

MRSA

Methicillin-Resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*

Have you been diagnosed with a *Staphylococcus aureus* or MRSA infection?
Below are answers to some common questions...



What is *Staphylococcus aureus* or Staph?

Staph is a type of bacteria. It may cause skin infections that look like pimples or boils. Skin infections caused by Staph may be red, swollen, painful, or have pus or other drainage. Some Staph (known as Methicillin-Resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* or MRSA) are resistant to certain antibiotics, making it harder to treat. The information on this poster applies to both Staph and MRSA.



How do I keep Staph infections from Spreading?

- ◆ Wash your hands often or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer
- ◆ Keep your cuts and scrapes clean and cover them with bandages
- ◆ Do not touch other people's cuts or bandages
- ◆ Do not share personal items like towels or razors

If you have any questions about your condition, please ask your doctor.
For more information, please visit: http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dhqp/ar_mrsa.html.



Who gets Staph infections?

Anyone can get a Staph infection. People are more likely to get a Staph infection if they have:

- ◆ Skin-to-skin contact with someone who has a Staph infection
- ◆ Contact with items and surfaces that have Staph on them
- ◆ Openings in their skin such as cuts or scrapes
- ◆ Crowded living conditions
- ◆ Poor hygiene



How serious are Staph infections?

Most Staph skin infections are minor and may be easily treated. Staph also may cause more serious infections, such as infections of the bloodstream, surgical sites, or pneumonia. Sometimes, a Staph infection that starts as a skin infection may worsen. It is important to contact your doctor if your infection does not get better.

How are Staph infections treated?

Treatment for a Staph skin infection may include taking an antibiotic or having a doctor drain the infection. If you are given an antibiotic, be sure to take all of the doses, even if the infection is getting better, unless your doctor tells you to stop taking it. Do not share antibiotics with other people or save them to use later.

MRSA Analysis of Environmental Samples

SAME DAY and 24 HOUR MRSA RESULTS AVAILABLE

Hospital-acquired or HA-MRSA has been an issue for a number of years and more recently community-acquired or CA-MRSA is becoming an emergent issue.

EMSL Analytical, Inc. now provides MRSA Analysis of Environmental Samples.

EMSL Provides both Culture and PCR Analytical Methods for MRSA that offered in our Westmont, NJ Laboratory.

Test Code for MRSA by Culture is M133
Test Code for MRSA by PCR is M203



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Content and *Staphylococcus aureus* photos provided by CDC