

# A study of the nasal carriage of *Staphylococcus aureus* with special reference to Methicillin Resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* among medical students studying in Maulana Azad Medical College, New Delhi

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## Abstract

### OBJECTIVES

To find the rate of nasal carriage of *Staphylococcus aureus* with special reference to MRSA among the medical students.

### METHODS

Nasal swabs from each anterior nare were taken from all the 50 study subjects and subjected to various conventional isolation and identification methods. All aerobic bacterial isolates obtained were then subjected to antimicrobial susceptibility tests by disc diffusion method employing the Modified Stoke's technique against a wide range of antimicrobial agents. All the isolates of *Staphylococcus aureus* were screened for MRSA by Cefoxitin

disc method.

### RESULTS

Out of the 50 isolates, 15(30%) were those of *Staphylococcus aureus* and of these 15, 2 (4%) were found to be MRSA and the rest 13 (26%) were MSSA. All the isolates showed 100% susceptibility to Vancomycin, Teicoplanin, Amikacin, Linezolid and Mupirocin.

### CONCLUSION

The nasal carriage of *Staphylococcus aureus* was found in 30 % of the study subjects, more in males, and 53% of the positive subjects had used antibiotics within past 3 months.