

**CITY OF BALTIMORE**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **HEALTH DEPARTMENT ADDRESSES QUESTIONS ABOUT MRSA**

**BALTIMORE, MD** (October 19, 2007) – With reports of Methicillin-Resistant *Staphylococcus aureas* infections making national and local headlines, the Baltimore City Health Department is providing basic advice on how to reduce the spread of this infectious disease.

The Health Department is releasing a “MRSA Fact Sheet” and distributing it to schools, community centers, and the public via the website <http://www.baltimorehealth.org>.

Because good hand hygiene is an important element of prevention, the Health Department is re-releasing its Prevention Wednesday advice on handwashing.

The Health Department is also working closely with the school system to monitor and respond to concerns about MRSA.

“MRSA may be difficult to treat, but it is treatable,” said Dr. Laura Herrera, Chief Medical Officer of the Health Department. “People who have symptoms should consult their doctors. Those of us who are concerned by news reports should channel that energy into taking basic steps to keep ourselves healthy this winter.”

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