



# What to do about MRSA in the Workplace

## What is MRSA?

(Methicillin Resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*)

- Type of “super bug”
- Often causes skin infections
- Resistant to many antibiotics, including penicillin

## How is MRSA Treated?

By a healthcare provider who may:

- Drain the infection *and/or*
- Give you an antibiotic *and/or*
- Help you reduce the amount of bacteria on your skin

## What does it look like?



- A “spider bite”
- Infected skin
- Boils, abscesses
- Impetigo

## How do you get MRSA?

- Touching the MRSA-infected skin of someone
- Touching surfaces that have MRSA on them
- Sharing personal hygiene items (bar soap, towels)
- Sharing sports equipment
- Not having resources to keep clean
- Overusing antibiotics, stopping them early or missing doses

## Stop the Spread of MRSA!

- **Wash your hands often** with warm, soapy water
- Use 60% alcohol-base hand gel when soap and water are not available
- Avoid contact with other people’s skin infections
- Keep MRSA skin infections covered with clean, dry bandages that do not have to be changed at work
- Stay home from work if you have draining infections that require bandage changes during working hours
- Wipe down shared keyboards, phones, etc., daily with an EPA registered cleaner\*
- Don’t share personal hygiene items
- Clean sports equipment after each use
- Do not take antibiotics when you do not need them



\* Website: [epa.gov/oppad001/chemregindex.htm](http://epa.gov/oppad001/chemregindex.htm)