



DATE: March 5, 2004

C.U.04-038

MEMO TO: All Personnel
Department of Detention and Community Control

FROM: Compliance Unit
Department of Detention

SUBJECT: Roll Call Training Bulletin - MRSA – Infection Control

In response to the recent news regarding MRSA and the potential effect in a correctional setting, this training bulletin and photos will serve as a reminder on how to prevent the contact and spread of skin infections.

Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus Aureas (MRSA), in non-medical terminology, is a Staph infection that is resistant to penicillin. Because of such wide use of antibiotics over the years, some strains of infection have become resistant to antibiotics and that is when it becomes MRSA.

MRSA usually develops in hospitalized patients who are elderly or very sick or who have an open wound (such as a bedsore) or a tube going into the body such as an IV catheter or a urinary catheter. In the community, however, cases of MRSA have been associated with recent antibiotic use, sharing contaminated items, having active skin diseases, and living in crowded settings. Clusters of skin infections caused by MRSA have been described among injecting-drug users, incarcerated persons, players of close-contact sports, and other populations.

Staph infections can be treated with different antibiotics or by draining the sore. It is very important to complete the full course of antibiotic therapy for complete healing.

Staph bacteria and MRSA can spread among people having close contact with infected people; MRSA is almost always spread by direct contact, and not through the air. Spread may also occur through indirect contact by touching objects (such as towels, sheets, wound dressings, clothes, workout areas, sports equipment) contaminated by the infected skin of the person with MRSA or staph bacteria.

To Prevent Staph Infection or MRSA:

1. **Keep your hands clean by washing thoroughly with soap and water.**
2. **Keep cuts and abrasions clean and covered with a proper dressing until healed.**
3. **Avoid contact with other people's wounds or material contaminated from wounds.**



Impetigo



Abscess



Boil



SSSS

READ AT THREE CONSECUTIVE ROLL CALLS