

Recommendations for the Eradication of Community Acquired–

Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus

- Keep your hands clean by washing thoroughly with soap and water or using an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Keep lesions covered to avoid transmission to others as this organism is easily spread through touch.
- Avoid contact with other people's wounds or bandages.
- Shower daily with an effective antibacterial soap (Dial, Ivory). Be sure to use a wash cloth and scrub thoroughly.
- Avoid sharing personal items such as towels or razors.
- Take any and all prescribed medications for the duration of the prescriptions.

Are staph and MRSA infections treatable?

Yes. Most staph and MRSA infections are treatable with antibiotics. If you are given an antibiotic, take all of the doses, even if the infection is getting better, unless your doctor tells you to stop taking it. Do not share

antibiotics with other people or save unfinished antibiotics to use at another time. In addition to antibiotics, there are times when topical creams or soaps (either applied within the nose or to the entire body) will be utilized to prevent future infections or to decrease the potential of spreading the bacteria to other people.

However, many staph skin infections may be treated by draining the abscess or boil and may not require antibiotics. Drainage of skin boils or abscesses should only be done by a healthcare provider. If after visiting your healthcare provider the infection is not getting better after a few days, contact them again. If other people you know or live with get the same infection tell them to go to their healthcare provider.