



What is *Staphylococcus aureus* (Staph) and MRSA?

- Staph is a type of bacteria commonly carried on the skin or in the nose of healthy people without causing infection. MRSA is a type of staph infection that is resistant to certain antibiotics, making it harder to treat.

What are the symptoms of Staph and MRSA that could occur?

- Skin infections that may look like a pimple or boil, and can be red, swollen, painful, and have drainage. This can progress to cellulitis, which will appear as an enlarging red area of skin
- Serious infections may enter the bloodstream, a condition called septicemia
- MRSA can sometimes cause pneumonia, bone, and joint infections

How is it spread?

- By direct skin-to-skin contact with someone who has a staph infection
- Openings in the skin (cuts, abrasions, etc.)
- Direct skin contact with items and surfaces that have staph on them
- Crowded living conditions
- Poor hygiene
- Medical procedures or a stay in the hospital (hospital-acquired)

How is it diagnosed and treated?

- Primary care provider evaluation and laboratory testing
- Treatment is antibiotics
- Having doctor drain the infection

How can it be prevented?

- Wash your hands often
- Do not share personal items
- Keep cuts and scrapes clean and covered with a clean and dry bandage until healed
- Avoid contact with other people's wounds or bandages
- Practice good hygiene

Should the sick individual be isolated?

- No

When can the individual return to the general population?

- Provide documentation from primary care provider.

Should facilities do special cleaning?

- Special cleaning is not necessary. Routine cleaning with EPA approved products is recommended.

If I have any other questions, whom can I contact?

- Call the Genesee County Health Department at 257-1017