MRSA Epidemic Targets Circumcised Boys

Doctors Opposing Circumcision (D.O.C.), a Seattle based physician’s organization, issued an important statement today alerting health officials of a newfound link between the Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (MRSA) epidemic and recently circumcised baby boys. D.O.C. asks that hospitals take immediate action to increase aseptic protocols in nurseries, and doctors to “say no” to circumcisions.  
http://www.doctorsopposingcircumcision.org/

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“The circumcision wound is an entry portal for the virus and significantly increases circumcised boys' risk,” says the report. “The strictest aseptic surgical technique may not prevent infection of the circumcision wound with MRSA because the circumcision wound may be infected while the infant patient is in the newborn nursery or after leaving the hospital.”

The report takes medical associations to task, like the American Academy of Pediatrics, American Medical Association, and American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, whose formal circumcision policy statements do not mention the deadly MRSA risk factor, about which parents should be made aware.

“Hospital administrators must respond to this new threat to circumcised infants by limiting circumcisions to those for which there is a clear and present immediate medical indication and by increasing aseptic protocols in newborn nurseries.”

“Medical practitioners must consider the epidemic status of MRSA and exercise their independent judgment regarding the performance of non-therapeutic neonatal circumcision. There is an ethical duty to not perform scientifically invalid medical treatment, especially when it puts the patient at risk. Doctors must act in the best interests of their child-patients regardless of parental requests. Doctors may conscientiously object to the performance of non-therapeutic circumcision of children.”

D.O.C. discovered the link while doing research about circumcision complications. Various worldwide reports point to circumcised boys being highly susceptible to MRSA infection and at a greater risk in community-spread MRSA. Death is a possible outcome. Ninety-nine percent of circumcisions are not medically necessary.

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