

MRSA



MRSA:

***MRSA-** Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus

-Germ- that often lives in the noses and on the skin of healthy people, spreads from person to person on contaminated skin, objects, and hands

-Most Infections- caused by staph are skin infections, but can cause more serious infections as pneumonia, blood and joint infections

***Facts-** Cause 102,000 hospital infections yearly, with a violent new version hitting kids, healthy adults and sports teams, some die in days

-Higher Risk of - Close skin to skin contact, contaminated items and surfaces, openings in the skin as abrasions and cuts, poor hygiene, crowded living conditions

***Appearance-** pimple or boil, can be red, swollen and painful, may have pus or other drainage, most serious infection may cause pneumonia, surgical wound infections or bloodstream infections; spider-bite, cellulitis

Facts & What do I do if I have MRSA:

***MRSA-** can't be killed by certain antibiotics called beta lactams/cephalexin, used commonly to treat staph

***Wounds-** should be covered with clean, dry bandages, throw away in regular trash; wear gloves, mask, gown, eye/face shield; 1 Tablespoon bleach in 1 quart of water

***Hands-** wash often with warm soap and warm or use alcohol hand gel when changing the bandage or touching the infected wound

***AVOID-** sharing razors, personal items, towels, washcloths, clothing, sheets

***Washer and Dryer-** Wash with hot water and a detergent and dry in a hot dryer, do not air dry on the clothesline

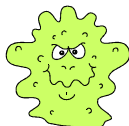
What can I do to Prevent Staph Infection?

***See your Physician-** ask him about MRSA or staph infection; first-line therapy is Vancomycin

***Wash Hands-** with soap and water (best) or use an alcohol skin gel

***Scrapes and Cuts-** keep clean, cover with a bandage until healed

***AVOID-** contact with other people's bandages and wounds, sharing razors, towels and other personal items



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