



Central Region School Insurance Group

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TO: CRSIG Members
FROM: Christina M. Stark, Loss Control Specialist
DATE: November 12, 2007
SUBJECT: *Heads Up!*
MRSA – Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus

As most people have heard of “staph” (staphylococcus aureus), being one of the most common causes of skin infections, these bacteria most often cause minor infections such as small abscesses or boils. However, staph can sometimes cause very serious infections like blood and bone infections, pneumonia and surgical wound infections.

Due to the heightened public awareness of the methicillin (drug) resistant type of staph bacteria (MRSA) the California Department of Public Health, Division of Communicable Disease Control/Infectious Diseases Branch recently published information for California schools online.

Published information regarding MSRA includes:

- *Skin Infections and MRSA Information for California Schools (10/24/07)* at <http://www.cdph.ca.gov/healthinfo/discond/Documents/07MRSAschool.pdf>
- *A Parent's Guide To MRSA in California – What You Need to Know* (flyer) at <http://www.cdph.ca.gov/healthinfo/discond/Documents/AParentsGuidetoMRSAflier.pdf>
⇒ Also available in brochure format and in Spanish at <http://www.cdph.ca.gov/healthinfo/discond/Pages/MRSA.aspx>
- *Community-Associated (CAMRSA)/Staph infections: A Guideline for Athletic Departments* at <http://www.cdph.ca.gov/healthinfo/discond/Documents/CAMRSAInfectionsGuidelineAthleticsDepartment.pdf>

You will find these publication links through the CRSIG.com website for your use. Additionally, .pdf files of hand washing posters are available for printing or for ordering in quantity through the Center for Disease Control (CDC) at http://www.cdc.gov/nc_idod/dhqp/ar_mrsa_ca_posters.html.

Please share this information, as necessary, with all staff members and departments. If you have further questions or concerns please feel free to contact CRSIG.