



**MRSA- Methicillin Resistant
Staphylococcus Aureus**

Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (MRSA) is a type of “staph” infection that is resistant to many antibiotics and frequently causes skin infections.

Signs and symptoms

Common signs of a skin infection include redness, warmth, swelling and tenderness. Often a MRSA infection will look like a spider bite, boil, abscess or pimple. If left untreated, it could progress into a more serious illness. MRSA bacteria live on the skin and may be introduced into your child’s environment at any time.

Prevention

In order to prevent this from happening, effective hand washing, body cleanliness and wound care remain the primary means to prevent the spread of such infection. Early treatment of MRSA cases is important. If your child shows any symptoms of MRSA, be sure to consult your health care provider as soon as possible. Infections can be prevented by practicing good hygiene (e.g., keeping hands clean by washing with soap and water or using an alcohol-based hand rub, and showering regularly); covering any open skin area such as abrasions or cuts with a clean dry bandage; avoiding sharing personal items such as towels or razors; using a barrier (e.g., clothing or a towel) between your skin and shared equipment; and wiping surfaces of equipment before and after use.

Please refer to the following website for further information or feel free to contact the nurse at your child’s school.

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

<http://www.webmd.com/skin-problems-and-treatments/understanding-mrsa#1>