




I spy... **MRSA**

Meticillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (also known as MRSA) is a bacteria which is resistant to Meticillin antibiotics which are used to treat a number of infections.

Anyone can have MRSA living on their skin. It is not usually a problem for healthy people and you may not know you have it.

MRSA can be easily passed from person to person and can become a problem for people who are:

- Unwell.
- Immunosuppressed or have a long-term condition.
- Going for surgery.
- Have open wounds.
- Have invasive devices such as catheters or IV lines.



If you have MRSA you may be prescribed decolonisation treatment (body wash and nasal cream) and antibiotics from your GP or the hospital to treat any infections and remove the MRSA from your skin.



Not all people with MRSA require treatment.

MRSA infections can be prevented by:

- Cleaning your hands with soap and water.
- Good environmental and equipment cleaning by healthcare professionals.
- Not touching invasive devices such as catheters, IV lines.
- Ensuring wounds are clean, covered, and touching is kept to a minimum.
- Completing any decolonisation treatment or antibiotics you are prescribed.