



County of Sonoma  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES  
**Infectious Disease Task Force**

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Effective Date: March 3, 2008

## **CA -MRSA Carrier Eradication Guidelines**

### **Principals**

- All skin infection sites must be under treatment in order for eradication of the carrier state to become possible. Boils must be drained. Systemic antibiotics may be necessary.
- Use these guidelines for the patient and all household members at the same time, when possible.

### **Treatment Regimen**

1. Wash Body with Chlorhexidine (Hibiclens) antiseptic soap:
  - Wash whole body (from scalp to toes) daily for 5 days.
  - Skin moisturizer may be applied after bathing.
  - Scrub fingernails for one minute with nail brush twice daily
  - Better success if artificial nails and fingernail polish is removed.
2. Apply Mupirocin 2% (Bactroban) nasal topical antimicrobial cream (better) or ointment
  - Apply inside the front of each nostril three times a day for 5 days.
3. Oral antibiotics are NOT indicated for carriage, but may be indicated for active infections.

### **Household Furnishings and Personal Items**

1. Thoroughly clean all toys and counters (kitchen, bathrooms).
2. Wash any cloth items that may be shared (towels, washcloths).
3. **Don't** share personal items such as toothbrushes and razors.
4. Toys and food items may be shared.

### **Follow-Up**

Success is good when directions are followed carefully, but some patients/families may relapse.

### **For More Information**

<http://www.sonoma-county.org/health/ph/diseasecontrol/mrsa/index.htm>