

**RESOLUTION**  
**OF THE**  
**TENNESSEE PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION**  
**REGARDING**  
**IMPROVED PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF MULTI-DRUG RESISTANT**  
**ORGANISMS**

WHEREAS, that multidrug-resistant organisms (MDROs) including methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureas (MRSA), vancomycin-resistant enterococci (VRE) and certain gram-negative bacilli (GNB) have been associated with increased lengths of stay, costs and mortality; and,

WHEREAS, that successful prevention and control of MDRO's requires administrative and scientific leadership and a financial and human resource commitment; and,

WHEREAS, that the prevention and control of MDROs is a national priority – one that requires that all healthcare facilities and agencies assume responsibility; and,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Tennessee Public Health Association urges health care quality and standards setting organizations (e.g., Joint Commission) to create additional infection prevention and control standards, alerts, and patient safety goals focused on MDRO prevention, identification and control.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Tennessee Public Health Association supports rigorous infection prevention and control practices in health care settings with a focus on implementing clinically proven methodologies such as recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)'s Healthcare Infection Control Practices Advisory Committee (HICPAC) MDRO guidelines.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, a copy of this resolution be furnished to the Commissioner of the Tennessee Department of Health, the Tennessee Hospital Association, the Rural Health Association, the Tennessee Health Care Association, the Tennessee Nurses' Association, the Tennessee Medical Association, the Tennessee chapters of the Association for Professionals in Infection Control, the Tennesseans Improving Patient Safety Committee, the Tennessee Center for Patient Safety, the Tennessee Quality Improvement Organization, the Tennessee Health Information Management Association, the Tennessee Academy of Physician Assistants, the Tennessee Organization of Nurse Executives, the Joint Commission for Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations, and that a copy of this resolution be spread upon the minutes of the Association.

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Glenn Czarnecki  
President

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Doris Spain  
Executive Director

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Karen Lynn.  
Chair, Resolution Committee

References:

1. "Management of Multidrug-Resistant Organisms in Healthcare Settings, 2006. Jane D. Siegal, M.D.; Emily Rhinehart, RN, MPH, CIC; Marguerite Jackson, PhD; Linda Chiarello, RN, MS; the Healthcare Infection Control Practices Advisory Committee, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
2. American Public Health Association, Prevention and Control of Multi-drug-Resistant , Policy Number 200717, 11/06/2007.