

### Exploring Cases- MRSA

You will work in small groups (about 4 people) to explore multiple resources related to people struggling with MRSA. Each student is responsible for exploring one resource and completing the questions listed below. However, no single resource has all the answers for all the questions. After each group member explores her/his resource, the group should work together to complete the questions. Keep in mind that some of the questions have multiple answers provided by the various sources. As you consider the information in your resource, it is very important to consider the source and quality of information (refer to the “Know Your Sources of Information” for some helpful tips).

#### Resources

- A. Personal account of dealing with MRSA, *Personal Blog*:  
<http://tutusandtantrums.blogspot.com/2012/02/my-experience-with-mrsa.html>
- B. Personal account of dealing with MRSA, *Daily Strength Support Group*:  
[http://www.dailystrength.org/c/Methicillin\\_Resistant\\_Staphylococcus\\_Aureus/forum/7578667-my-experience-ca-mrsa](http://www.dailystrength.org/c/Methicillin_Resistant_Staphylococcus_Aureus/forum/7578667-my-experience-ca-mrsa)
- C. Popular media account with an embedded case, *USA Today article*:  
<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2013/12/16/mrsa-infection-community-schools-victims-doctors/3991833/>
- D. Medical website pictures and descriptions, *MedicineNet slideshow*:  
[http://www.medicinenet.com/mrsa\\_picture\\_slideshow/article.htm](http://www.medicinenet.com/mrsa_picture_slideshow/article.htm)

#### Collaborative Questions

1. MRSA is an acronym for methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*. What does it mean for these bacteria to be “resistant”?
2. How many people are affected by MRSA infections in the US on annual basis? How many people die because of MRSA on an annual basis?
3. Who is at a high risk for contracting MRSA?
4. Why is MRSA often referred to as a “super bug”?
5. How do people catch MRSA?
6. What percentage of the US population carries staph infections? According to the Centers for Disease Control, what percentage of the US population carries MRSA?
7. What are symptoms associated with a MRSA infection?
8. Keep a list of the various medicines (particularly antibiotics) that patients featured in the cases are prescribed.
9. What strategies can be used to control the spread of staph infections?
10. Why do you think doctors prescribe multiple medicines for MRSA infected patients?