



# What to do about MRSA

for  
Law Enforcement

## What is MRSA

(Methicillin resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*)

- Type of “staph” infection
- Often causes skin infections
- Resistant to many antibiotics, including penicillin

## How is MRSA treated?

By a healthcare provider who may:

- Drain the infection *and/or*
- Give you an antibiotic *and/or*
- Help you reduce the amount of bacteria on your skin

## What does it look like?

- A “spider bite”
- Infected skin
- Boil, abscess
- Impetigo



## Stop the Spread of MRSA!

- **Use 60% (or greater) alcohol-base hand sanitizer** when soap and water are not available
- **Wash your hands often** with warm, soapy water
- **Wash your hands or sanitize after every contact/arrest**
- Avoid contact with other people’s skin infections—they should be covered with clean, dry bandages
- Use disposable gloves routinely
- Wash/sanitize hands after removing gloves
- **Clean and Disinfect:** Clean first with friction to remove dirt from security devices, computers, phones, or vehicle interior; Then clean with a “fresh” disinfectant wipe, *using one wipe for each surface*
- Always use gloves to clean and disinfect
- Launder clothes with detergent and *dry*



## How do you get MRSA?

- Not washing or sanitizing your hands often
- Touching someone’s MRSA skin infection
- Touching surfaces that have MRSA on them
- Sharing personal hygiene items (bar soap, towels, razors)
- Sharing clothes and/or contact sports equipment
- Overusing, stopping early, or missing antibiotic doses