

Facts about MRSA CC398.

September 2014.

The Danish Minister of Health, Nick Hækkerup has now banned school visits in MRSA-affected pigstalls. The reason is, that the number of people infected with MRSA CC398 has increased dramatically in 2013 and 2014. The germ is far more infective, than what was previously believed. There is a risk, that schoolchildren can transfer MRSA from a farmvisit to a nursing home, where the consequences can be deadly for the elderly.

The Danish Serum Institute has confirmed, that MRSA can be transferred by sexual intercourse.

If you work with pigs, you are according to the Danish Veterinary and Food Administration most likely to be a carrier of MRSA CC 398.

You infect your partner by having sex. You infect your children when you touch them. MRSA-398 can be transmitted also by droplet infection, i.e. by sneezing, coughing and blowing your nose.

The bacteria can survive in furniture, rugs and on door handles for months. Even if you change your clothes and take a shower, when you go home from the pigstall, there is a risk that you infect your family.

MRSA CC398 has been detected in the vagina. During a normal birth, there is great risk that the child gets infected. The child can also be infected through skin contact during breast-feeding, changing diapers, nursing and kisses.

MRSA spreads by skin contact, i.e. sex, handshakes, hugs and kisses. Therefore, your family, friends and pets are exposed to risk of infection, if you work in a pigstall.

And they can pass on the infection.

20% of newly infected in 2013-14 had no contact with pigs or staff in pigproduction.

MRSA CC 398 is also detected in the rectum.

If you are a carrier of MRSA you may suddenly fall very ill. It is not common, but it happens even for healthy, strong people.

What should you do, if you want to avoid infecting others?

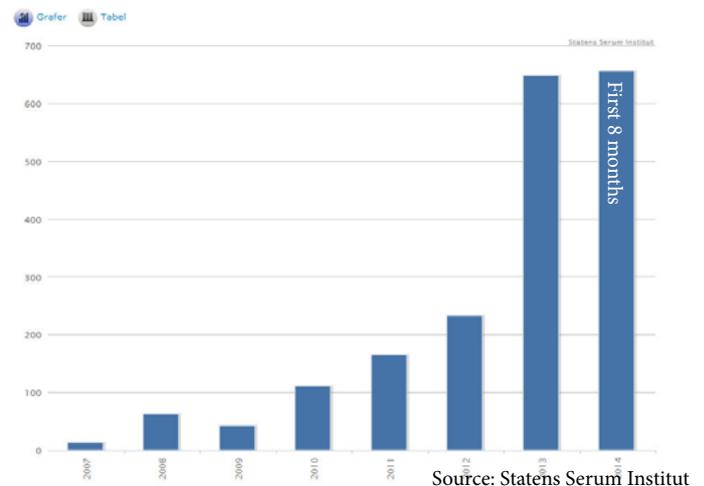
As long as you are working with pigs, treatment for your infection will be in vain. Therefore, you should refrain from sex and close contact with people who are not infected themselves

You should have a check at the doctor's, who makes a swab, and then only see others, who are also infected.

However, there is a risk of acquiring another, more aggressive MRSA anyway. Treatment is still possible, but may cause hospitalisation and uncomfortable side effects. Resistance will grow in the future, because of the intensive use of antibiotics in pigproduction.

For safety, get MRSA removed from your body and then find another job, where you are not necessarily infected with resistant bacteria.

Number of MRSA cases years: 2007-8/2014, type CC398



This information has been copied from the website of the Danish Veterinary and Food Administration, mail correspondence with the Danish State Serum Institute and the University of Southern Jutland.

Published by the weblog www.sickpigs.dk/Knud Haugmark

Take care. Do not spread MRSA
Get disinfected and find a safer job.
MRSA must stop spreading NOW!