

CHARACTERIZATION OF ISOLATED MICROORGANISMS OF APPLIANCES CELL PHONES OF HEALTH PROFESSIONALS IN A HOSPITAL AT PARAÍBA

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SUMMARY:

Health Care Associated Infections (IACH) are an important problem faced by modern hospitals, being related to high rates of morbidity and mortality of hospitalized patients. Sources of microorganisms that may infections range from instruments used to provide any other object handled by health professionals. Cell phones devices of these professionals, although considered necessary during their routine work, for the rapid communication between departments, can assume a role of reservoir of pathogenic microorganisms. The present study evaluated the presence and characterization of microorganisms isolated from the cellular devices of health professionals of a unit hospital in the Sertão of Paraíba. Microbiological samples were taken from the of forty-two health professionals of the institution, who were subsequently cultured on specific media and submitted to biochemical tests for identification at the species when possible. Concomitantly with the collection of samples, the questionnaire about the use of the cell phones device during the routine of work. In all samples analyzed bacterial growth was observed. Between the isolated microorganisms commonly associated with IACH, stand out species such as *Staphylococcus coagulase negative* (55%) and *S. aureus* (14%), *Enterobacter spp.* (24%), *klebsiella pneumoniae* (19%) *Escherichia coli* (12%) and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* (7%). In according to the results obtained, it can be concluded that the cell phones devices of the health team under study can be considered as interferences of microorganisms of medical importance because they are associated with IACH and for this reason may be assuming a vehicle status of these agents in a hospital environment. The knowledge of the professionals about the containment and disinfection methods of the cell phones apparatus showed to be inconsistent and, for this reason, it's necessary to raise awareness of good hand hygiene practices and correct disinfection methods of appliance to reduce the potential biological risks that these microorganisms may bring

Keywords: Microbiological analysis, cross-contamination, bacterial contamination, Hospital infection, pathogens.