

SKIN AND SOFT TISSUE INFECTIONS

Panton-Valentine Leukocidin (PVL)

Panton-Valentine Leukocidin (PVL) is a toxin produced by 20.8–46% of *S.aureus* from boils/abscesses. On rare occasions it causes more severe invasive infections. It has been known to cause a necrotising haemorrhagic pneumonia in otherwise healthy young people.

There can be clusters of disease amongst household contacts and other groups including close contact sports, sharing equipment e.g., gyms, military personnel, and prisons. Sometimes strains of MRSA produce PVL toxin.

Send swabs if PVL is a possibility, requesting PVL testing on the card. Perform drainage if necessary. When using the ICE request system please select 'Swab/fluid MC&S' then choose swab for PVL screen

Initially treat with antibiotics according to the site of infection and await sensitivities. PVL treatment depends on the sensitivity pattern of the infecting organism, as can occur in different strains of *S. aureus*, MSSA and MRSA and on the severity of disease. Ongoing treatment recommendation will be on specialist advice.

After treatment, and once the wound has healed, the patient will be offered a **skin decolonisation treatment**.

Skin Decolonisation Treatment:

This requires a combination of more than one medication.

Medication ¹	Dosage	Duration
Either: Octenisan body wash Or Chlorhexidine 4% cleansing solution	Use once daily as body wash and also as a shampoo on days 1 & 3	5 days
And Mupirocin 2% nasal ointment	Apply three times a day	5 days
¹ See BNF for appropriate use and dosing in specific populations, e.g., hepatic, or renal impairment, pregnancy, and breastfeeding.		

Close family contacts are only offered treatments if there is evidence of cross-transmission or if the patient has had multiple problems of re-infection.

Guidance on decolonisation and screening will be given by the:

- CityCare Infection Prevention & Control Team (0115 8834902) or
- County Infection Prevention & Control Team (01623 673081) or
- Bassetlaw Infection Prevention & Control Team (01777 590027)

Version Control- Panton-Valentine Leukocidin (PVL)			
Version	Author(s)	Date	Changes
V2.1	Nichola Butcher, Specialist MO and Interface Pharmacist	17/11/22	New template and format. Dose changed to words. Footnote added to table. Contact phone numbers checked and corrected. ICE details added