

Preventing MRSA in Schools

Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus aureus



What is MRSA?

A type of “Staph” infection.

- Often causes skin infections.
- Resistant to a certain group of antibiotics, including penicillin.



Wash Your Hands!

How is MRSA Treated?

A healthcare provider may:

- Drain the lesions.
- Give an antibiotic to be taken by mouth.
- Reduce the amount of bacteria on the skin by applying antibiotic cream.



What does it look like?

- A spider bite
- A turf burn
- An abscess
- A boil
- Impetigo



Stop the Spread of MRSA!

- **WASH YOUR HANDS OFTEN** with warm, soapy water.
- Use alcohol-based hand sanitizers when soap and water are not available.
- Shower immediately after athletic activities.
- Do not share personal hygiene items (bar soap, towels, razors) or clothing.
- Avoid contact with other people's skin infections.
- Cover all wounds with a clean, dry bandage.
- Stay home from school and do not participate in contact sports if wound drainage can not be contained by a bandage.
- Report suspect skin infections to the school nurse or wellness center.
- Frequently wipe down common touch surfaces such as shared desks, keyboards, shared sports equipment, phones, light switches etc.
- Take antibiotics only as prescribed by a healthcare provider.

How do you get MRSA?

- Direct contact with MRSA-infected skin.
- Direct contact with contaminated surfaces like doorknobs, light switches and keyboards.
- Sharing sports equipment.
- Sharing personal hygiene items (bar soap, towels, razors).
- Not having the resources for good personal hygiene.
- Overusing antibiotics or not taking them as prescribed.

For more Information

call 888-295-5156



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