

- Prior to employment, **ALL** prospective clinical staff are required to present a clear MRSA screen.
- An MRSA screen includes swabs taken from nose, groin, perineum and any wounds or weeping dermatitis, contact lenses and piercing.
- Screen 5 days prior to commencement date.
- If screen is clear, travel and commence placement.
- If positive MRSA screen please refer to treatment guidelines.
- Please note that MRSA culturing processes vary significantly around the country and the world. West Coast District Health Board Laboratory employs a process that takes up to three (3) days. Screens done in laboratories outside the West Coast area, using a different culturing process and taking less time, can produce false negative results.
- Therefore, a prospective employee, who comes to West Coast District Health Board with a recent clear screen from outside New Zealand, will require a re-screen on employment. This includes doctors on honorary status, all nursing, allied health and medical students.
- WCDHB Procedure is based on MOH "Guidelines for Control of MRSA in NZ - 2002".
- Treatment as per WCDHB Procedure

