

Nosocomial infections at Kenyatta National Hospital Intensive-Care Unit in Nairobi, Kenya

Abstract:

The objective of this study was to identify the common bacteria isolated from patients, antibiotics used, sensitivity patterns, therapeutic procedures and cleaning protocols practised in Kenyatta National Hospital Intensive-Care Unit (ICU). Kenyatta National Hospital is a 1,800-bed referral and tertiary-care hospital which is also the Teaching University Hospital. The ICU has 20 beds. Two members of staff, a consultant and a senior nurse, did the study. Out of 195 patients admitted to the unit during the study period, 137 (70.3%) received antibiotics. The most frequently prescribed antibiotics included meropenem, ceftazidime, cefuroxime, piperacillin tazobactam, vancomycin, Augmentin and Flagyl. The most common bacteria isolated were *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *Klebsiella*, *Citrobacter*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Staphylococcus pneumoniae*, *Acinetobacter* and *Escherichia coli* isolated from tracheal aspirate, urine, blood and pus swabs