



MRSA (Staph infection) Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus

MRSA stands for methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*. It causes a staph infection (pronounced "staff infection") that is resistant to several common antibiotics. There are two types of infection. Hospital-associated MRSA happens to people in healthcare settings. Community-associated MRSA happens to people who have close skin-to-skin contact with others, such as athletes involved in football and wrestling.

Infection control is key to stopping MRSA in hospitals. To prevent community-associated MRSA:

- Practice good hygiene
- Keep cuts and scrapes clean and covered with a bandage until healed
- Avoid contact with other people's wounds or bandages
- Avoid sharing personal items, such as towels, washcloths, razors, or clothes
- Wash soiled sheets, towels and clothes in hot water with bleach and dry in a hot dryer

If a wound appears to be infected, see a healthcare provider. Treatment may include draining the infection and antibiotics.

Source: NIH: National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases

Websites

CDC: Healthcare-associated Infections (HAI)

<http://www.cdc.gov/hai>

CDC: Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (MRSA) Infections

<http://www.cdc.gov/mrsa/index.html>

KidsHealth: MRSA

http://kidshealth.org/teen/infections/bacterial_viral/mrsa.html

Mayo Clinic: MRSA infection

<http://www.mayoclinic.com/health/mrsa/DS00735>

Medline Plus: MRSA

<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/mrsa.html>

MRSA Survivors Network (MSN)

<http://www.mrsasurvivors.org/>

P.O. Box 241

Hinsdale, IL 60522

Phone (630) 325-4354

info@mrsasurvivors.org

MSN provides information and advocacy on MRSA.

Texas State Department of State Health Services: Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA)

http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/idcu/health/antibiotic_resistance/mrsa/

WebMD: Understanding MRSA Infections

<http://www.webmd.com/skin-problems-and-treatments/understanding-mrsa-methicillin-resistant-staphylococcus-aureus>

Internet Forums**CareCure Community**

<http://sci.rutgers.edu/>

To find threads that discuss MRSA, enter “MRSA” in the search box at the top right of the screen and make sure “CareCure Forums” is selected.

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This publication is supported by the Administration for Community Living (ACL), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of a financial assistance award totaling \$10,000,000 with 100 percent funding by ACL/HHS. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by ACL/HHS, or the U.S. Government.