


# MIRSA

Methicillin resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) is an infection caused by a type of *Staphylococcus*, or staph, bacteria that's resistant to many different antibiotics. These bacteria naturally live in the nose and on the skin and generally don't cause any harm. However, when they begin to multiply uncontrollably, a MRSA infection can occur. These infections typically occur when there's a cut or break in your skin.

MRSA is very contagious and can be spread through direct contact with an infected person. It can also be contracted by coming into contact with an object or surface that an infected person has touched. Though a MRSA infection can be serious, it may be treated effectively with antibiotics .

**M** **Methicillin**  
A type of antibiotic doctors often use to treat infections. 

**R** **Resistant**  
The bacteria are resistant to methicillin. Most antibiotics are useless for treating an infection.

**S** **Staphylococcus aureus**

**A** **Staphylococcus aureus**  
The scientific name for this type of bacteria. 