

Pseudomonas

What is Pseudomonas?

Pseudomonas is a skin infection resulting from exposure to contaminated spa water. Loss of sanitizer level and the temperature of the spa both pose as a breeding ground for this bacterium.

Characteristics of Pseudomonas

Pseudomonas is most commonly seen as an inflamed skin rash. It is extremely irritable and can become re-irritated in warm showers or baths. Pseudomonas can occur up to 14 days after actual exposure to the bacteria.

Pseudomonas Treatment

The first step should be to contact your physician for a recommended treatment. Unfortunately Pseudomonas is resistant to nearly all topical and oral antibiotics. However, symptomatic relief may be achieved by using vinegar compresses. Do not get back into the tub for 6-8 weeks to ensure the bacteria are completely gone.

Treating Pseudomonas in a Spa

1. Drain the spa and refill just above the jets.
2. Remove the filter and soak in a solution of chlorine/bromine and water (2 Tbsp/20L).
3. Shock with 4 times the normal dose of sanitizer.
4. Circulate the tub for 2-3 hours.
5. Add Drain Prep to clean out the spa lines
6. Drain and refill the spa with fresh water. Be sure to clean the tub with Tub Cleanse, rebalance and shock the water.
7. Do not enter the spa until the sanitizer level has dropped to 4.0ppm.

How Do I Prevent Pseudomonas?

1. Test your water on a regular basis especially before entering the tub to make sure an adequate level of bromine/chlorine is present.
2. Follow a regular cleaning schedule and keep the water line clean to prevent a build up of bacteria.
3. Try not to let your bathing suit dry while still wearing it, as this can trap bacteria to your skin.
4. If you are planning on sitting in the spa for a long period of time, check to ensure a sanitizer reading periodically.
5. Be sure the water is properly balanced so that your sanitizer can work at maximum efficiency.