**TITLE 410 INDIANA STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

**Emergency Rule**
LSA Document #07-819(E)

DIGEST

Temporarily adds rules to require the reporting of Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) to the department. Authority: IC 4-22-2-37.1; IC 16-19-3-4; IC 16-41-1-2. Effective January 1, 2008.

SECTION 1. **The definitions in this document apply throughout this document.**

SECTION 2. **"Department" means the Indiana state department of health.**

SECTION 3. **"Local health officer" means the county/city health officer or authorized officers, employees, or agents of the county/city health department.**

SECTION 4. **"Medical laboratory" means an entity that engages in the biological, microbiological, serological, chemical, immunohematological, radioimmunological, hematological, cytological, pathological, or other examination of materials derived from the human body for the detection, diagnosis, prevention, or treatment of any disease, infection, or impairment, or the assessment of human health.**

SECTION 5. **"Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus" or "MRSA" means bacteria identified as Staphylococcus aureus that are deemed through laboratory testing to be resistant to the antibiotic methicillin.**

SECTION 6. **Each director, or the director's representative, of a medical laboratory in which examination of any specimen derived from the human body yields:**

**(1) microscopic;**
**(2) bacteriologic;**
**(3) immunologic;**
**(4) serologic; or**
**(5) other;**

**evidence of skin infection or invasive infection by Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus shall report the findings and any other epidemiologically necessary information requested by the department. Active surveillance cultures are excluded from this reporting requirement.**

SECTION 7. **The report required by SECTION 6 of this document shall, at a minimum, include the following:**

**(1) The:**
**(A) name, date, and results of the test performed;**
**(B) laboratory's normal limits for that test; and**
**(C) laboratory's interpretation of the test results.**
**(2) The name of the person and the date of birth or age of the person from whom the specimen was obtained.**
**(3) The name, address, and telephone number of the:**
**(A) attending physician;**
**(B) hospital;**
**(C) clinic; or**
**(D) other specimen submitter.**
**(4) The name, address, and telephone number of the laboratory performing the test.**

SECTION 8. **SECTION 7** *[of this document]* **does not preclude laboratories from testing specimens, which, when submitted to the laboratory, are identified by a numeric identifier code and not by the name of the patient. If testing of such a specimen, identified by numeric code, produces results that are required to be reported under this rule** *[document]***, the laboratory shall submit a report that includes the following:**

**(1) The numeric identifier code, date, and results of test performed.**
**(2) The laboratory's normal limits for the test.**
**(3) The laboratory's interpretation of the test results.**
**(4) The name, address, and telephone number of the:**

**(A) attending physician;**
**(B) hospital;**
**(C) clinic; or**
**(D) other specimen submitter.**
**(5) The name, address, and telephone number of the laboratory performing the test.**

SECTION 9. **Laboratory findings demonstrating evidence of Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus, as specified by SECTION 6 of this document, shall be reported weekly to the department.**

SECTION 10. **Laboratories may also report to the local health officer, but any such local report shall be in addition to reporting to the department. A laboratory may report by electronic data transfer, telephone, or other confidential means of communication. Instead of electronic data transfer or reporting by telephone, a laboratory may submit a legible copy of the laboratory report, provided that the information specified in SECTION 7** *[of this document]* **appears thereon. Whenever a laboratory submits a specimen, portion of a specimen, or culture to the department laboratory resource center for confirmation, phage typing, or other service, these reporting requirements will be deemed to have been fulfilled, provided that the minimum information specified in SECTION 7** *[of this document]* **accompanies the specimen or culture.**

SECTION 11. **All information obtained pursuant to this document is confidential as specified by IC 16-41-8-1.**

SECTION 12. SECTIONS 1 – 11 of this document *[SECTIONS 1 through 11 of this document]* take effect January 1, 2008.

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