

Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA)

Information for Correctional Residents

MRSA (mersa) is the short name for a staph infection that is very hard to get rid of. Regular drugs won't kill this bug. It can cause:

- Skin infections – symptoms: redness, swelling, pain, warm to touch, draining pus, fever
- Boils
- Other serious infections

Staph and MRSA can be found on these areas of the body of a person without symptoms:

- In the nose
- On skin

MRSA infections are spread by:

- Touching infected people or their clothes or linens

To stay healthy:

- Wear a shirt when using exercise equipment
- Wash your hands a lot
- Take regular showers
- Keep your living space clean
- Have your clothes and bed linens laundered regularly

To stop the spread of infections:

- Don't touch other people's wounds
- Don't scratch your skin
- Don't share clothing, towels or personal items
- Don't have sex with other inmates
- Don't inject drugs or share needles
- Don't get tattoos in prison

Seek medical attention if you develop:

- A boil
- Red or swollen skin
- Other medical problems

