

Uniform Approach

Key points for nursing staff

The professional image presented by you is an important component of the way in which you, and, importantly, nursing in general is regarded by colleagues, patients and the wider public. It is also an important factor in combating the spread of infection in health care environments.

Always remember:

- Wear a clean and freshly laundered uniform each day.
- Use any changing and laundry facilities provided by your employer or lobby for them to be provided.
- Do not wear wristwatches or jewellery, especially rings with ridges or stones.
- Keep nails short, clean and polish free. You should not wear artificial nails.
- Wear your hair neatly, off the collar, and in a style which does not require frequent readjustment.
- Change out of your uniform at the end of your shift.
- Do not enter commercial premises, such as shops, in your uniform.

For further guidance on uniforms see the RCN's *Guidelines on uniforms/clothing worn for delivery of patient care*, publication code 002 724 or visit www.rcn.org.uk/mrsa

wipe it out
RCN Campaign on MRSA