Background
Methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) has emerged as the predominant form of skin and soft tissue infections occurring in healthy children and adults. MRSA can be transmitted through close person to person contact, such as athletes participating in contact sports, or through disruption of our primary defense, the skin, such as in those sports prone to skin abrasions. Several outbreaks of MRSA have been reported in various sports teams, but the role of asymptomatic nasal carriage before, during, and after an outbreak is unknown.

This study was a one-year surveillance to assess the frequency of and risk factors for MRSA nasal colonization.