



Staph- MRSA

(Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus)

MRSA virus symptoms can start as a single red bump that resembles a pimple, pustule, or boil. It may also look like a cluster of red bumps. The area of infection may be red, swollen and painful or have pus or other drainage. More serious infections may cause pneumonia, bloodstream infections or surgical wound infections.

MRSA is contagious, and can be spread through direct contact with someone who has an active MRSA virus infection or a contaminated object.

MRSA can get on objects and surfaces outside the body if someone touches infected skin and then touches the object or surface. Another ways that items can be contaminated with staph and MRSA is if they have direct contact with a person's skin infection. Keeping skin infections covered with bandages is the best way to reduce the chance that surfaces will be contaminated with MRSA.

MRSA is most likely to cause problems when you have a cut or scrape that is not covered. That's why it's important to cover your cuts and open wounds with bandages.

MRSA can also get into small openings in the skin, like the openings at hair follicles. The best defense is good hygiene. Keep your hands clean, wash them often with soap and water and use hand sanitizer.

Wash linens and clothes separately from the other family clothes. Wash clothes and linens that become soiled with hot water and laundry detergent. Drying clothes in a hot dryer, rather than air-drying, also helps to kill bacteria in clothes.

MRSA Virus Treatment: If the disease is caught early enough, treatment with a couple of very strong antibiotics has been shown to work.

To prevent the spread of MRSA, practice and encourage good hygiene, hand washing with soap and water or by using an alcohol-based hand sanitizer. Keep cuts and scrapes clean and covered with a bandage until healed, avoid contact with other people's wounds or bandages and avoid sharing personal items such as towels, washcloths, razors or clothing.

Students that have been diagnosed will be excluded from school for at least 48 hours after starting on antibiotics.