

## Staph Infection Containment in Child Care Facilities and Group Foster Homes

The Texas Department of State Health Services Infectious Disease Surveillance and Epidemiology Branch has provided this document as a summary checklist of actions to be taken in the event that a staphylococcal infection occurs at a particular site in the community. The document is based on current best practices in infection control. While the Infectious Disease Branch recommends these practices and can consult in their implementation, it does not regulate them.

### Education and Training

- “PREVENTION AND CONTAINMENT OF STAPHYLOCOCCAL INFECTIONS IN COMMUNITIES”\* is available.
- Everyone has received hand hygiene training and can demonstrate procedure.
- Training material is available to everyone. (See “What to do about Your Skin Infection\*.”)
- Everyone knows the policy on work restrictions for an employee with a skin infection.
- Everyone knows to report new infections or infections that become worse to \_\_\_\_\_ (person’s name).
- Parents of children have been notified. [See Texas Administrative Code, Title 40, [§746.3607](#) (d) Required Notifications]. (See sample notification letter.\*)
- Persons responsible for changing bandages know how to change them. (See “Taking Care of Wounds that are Draining or Have Not Healed\*.”)
- Verbal training in the appropriate language and educational level has been done.
- Training is documented. (See sample log in “PREVENTION AND CONTAINMENT OF STAPHYLOCOCCAL INFECTIONS IN COMMUNITIES” appendices.\*)

### Implementation of Containment Procedures-Infection Care

- \_\_\_\_\_ (person’s name) is responsible for keeping a daily log of infected persons. (See sample log in “PREVENTION AND CONTAINMENT OF STAPHYLOCOCCAL INFECTIONS IN COMMUNITIES” appendices.\*)
- Everyone with draining infections that cannot be contained by simple bandages is being seen by a healthcare provider.
- Infected persons who have fever or impetigo are excluded from childcare facility until readmission criteria have been met. [See Texas Administrative Code Title 25, [§97.7](#) ]
- Infected person, who are not specifically excluded, are restricted from situations that might bring the infection or drainage into contact with other persons or personal items or that would result in the infected area becoming exposed, wet (wading pools, water parks, other water play) or soiled.
- Infected persons have infections securely covered with a clean, dry bandage. Clothing should cover the bandage if possible.
- Persons responsible for changing bandages have access to all needed supplies including clean, non-sterile gloves, soap, water, bandage, and plastic trash bag.
- Physician-prescribed antibiotics are stored as described on the antibiotic label or as instructed by the pharmacy. [See Texas Administrative Code, Title 40, Part 19, Chapter [§746.3807](#) Medication.]

### Implementation of Containment Procedures – Hygiene

- Everyone performs hand hygiene at appropriate times and places (kitchen, bathroom, or laundry area). [See Texas Administrative Code, Title 40, [§746.3415](#) ; [§746.3417](#); [§746.3421](#) Environmental Health.]
- Hand washing facilities are located in accordance with city/county health codes. [Consult local health authority.]
- Liquid soap and paper towels are available and accessible. [See Texas Administrative Code, Title 40, [§746.3419](#) Environmental Health.]
- Persons do not share personal items (towels, soap, stuffed animals, blankets, utensils).
- Children’s sleeping mats or other linens are used by only one child, stored separately, and sent home for disinfecting weekly or when soiled. [See Texas Administrative Code, Title 40, [§746.3407](#) Environmental Health and [§746.4505](#) Furniture and Equipment].
- Infected persons use a designated chair that is easily disinfected (not upholstered).
- Precautions are taken to prevent any situations that might bring the infection or infection drainage into contact with companion animals.

### Implementation of Containment Procedures – Laundry (if onsite laundry facilities are provided)

- Infected person’s clothing and linens are washed separately from uninfected family person’s laundry.
- Clothing and linens are washed with detergent appropriate to water temperature.
- Bleach is used when possible.
- Clothing and linens are dried thoroughly at highest heat fabric can tolerate.

### **Implementation of Containment Procedures – Environmental Surfaces**

- \_\_\_\_\_ (person’s name) is responsible for cleaning and disinfecting.
- Initial thorough cleaning and disinfecting of all environmental surfaces (toys, diaper changing areas, bathroom and kitchen surfaces, door knobs, mats, tables, chairs) in affected classrooms have been done with EPA-hospital grade germicide. [See Texas Administrative Code, Title 40, [§746.3411](#) (2) Environmental Health].
- Diaper changing tables and straps are disinfected after each use. [See Texas Administrative Code, Title 40, [§746.3505](#) (e) Diaper Changing].
- Environmental surfaces (equipment, toys linens, sleeping equipment, diaper changing areas, bathroom and kitchen surfaces, table tops, furniture, and other similar equipment used by children) are disinfected daily and as needed. [See Texas Administrative Code, Title 40, 746.3407 Environmental Health].
- Cleaners and disinfectants are available but out of reach of children.
- Trash receptacles are accessible for disposal of cleaning materials.
- Items that cannot be disinfected (such as a cracked seat pad, cracked mats) have been discarded.
- Cleaning log is kept. . (See sample log in “PREVENTION AND CONTAINMENT OF STAPHYLOCOCCAL INFECTIONS IN COMMUNITIES” appendices.\*)

### **Signs in the appropriate language and educational level are posted prominently around the facility**

- Reminding persons to wash hands.
- Reminding persons to disinfect shared items (chairs, cribs, toys, sleeping equipment, kitchen utensils, common area benches) prior to use.
- Informing persons where to direct complaints about possible contamination of facilities or equipment.

\*All resources mentioned in this checklist, as well as more detailed information about prevention and containment of staphylococcal infections, are available at the Texas Department of State Health Services website at [www.mrsaTexas.org](http://www.mrsaTexas.org) or by calling (512) 458-7676 and asking for information about staph.