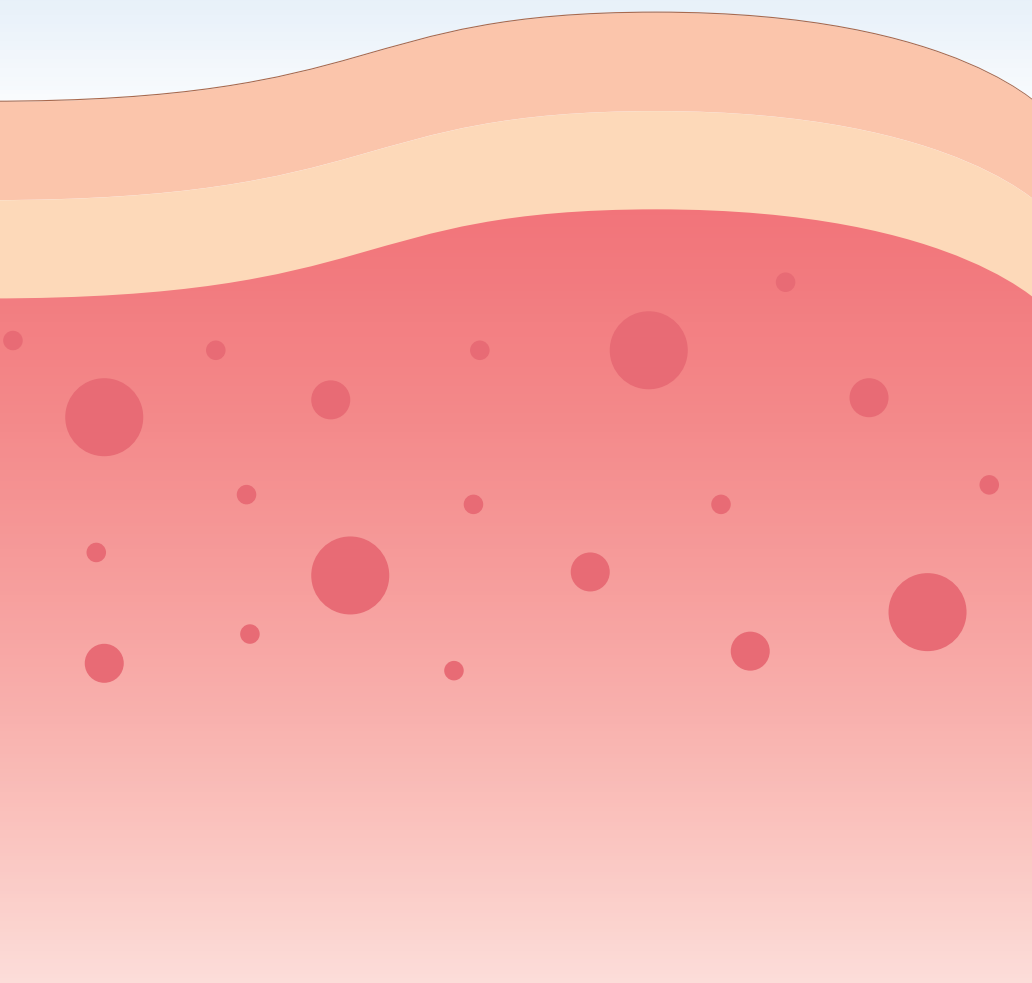


# BACTERIAL SKIN INFECTIONS:

What they are and  
what to do now

A guide to understanding and caring  
for serious skin infections, including:

■ Cellulitis   ■ Wound infections   ■ Abscesses



# UNDERSTANDING bacterial skin infections

**It's only natural to be concerned if** you or someone you care for is dealing with a **serious bacterial skin infection**. While these infections can look and feel scary, rest assured that they are common, and that you made the right decision in learning more about them. The **FAQs below will help** you better understand and care for bacterial skin infections. **Be sure to ask your healthcare provider any additional questions you may have.**

## What is a bacterial skin infection?

A bacterial skin infection occurs when bacteria finds its way into the body through an opening such as a cut or a wound. Most bacterial skin infections are mild and lead only to minor skin problems in healthy people. Symptoms of mild bacterial skin infections can include blisters and sores, redness, and itching.

## When is a bacterial skin infection considered serious?

Sometimes bacterial skin infections can become larger, more complex, and more severe than the mild cases described above. We refer to these as serious bacterial skin infections.

## The 3 most common types of serious bacterial infections are:



**CELLULITIS:**

Infections spread over a wide area that continue spreading if left untreated



**WOUND INFECTIONS:**

Infected breaks in the skin with draining pus



**ABSCESES:**

Infections with pus deeper within the skin (not draining)

## Common symptoms of serious bacterial skin infections include:

- Redness
- Swelling
- Pain
- Fever
- Chills
- Hardening and warming of the skin

In addition to more serious symptoms and a larger size, many serious bacterial skin infections won't respond to the same treatments used for milder, less complex infections. The next section of this brochure includes more information about how serious bacterial skin infections are treated.

## What kind of bacteria cause skin infections?

While a number of different bacteria can cause skin infections, 2 of the most common are streptococcus and staphylococcus bacteria. You may have heard of these bacteria before. They, and the infections they cause, are referred to respectively as "strep" and "staph."

These bacteria are common. In fact, staph bacteria are present on the skin or in the nose of approximately one third of the population. They are generally harmless unless they enter the skin through a cut or wound.

One of the most common staph bacteria that can cause a skin infection is called MRSA (short for methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*). MRSA infections are among those that many antibiotics can't treat. These infections can only be treated with specific antibiotics that have been shown to kill the MRSA bacteria.

Whichever bacteria is involved, remember that only a healthcare provider can diagnose a bacterial skin infection.



## How do people get bacterial skin infections?

It can be difficult to know exactly where or when someone's skin became infected. However, we do know that certain activities and health conditions can increase one's risk for infection.

### These include:

- Time spent in shared spaces such as hospitals, nursing homes, and student housing
- Chronic skin conditions such as eczema
- Participation in contact sports
- Being immune compromised
- Use of invasive medical devices such as catheters



While the above activities and conditions can put a person at increased risk for an infection, remember that many of the bacteria that cause these infections are common. No one should feel ashamed or embarrassed because they have a skin infection.

## Are bacterial skin infections contagious?

Certain types of skin infections can be spread between people while others generally cannot. Infections caused by staph bacteria, like MRSA, can spread easily through skin-to-skin contact. Other forms of infection, however, are generally not spread from person to person. A healthcare provider can offer more information on the nature of an infection and whether it may be contagious.

# TREATING AND CARING FOR bacterial skin infections

The FAQs below will help you **understand how bacterial skin infections are treated** as well as additional **steps to help it heal** and **prevent skin infections** in the future.

## How are serious bacterial skin infections treated?

Serious bacterial skin infections frequently need to be treated with specific and powerful antibiotics. This is partly because the bacteria that cause them may be resistant to the antibiotics commonly used for milder, less complex infections. These more powerful antibiotics are generally given intravenously (through an IV) rather than as pills.

In the past, IV antibiotics required multiple doses over a week or more. A full treatment course typically meant daily visits to a healthcare facility or 1 long hospital stay. These antibiotics often required a minor procedure to insert what is known as a peripherally inserted central catheter (PICC for short). A PICC is a long tube inserted through a vein in the arm and passed through to larger veins near the heart. It remains inserted for the full duration of treatment.

While these older antibiotics are still used, there are newer options that can treat serious bacterial skin infections just as effectively in 1 dose, without a PICC line or hospital stay.

See the reverse side of this brochure to learn about a single-dose antibiotic for serious bacterial skin infections.

## What if an infection does not improve with treatment?

Anyone whose infection has not gotten better 2 to 3 days after antibiotic treatment, or who experiences new symptoms, should call a healthcare provider right away. Signs that an infection is not getting better include:



**Worsening pain  
at the site of the  
infection**



**The skin  
infection  
grows larger**



**A new or  
worsening  
fever**



**Remember: even if a skin infection has improved, follow-up visits may still be required to ensure it is healing completely.**

## In addition to antibiotic treatments, what can help an infection heal and prevent the spread of bacteria?

The most important thing someone with a serious bacterial skin infection can do is see a healthcare provider and take their prescribed medication as directed. Along with treatment, there are a number of simple best practices that can help ensure skin infections heal as quickly as possible without spreading bacteria to others:



### **Cover the wound.**

A healthcare provider can provide directions on how to cover a skin infection and how long to keep it covered.



### **Practice good hand hygiene.**

Anyone who changes a bandage or touches an infection should wash their hands with antibacterial soap.



### **Avoid picking at the infection site.**

This can spread bacteria and make the infection worse.



### **Elevate the affected body part.**

This can help reduce swelling.



### **Use non-prescription pain medication if necessary.**

A healthcare provider can give guidance on the most appropriate over-the-counter options.

## How can someone prevent future skin infections?

While bacterial skin infections are common, there are simple steps one can take to keep skin healthy and prevent potentially harmful bacteria from entering the body:

- Always practice good hand hygiene
- Cover, clean, and care for cuts and scrapes
- Refrain from sharing personal items like towels and razors
- Promptly treat surface-level infections like athlete's foot



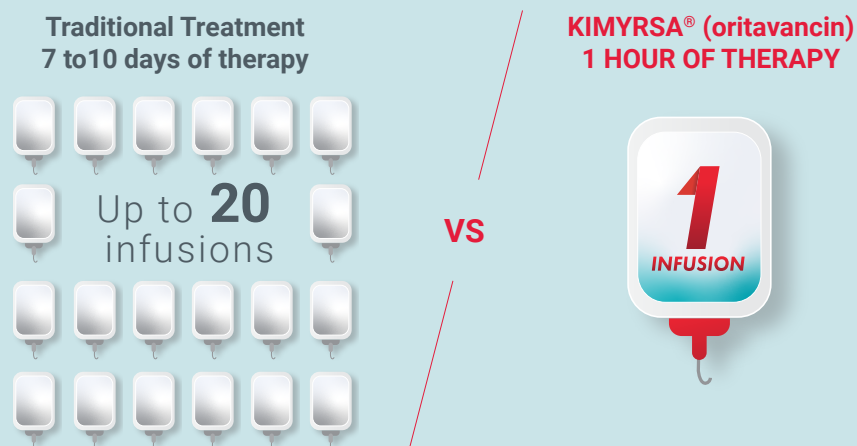
# A SERIOUS BACTERIAL SKIN INFECTION requires a POWERFUL TREATMENT

Learn more about the benefits of 1-dose, 1-hour KIMYRSA® (oritavancin)

KIMYRSA is an antibiotic for the treatment of certain types of bacterial skin infections, including those caused by MRSA, in people over 18 years of age. KIMYRSA is given as a 1-time intravenous (IV) infusion that provides a full course of therapy in just 1 hour.

## Powerful treatment in just 1 dose

In clinical studies, the active ingredient in KIMYRSA cured most skin infections with **a single infusion**, compared to traditional treatment that required **up to 20 infusions over 10 days**.



You have a voice in how you're treated—  
**ask your healthcare provider if KIMYRSA is the one for you.**

## IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION ABOUT KIMYRSA (cont'd)

### What should I know about the use of KIMYRSA® and unfractionated heparin?

Do not take unfractionated heparin (a blood thinning medicine delivered through a vein) within 120 hours (5 days) of receiving KIMYRSA®.

### When should I **NOT** take or receive KIMYRSA®?

KIMYRSA® should not be taken by anyone who has had an allergic reaction to KIMYRSA® or another glycopeptide such as ORBACTIV®, vancomycin, telavancin, or dalbavancin.

### What are some of the most common side effects for KIMYRSA®?

You may experience hypersensitivity, itchy skin, chills, fever, headache, nausea, vomiting, new or worsening skin infection, and diarrhea.

Please see accompanying Prescribing Information.

## Flexibility to help you get back to your life

Older IV antibiotics may require days or even a week in the hospital. KIMYRSA can help avoid a hospital stay by providing a full course of therapy in a single dose. An infusion of KIMYRSA can be given in a:

- Doctor's office
- Infusion center
- Emergency room
- Your own home

You will be comfortably seated while a healthcare provider gives you your KIMYRSA infusion. Your complete course of therapy is done after just 1 hour.

Plus, KIMYRSA does not require insertion of a peripherally inserted central catheter (PICC) line, which means no invasive procedures are necessary to receive it.

The proven effectiveness plus simplified dosing and administration of KIMYRSA can help you get back to what matters. Ask your healthcare provider if KIMYRSA is right for you.



## Speed plus safety

The active ingredient in KIMYRSA kills bacteria—including MRSA—fast, with a proven safety profile.

- The most common side effects of KIMYRSA include itchy skin, chills, fever, headache, nausea, vomiting, new or worsening skin infection, and diarrhea. Be sure to talk to your healthcare provider about the risks and benefits of treatment.

## Financial support and savings

KIMYRSA can help you avoid hospitalization and related costs frequently required for older IV antibiotics. You may also be eligible to save on your KIMYRSA prescription with the KIMYRSA Support Program.\*

For more information, you or your healthcare provider can call

**1-844-KIMYRSA (1-844-546-9772)**

Monday-Friday, 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM, ET.

KIMYRSA is covered by most insurance providers.

Talk to your healthcare provider to learn more about how KIMYRSA can help you get back to what matters

You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the FDA.

Visit [www.fda.gov/medwatch](http://www.fda.gov/medwatch) or call 1-800-FDA-1088.

\*Terms and conditions apply.

**GIVE THEM BACK THEIR DAYS**







Find your way  
**BACK to  
WHAT  
MATTERS**

How KIMYRSA® can treat your  
skin infection in just 1 dose

**IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION ABOUT KIMYRSA® (oritavancin)**

**What should I discuss with my healthcare professional before starting KIMYRSA®?**

Before starting KIMYRSA®, tell your healthcare professional about all of the medications you are taking and all of your medical conditions, including if you:

- Are using a medicine named Coumadin® (warfarin) that prevents blood from clotting
- Need to have a test to measure how well your blood is clotting
- Have developed severe diarrhea during or following antibiotic treatment in the past
- Have or are suspected to have a bone infection caused by bacteria (osteomyelitis). Your healthcare professional will treat you as necessary

**Please see additional Important Safety Information within and accompanying Prescribing Information.**

Coumadin® is a registered trademark of Bristol-Myers Squibb Company.



**Kimyrsa™**  
(oritavancin) for injection  
1,200 mg