

Dear Families of Crown Jewel,

On September 25th, 2018 One child was diagnosed with a Staph infection. The child attended Crown Jewel Academy on September 24th before any symptoms appeared. Attached are some details about a staph infection and things to watch for, for your child in case they came into PHYSICAL contact with the child with the infection.

Staph infections are sometimes caused by a reaction to mosquito bites. Going forward for the fall please make sure to provide bug spray for you child along with the proper documentation for us to administer it to your child. If you have any questions at all feel free to reach out to me at (262)583-3320 or rlambiris@crownja.com.

Thank You,



Rayonna Lambiris

Director



STAPHYLOCOCCUS AUREUS INFECTION

Staphylococcus aureus, called “staph” for short, is one of the most common germs found on people’s skin and in their noses. 20–30% of the general public are nasal carriers. Most of the time it doesn’t do any harm, but sometimes staph gets into the body and causes an infection. This infection can be minor (such as pimples or boils) or serious (such as blood infections).

CAUSE *Staphylococcus aureus*, bacteria

SYMPTOMS Local redness and warmth of the infected area with or without pus. Examples of localized infections are boils, impetigo, wound infections, and infections of hair follicles (folliculitis). Such infections can result in a pustule (bump on the skin filled with pus) that can become reddened, hard, and painful. Most infections are uncomplicated, but the bacteria can get into the bloodstream and other body sites and cause severe illness.

SPREAD Spread occurs through contact with a person who has a staph lesion, or is an asymptomatic carrier of a pathogenic strain. Hands are the most important means of transmission. Airborne transmission has been documented, but does not play an important role in transmission.

INCUBATION PERIOD (time from exposure to onset of symptoms) Variable

CONTAGIOUS PERIOD As long as lesions are draining or as long as an individual is a carrier.

EXCLUSION Child care and School: If draining sores are present and cannot be completely covered and contained with a clean, dry bandage or if the person cannot maintain good personal hygiene. Children who are only colonized do not need to be excluded.

TREATMENT Many staph infections can be treated with drainage of pus. A healthcare provider will decide if antibiotics are needed. More serious infections can require hospitalization and treatment with intravenous (IV) antibiotics. Some strains of staph have developed resistance to some antibiotics. Such strains are known as methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* or “MRSA.” If prescribed antibiotics, it is important to take as directed by a medical professional.

PREVENTION/CONTROL □ Wash hands thoroughly and frequently, especially if you are in contact with staph sores/lesions. □ Wear disposable medical gloves when touching any draining sores or changing bandages. □ Keep wounds clean and covered with a bandage □ Dispose of bandages in a plastic bag immediately to prevent contamination of surfaces. Close the plastic bag and dispose in the trash. □ Clean and disinfect contaminated surfaces or objects daily, or when soiled.

For more information please contact Contra Costa Public Health at 925-313-6740 and visit our website at <http://cchealth.org/cd/>

