MRSA bacteria escape from jails to cause Staph infections among local residents.

**Science**

Chicago Mason News, April 2, 2009

There was a short period in the year when MRSA began to circulate in the community. The most common signs of the infection are fever, chills, and a rash. Some MRSA infections are minor and may not require treatment. However, more serious infections can occur, including sepsis and pneumonia. The first signs of a MRSA infection can include:

- Fever
- Chills
- Red, swollen, tender or painful skin
- Redness or swelling that occurs around a wound
- Nausea or vomiting

MRSA infections can spread from person to person through direct contact with the skin or through contact with MRSA-infected objects or surfaces. It is important to practice good hygiene, such as washing hands frequently and avoiding contact with infected individuals, to prevent the spread of MRSA.

By Louise Karnes

Under the microscope

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