# Lobbying

Our lobbying role includes responding to consultations, reforms and Inquiries and this last financial year included responses to

- The Health and Social Care Act 2008, Code of Practice for healthcare, including primary care, and adult social care on the prevention and control of infections and related guidance
- Coroners Reform Bill
- The Francis Inquiry into Mid Staffs; and
- the Government's paper on the controversial reforms in "Equity and Excellence: Liberating the NHS"
- Call for an adjournment debate on the emerging threats from healthcare associated infections and antimicrobial resistance in hospital and the community



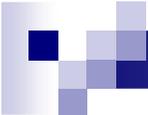
# Communication and the media

Being there for the public and colleagues in healthcare is key to helping people find information about MRSA and other healthcare associated infections. Our data on monthly and weekly reporting of MRSA bacteraemias and C.diff are now on the data.gov.uk website to help people who are looking for infection rates where they live.

We subscribe to politics.co.uk, which is the highest ranked politics website in Google. Each month more than 300 new and original articles are written by its in house team of journalists attracting more than 100,000 unique visits from MPs, journalists and politically aware members of the public. Our attendance at events is publicised through politics.co.uk through their events calendar and our micro site, which attracts a lot of interest, with our regular press releases being among the most read articles



Our website is publicised and linked through a wide range of trusted organisations to include the NHS Choices website, which receives 5 million hits a month, Dr Foster Health, BUPA and Patient.co.uk



# Communication and media

We produce regular written feature articles for several health magazines to include Health Service Executive with a circulation of 16,177, Health Global Magazine and NHE, a bi-monthly publication focusing on health service reform with a circulation of over 7,000 and a readership demographic which includes senior NHS management throughout Britain, and the Department of Health.

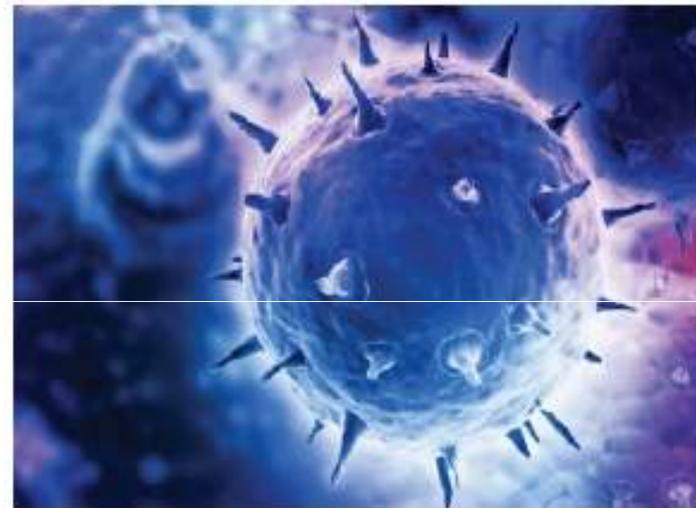
We regularly comment in broadsheet and tabloid newspapers, Reuters and PR Newswire in relation to the tackling of healthcare infections, details of articles can be found at <http://www.mrsaactionuk.net/articlesandjournals.html>

We work with NHS Online and interviews are broadcast on Sky channel 166 / BBC and ITV freesat channel 402 and NHS Online TV.

As part of our communication strategy we want to make sure we are giving accurate information and making sure its clear and accessible, in doing this we are in the process of working to attain the Information Standard and will be asking for your help with this.

# Challenges 50 years on

- Other pathogens
- Surgical site infections
- Urinary Tract, catheter and line infections
- Infections in the community
- Antimicrobial resistance
- Keeping evolving threats on the radar
- Raising not just public awareness,  
but those who matter and can make a difference



NDM-1