

### **TAKING MRSA TO THE BANK**

Team Leader: Hope Herd, BSN, RN, CPAN

Mercy Medical Center, Baltimore, Maryland

Team Members: Maureen Ciesielski, MT (ASP); Antoinette Gervasio, RN, MBA, CIC;

James Hall, MSN, RN, CRN, CAPA, NE-BC;

Tanya LeCompte Hoffman, MSN, RN, ACNS-BC, CPAN; Niki Bezold

Infection control practices pose a challenge to nursing care in general but can have a huge negative impact on the perioperative process. Although our institution did have a process to identify patients with current methicillin resistant staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) infection, the old practice of isolating all patients with a history of MRSA, throughout of the surgical population resulted in delays and the provision of necessary resources for turnover became difficult. After many months of discussion with the Infection Control Department, the Laboratory and the perioperative team, it was decided that a MRSA swabbing protocol would be implemented. Education of staff was provided through a “train the trainer” program and the process began in July of 2012. Since its inception the post anesthesia care unit (PACU) has experienced many positive outcomes including total cost savings of \$7200-11,800, a minimum decrease of forty minutes in PACU bay turnover, and a significant increase in PACU staff satisfaction.