

Wednesday  
March 3

*You are cordially invited to join us for...*

## “Decreasing MRSA Transmissions and Surgical Site Infections: A Case Study”

Surgical site infections (SSI) are the second most common nosocomial infection; most cases are preventable by adhering to appropriate prevention practices. It has been documented that MRSA SSIs significantly increase postoperative length of stay, cost, and mortality. Given the high clinical and economic burden of these infections, it is important for hospitals to implement appropriate infection control programs. In 2006, the Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center in Houston Texas implemented an MRSA prevention bundle that included rapid PCR surveillance to decrease MRSA transmission and healthcare-associated infections. The success of this program was detailed in a recent article, “Implementation of a Methicillin-Resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) prevention bundle results in decreased surgical site infections” in *The American Journal of Surgery*. You are invited to join two of the authors, Dr. Samir Awad and Patricia Byers, as they present details of the VA Houston’s MRSA prevention bundle and the positive impact it has had on reducing MRSA surgical site infections in their patient population.

**Date:** Wednesday, March 3, 2010  
**Time:** 9:00 – 10:00 AM (PST); 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM (CST); 12:00 – 1:00 PM (EST)  
**Speakers:** Samir S. Awad, MD  
*Associate Professor of Surgery  
Chief, Section of Critical Care  
Baylor College of Medicine  
Associate Chief of Surgery  
Medical Director SICU  
Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center, Houston, TX*

Patricia Byers, RM, M (ASCP), CIC  
*MRSA Prevention Coordinator/Infection Prevention  
Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center, Houston, TX*

**Suggested Attendees:** Physicians, Surgeons, Patient Quality, Lab Managers, Infection control

**To Attend the Webinar:** Registration is required

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