

What the Health Team can do about MRSA in Schools



Infection Control Policies and Procedures Checklist

Please review the policies and procedures below. Use this tool to determine which policies/procedures you already have, if they are being followed, and which policies and procedures you need to put in place.

Policy/Procedures

| Exist (x) | Followed (x) | Needed (x) |
|--------------|-----------------|---------------|
|--------------|-----------------|---------------|

Reporting

If a cluster of three or more cases occurs in a single classroom or in one athletic team, the local health department is notified.

Referrals are made to licensed health providers when a MRSA skin infection is suspected.

Students, especially those participating in sports activities, are strongly encouraged to report possible skin infections to the school health team.

Notes:

Infection Control in the Health Room

Contact precautions are used when doing wound care. Standard precautions are used if the potential for splashing exists.

Disposable gloves are worn if contact with non-intact skin or mucous membranes is expected. Hands are washed before starting care and *immediately* after removing gloves.

If soap and water are not available, 60% or greater alcohol hand sanitizer is used.

Potentially contaminated surfaces are cleaned with an EPA-registered disinfectant. If surfaces are visibly soiled they are cleaned with friction first and then wiped down with an EPA-registered disinfectant.

Health room cots (surfaces that come in contact with patient) are cleaned if visibly dirty and wiped down after each use.

Potentially soiled linen and clothing are washed with laundry detergent in water $\geq 160^{\circ}\text{F}$; one cup of bleach is used if water is less than 160°F ; linen/clothes are dried in a hot dryer.

Door knobs, phones, keyboards, light switches, and other hand touch items in health room are cleaned/wiped down twice daily.

Stethoscopes are wiped with isopropyl alcohol or other low level disinfectant after each use.

Quick Reference for Environmental Cleaning for School Nurses is accessible.

Notes:

Prevention and Transmission Control-General

Persons with open wounds keep them covered with dressings that are taped on all four sides.

Students or staff members who are colonized or infected are not routinely excluded from the classroom. Exclusion is reserved for those persons with wound drainage that cannot be contained with a clean, dry dressing taped on all four sides.

Persons with MRSA infections are not placed in classrooms with anyone who has severe immune system suppression.

Students and coaches who participate in contact sports are strongly encouraged to shower immediately after practices, matches, or games.

Notes:

Signature:

Date:



10/2007