

MRSA

Definition: Methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus Aureus* (MRSA) is a type of staph bacteria that is resistant to certain antibiotics. These antibiotics include methicillin and other more common antibiotics such as oxacillin, penicillin, and amoxicillin. In the community, most MRSA infections are skin infections. More severe or potentially life-threatening MRSA infections occur most frequently among patients in healthcare settings.

Transmission:

1. **Contaminated Surfaces**
2. Having contact with someone's skin infection or personal items they have used, like towels, bandages, or razors that touched their infected skin.
3. Close skin-to-skin contact
4. Crowded Living Conditions
5. Poor Hygiene and poor Hand washing

Symptoms: Most MRSA infections are skin infections that may appear as pustules or boils which often are red, swollen, painful, or have pus or other drainage. They often first look like spider bites or bumps that are red, swollen, and painful. These skin infections commonly occur at sites of visible skin trauma, such as cuts and abrasions, and areas of the body covered by hair (e.g., back of neck, groin, buttock, armpit, beard area of men).

Exposure: This would constitute a skin to skin or skin to sputum occurrence in which the provider would have broken skin. It would be evaluated by the DO

Precautions and PPE considerations: Providers should use gloves during patient care and be careful around possible skin infection area. Providers should have any broken skin covered per the policy. Since this is a contact based pathogen care should be taken to decon any areas touched by the patient's bare skin. They can also have mrsa in a wound or sputum.

Treatments: Treatment for MRSA skin infections may include having a healthcare professional drain the infection and, in some cases, prescribe an antibiotic.

Work Guidelines: There are no treatments needed for exposure to MRSA at the time of the occurrence. The event will be documented in case symptoms should arise in the future.