NOTE: Any licensed nurse or physician can initiate a review of the criteria for any resident who is MRSA positive.

**Step 1 - Are any of the following exclusion criteria present?**

- Sputum positive
- Open wounds greater than 1cm
- Indwelling devices (i.e., IV, Catheter, etc.)
- Living with family or close contacts who are MRSA positive
- Inadequate resources to carry out decolonization process
- Mupirocin or Fusidic acid resistant
- Continued use of antibiotics

**Step 2 - Does the resident have Wandering Behaviour?**

Decolonization may be still be considered for residents with wandering behavior if staff can ensure hand hygiene with only liquid soap or alcohol-based hand rub (do not use the Chlorhexidine gluconate (CHG) 2% liquid soap solution) 48 hours prior to screening swabs being collected.

**Step 3 – Compliance**

Residents must also be compliant with daily bathing routine, which may include the use of CHG wipes.

1) Physician/MRP to order nares/groin surveillance for MRSA.
2) Send the specimen to the lab.  
   Important: Prepare two requisitions (one may be photocopied) and specify “decolonization” on both.  
   Staple the requisitions together and send with the sample.  
   The lab will test for sensitivity to Mupirocin or Fusidic acid.
3) When sensitivity result is back, have the physician order the appropriate nasal ointment/cream from pharmacy.  