

MRSA PREVENTION: A GUIDE FOR SCHOOLS

Helping to protect your staff and students from MRSA

WHAT IS MRSA?

MRSA stands for Methicillin resistant Staphylococcus aureus. It is a bacteria that has developed a resistance to most commonly used antibiotics.

WHAT IS COMMUNITY-ACQUIRED MRSA?

Outbreaks of MRSA are now being reported in schools, daycare centers and camps. These “community-acquired” MRSA infections, some severe enough to be fatal, are genetically different from hospital or healthcare-acquired MRSA. This indicates the community strains didn’t “escape” from the hospital to the community but rather that they became resistant on their own.

HOW IS MRSA SPREAD FROM PERSON-TO-PERSON?

MRSA most often spreads by direct skin-to-skin contact or by surface-to-skin contact.

HOW CAN MRSA AFFECT PEOPLE?

MRSA can affect people in two ways: colonization or infection. When a person carries the flora on the skin or in the nose without showing signs or symptoms of infection, the person is said to be colonized. If a person has signs of infection that are caused by MRSA (such as abscesses, wound infections, pneumonia, respiratory infections, blood, stool or urinary tract infections) the person is said to be infected.

WHAT DOES A STAPH OR MRSA INFECTION LOOK LIKE?

Staph bacteria, including MRSA, can cause skin infections that may look like a pimple or boil and can be red, swollen, painful or have pus or other drainage. More serious infections may cause pneumonia, bloodstream infections, or surgical wound infections.

HOW CAN YOU STOP THE SPREAD OF MRSA?

The single most effective way to help prevent the spread of infection is with proper hand hygiene. Wash hands with an antimicrobial hand soap for at least 15 seconds and rinse with warm running water or apply an alcohol-based hand sanitizer. Also cover any open skin area such as abrasions or cuts with a clean dry bandage; avoid sharing personal items such as towels or razors; use a barrier (e.g., clothing or a towel) between your skin and shared equipment; and wipe surfaces before and after use with an appropriate EPA-registered disinfectant.

WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I THINK I HAVE A MRSA INFECTION?

See your healthcare provider.

Visit www.cdc.gov/MRSA for more information



The single most effective way to help prevent the spread of infection is
PROPER HAND WASHING.*

ECOLAB SOLUTIONS

Products designed to work quickly and effectively against MRSA

Ecolab has developed a wide range of products to help halt the spread of MRSA in school environments. The following are some of the most effective EPA-registered surface disinfectants and skin care products proven to destroy MRSA when used according to label directions.

SKINCARE

BACTI-STAT®

Antimicrobial Hand Soap

QUIK-CARE™

Waterless Foam Hand Sanitizer

ENDURE® 300 CIDA RINSE GEL

Waterless Gel Hand Sanitizer

ENDURE® 320 ADVANCED CARE

Waterless Gel Hand Sanitizer with Moisturizers

ENDURE® 420 CIDA STAT

2% CHG Antimicrobial Skin Cleanser and Surgical Scrub

DIGICLEAN™ HEALTHCARE PERSONNEL

HANDWASH FOAM

SURFACE DISINFECTANTS

20 NEUTRAL CLEANER AND DISINFECTANT

14 ANTIBACTERIAL ALL PURPOSE CLEANER

OASIS™ 531 NEUTRAL DISINFECTANT CLEANER

OASIS™ 499 HBV DISINFECTANT

TB DISINFECTANT CLEANER READY TO USE

QUANTUM TB DISINFECTANT

For a full list of products effective against MRSA, contact an
Ecolab sales and service associate at: 1.800.35.CLEAN

*Centers for Disease Control and Prevention