

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) about SB 1058

1. What is the direction regarding, and plan for, MRSA positive patients who have already been discharged? How/who will contact them and what will they say?
The law says education prior to discharge – Regional Infection Control Committee (RICC) will provide guidance in the near future.
2. Does this only apply to pts who are admitted to a healthcare facility within 24 hours of admission? What about patients in the ED? Ambulatory surgery center? Or pts who are only in for observation but not admitted?
This applies to patients admitted to the hospital who meets the criteria. Culture should be taken within 24 hours of admission.
3. Will we have to re-screen patients who have been tested (e.g. admitted & tested positive in January and are readmitted in August?) What if patients are readmitted within 30 days - should they be retested?
Sue Chen at CDPH was asked this question and responded: Once pt is MRSA +, we presume pt will be positive again, therefore there is no need to re-test. The patient should be placed on contact precautions or per hospital policy.
4. What about MCH patients - do they need to be tested? If mother testes positive does baby have to be tested?
Pediatric Infectious Disease physicians are still discussing if this makes clinical sense. RICC will provide guidance once a decision is reached.
5. Are our care partners going to be tested as well? If staff test positive, what expectations are there for patient care (e.g. TB)? Are you developing information/education for staff that test positive?
The law does not require it.
6. For surgery patients, do the Surgeons make the determination for patients who need to get tested?
Since neither CDC nor CDPH HAC has defined the medical condition for surgery pt., we are at liberty to define it in our policy. The draft policy states that surgery pt will need to be tested if they meet any of the other 4 criteria.
7. For the pre-op-surgery pts. Are you working with the pre-op clinics to see if patients are getting pre-op lab work done they get MRSA testing done as well?
The tricky part of the law says pt to be tested within 24 hours of admission, so pre-op testing may not meet the requirement.