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## **“Grand Rounds” Address Impact of Antibiotic-Resistant Superbug on Healthcare Facilities**

*Multi-City Program Focuses on Best Practices for Elimination of MRSA Transmission*

**WASHINGTON, DC, November 16, 2006**— The Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (APIC), an 11,500 member organization headquartered in Washington, DC, will hold a series of “Grand Rounds” in various states throughout the country, starting in December and continuing into 2007. The “Grand Rounds” are designed to educate healthcare professionals and healthcare administrators on how to eliminate the transmission of methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA), the antibiotic-resistant superbug impacting millions of patients worldwide.

Over the next six months APIC’s “Grand Rounds: Elimination of MRSA Transmission” will be held in Washington, Philadelphia, St. Louis, Dallas and New York City. The program will feature nationally recognized physicians and infection prevention professionals discussing the consequences of MRSA, an increasingly prevalent and deadly organism in healthcare facilities. More importantly, the panel will highlight successful, systems-wide approaches that have effectively combated the increasingly troublesome infection.

“Leading institutions are proving that significant reductions in MRSA can be achieved and sustained through a combination of committed leadership and the application of best practices,” said Kathy L. Warye, APIC CEO. “The ‘Grand Rounds’ series is intended to build awareness and accelerate the learning necessary to combat MRSA. In keeping with our zero tolerance position on healthcare-associated infections, this program is intended to clearly demonstrate to clinicians and healthcare administrators how they can create effective strategies for protecting their patients from this deadly infection. By learning how successful healthcare institutions have implemented scientific methodologies, hospitals will be better equipped to introduce effective measures in their own facilities.

The “Grand Rounds” program, sponsored by BD (Becton, Dickinson and Company), is aimed at both clinicians and healthcare executives faced with the clinical and financial impact of MRSA in their facilities.

“BD is proud to sponsor APIC for this educational series to promote best practices in healthcare, with the ultimate goal of eradicating MRSA,” said Edward J. Ludwig, chairman, president and chief executive officer of BD. “APIC has demonstrated leadership in driving change in infection prevention and control. BD’s support for this effort is central to our commitment to prevent healthcare-associated infections and help all people live healthy lives.”

For further information, visit [www.apic.org/MRSAGrandRounds](http://www.apic.org/MRSAGrandRounds).



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**About APIC**

*APIC's mission is to improve health and patient safety by reducing risks of infection and other adverse outcomes. The Association's more than 11,000 members have primary responsibility for infection prevention, control and hospital epidemiology in health care settings around the globe. APIC advances its mission through education, research, collaboration, practice guidance and credentialing. Visit APIC online at [www.apic.org](http://www.apic.org).*

**About BD**

*BD, a leading global medical technology company that manufactures and sells medical devices, instrumented systems and reagents, is dedicated to improving people's health throughout the world. BD is focused on improving drug therapy, enhancing the quality and speed of diagnosing infectious diseases, and advancing research and discovery of new drugs and vaccines. The Company's capabilities are instrumental in combating many of the world's most pressing diseases. Founded in 1897 and headquartered in Franklin Lakes, New Jersey, BD employs more than 25,000 people in approximately 50 countries throughout the world. The Company serves healthcare institutions, life science researchers, clinical laboratories, industry and the general public. For more information, please visit [www.bd.com](http://www.bd.com).*