

Professionshøjskolen UCN

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## Help us prevent the spread of MRSA in the hospital

24. juni 2025

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Dear student,

As a student in Denmark, you will come into contact with patients during your clinical placement.

It is important to quickly determine whether you may be a carrier of the staphylococcus bacteria known as MRSA. MRSA can spread in hospitals and cause illness in already vulnerable individuals.

Students from the Nordic countries must follow the Danish Health Authority's recommendations for MRSA, regardless of the duration of their stay.

We therefore ask that you contact your general practitioner before your study placement and get tested if, within the last 6 months, you have:

- Been diagnosed with MRSA
- Lived with a person who tested positive for MRSA
- Received treatment at a hospital or clinic abroad (outside the Nordic countries), and
  - the stay lasted more than 24 hours, or
  - any procedures were performed, such as insertion of IV lines, drains, or catheters, as well as dialysis or wound stitching – regardless of the duration of the stay
- Had contact with live pigs or mink
- Lived with someone who works with live pigs or mink
- Stayed or worked in a refugee camp
- Stayed in an asylum center

### **Help us prevent the spread of MRSA in the hospital**

- Worked or had a study/clinical placement involving patient contact at a foreign (non-Nordic) hospital, nursing home, institution, or clinic
- Worked in a department in Denmark or the rest of the Nordic countries where there has been an MRSA outbreak

The test involves swabbing with a cotton swab from the nose, throat, and between the buttocks. Your general practitioner will receive the test results within 3–5 working days.

If you test positive, you will be offered guidance from the Infection Hygiene Outpatient Clinic.

Kind regards,

UCN International Office

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### **Facts About MRSA**

*MRSA stands for “Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus aureus”. MRSA is a type of staphylococcus bacteria that is resistant to the most commonly used antibiotics.*

*A healthy person has a low risk of becoming seriously ill from MRSA, but the bacteria can sometimes cause bothersome infections such as boils and wounds.*

*In already weakened individuals, MRSA can cause serious infections that require long and complicated treatment.*

*It is therefore important to prevent the spread of MRSA in hospitals.*