



What is Stenotrophomonas Maltophilia Infection?

- An infection caused by multidrug-resistant bacteria called *Stenotrophomonas maltophilia* (*S. maltophilia*). These bacteria have been found in clinical and medical settings (i.e. hospitals and clinics), water-based environments, soil, and on contaminated medical devices and solutions. Infection can occur in a variety of organs and tissues, but most commonly involves the respiratory tract. Infections associated with *S. maltophilia* include:
 - - Pneumonia
 - Bacteremia
 - COPD
 - Urinary tract infection
 - Endocarditis
 - Meningitis
 - Eye infection
 - Soft tissue infection

Who is at risk?

- Individuals with weakened immune systems from diseases like HIV, cancer, COPD, and cystic fibrosis
- Individuals taking medications that weaken the immune system
- Individuals that have had an organ transplant or have an open wound
- Individuals with an indwelling catheter or using respiratory therapy equipment
- Individuals having prolonged hospitalization or an intensive care unit stay

What are symptoms that could occur?

- - High fever
 - Shortness of breath
 - Headache
 - Cough
 - Rapid heart rate
 - Pneumonia

As infection can occur in a variety of organs or body parts, symptoms relate to the body part affected.

How is it diagnosed and treated?

- Physician evaluation and laboratory testing
- Treatment often includes antibiotics (drugs that kill bacteria in the body)

How is it spread?

- Direct contact with a contaminated source or a source not properly cleaned
- Rarely spread from person-to-person

Are there complications?

- Delay in appropriate treatment can increase risk of complications
- Like many other illnesses, individuals with other health issues are at greater risk of complications

If I have any other questions, whom can I contact?

- Call the Genesee County Health Department at 257-1017