



## **All these skin infections were caused by MRSA**

- **MRSA is a type of germ which is hard to be treated by commonly used medicines.**
- **MRSA lives on the skin and survives on objects such as towels, bed-sheets, and exercise equipment for 24 hours or longer.**
- **MRSA causes skin infections (abscess, boils, etc.) which are often misdiagnosed as spider or insect bites.**
- **MRSA spreads by infected skin or infected objects to healthy skin by close contact with infected persons or objects.**
- **Injecting drug users, inmates, men who have sex with men, football players, and wrestlers are at-risk for MRSA skin infections.**
- **You can prevent spreading an MRSA infection to others by following these steps:**
  - ✓ **Keep infections covered with a clean and dry bandage.**
  - ✓ **Follow your doctor's instructions on proper care of the wound.**
  - ✓ **Wash your hands frequently with soap and warm water. Advise your family and close friends to do so, as well.**
  - ✓ **Avoid sharing personal items such as towels, washcloths, razors, clothing, linens, needles, etc.)**
  - ✓ **Go see your doctor if you think you have a skin infection.**

**Washoe County District Health Department**

**The Communicable Disease Prevention and Control Program 775-328-2447**