Checklist: Staphylococcus “Staph” Infection

☐ Check for any of the following signs that he or she is at increased risk for a “staph” infection:

- Picks or scratches skin or pokes finger in nose frequently
- Resists hand washing or requires staff assistance
- Resides with persons who have had staph infections
- Has been treated with antibiotics for other infections (for example, pneumonia, kidney)
- Has a skin rash or eczema
- Has had a previous staph infection
- Has a medical condition such as diabetes, cancer, or immune deficiency

☐ Check to see whether this person washes his or her hands independently.

If the person does not, check if there is a caregiver to assist.

Check whether caregivers follow policy and wash their hands before and after caring for individuals in their charge

Hand washing is one of the most important measures in the defense against infection. If the individual is unable to wash independently, then the caregivers must be diligent in helping the individual to wash hands. Hand sanitizers are also helpful in decreasing infection.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Checklist: Staph Infection</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>□ Check to see whether the home has separate towel racks for each person and/or uses disposal towels.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Check to see whether he or she showers or bathes at regular intervals.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Check to see whether there is a regular schedule for laundering clothing, bed linens, and towels.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Check to see whether there is a protocol and schedule for cleaning sinks, tubs, showers, counter surfaces.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Check to see whether, if the person requires assistance for bathing and dressing, there is staff assigned to check the status of his or her skin daily.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Checklist: Staph Infection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Check to see whether sport shoes and socks are laundered frequently.</strong> Observe how the person is dressed at the time of the questionnaire.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Check to see whether the person has a MRSA (Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus) infection at this time as diagnosed by a physician.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Unclear or concerned about an answer?** Please consult with your clinical staff for appropriate follow-up