A Disclaimer:

I want to keep my word with you. I know you understand that I receive interesting and timely news items from friends all over the world. Most of these items appear to have prophetic relevance. Others are of particular interest in the field of Science, Health & Nutrition, Devotional themes and some touches of Humor.

With a bit of hesitation, I am forwarding some of these items to friends like you via email. My concern is this: some persons who will receive or read the items I choose to forward will assume that I endorse, approve or believe every "iota," and that I am endorsing the author or source. This simply is not true! As you read, you must be discerning, choosey, discriminating and use common sense. If you are going to quote someone, quote the source -- I am not the source, I am the reporter . . . --CW

Deadly Antibiotic-Resistant Superbug Spreads in Southern California

By: Katie Moisse/ ABC News.com / March 25, 2011

"An antibiotic-resistant superbug once thought to be rare is spreading through health-care facilities in Southern California, health officials say.

"Roughly 350 cases of carbapenem-resistant Klebsiella pneumoniae, or CRKP, were reported in Los Angeles County between June and December of 2010.

"CRKP joins other superbugs such as methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus, or MRSA, in a league of bacteria that outwits typical antibiotics."
"We develop new drugs to defeat the infections and germs change to get around those drugs and this is one of those cases,' Dr. Richard Besser, ABC News chief health and medical editor, said today in an interview on ABC News' 'Good Morning America.'"

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Netanyahu Denies Report He Caved In On Temple Mount
By: Gil Ronen / Israel National News.com / April 26, 2011

"The Prime Minister's Office issued a statement Tuesday bluntly denying a report that Binyamin Netanyahu intends to cave in to extreme Arab demands over Jerusalem and demographics.

"A Kuwaiti newspaper, Al Jarida, reported that Netanyahu will present a diplomatic plan next month that includes Israeli acquiescence to a preliminary 'Palestinian' with eastern Jerusalem as its capital. The paper also claimed that Netanyahu agreed to hand over the Temple Mount and other holy places to international sovereignty.

"The Kuwaiti newspaper claimed that the United Nations, United States and Russia were involved in the plan to turn over the holy sites to international hands."

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If there were no other evidence to tell us how close we are to the end of all things, it would be the rate at which time is hurtling into the past. It does not seem like a year since we were in New Orleans giving away books at Mardi Gras. But there again came the call, "Are you going to give away books during the parades?" And our response, once again:
"Absolutely!"

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Deadly Antibiotic-Resistant Superbug Spreads in Southern California

An antibiotic-resistant superbug once thought to be rare is spreading through health-care facilities in Southern California, health officials say.

Roughly 350 cases of carbapenem-resistant Klebsiella pneumoniae, or CRKP, were reported in Los Angeles County between June and December of 2010, according to a study from the L.A. County Department of Public Health to be presented April 3 in Dallas at the annual meeting of the Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America.

"These patients tend to be elderly, they are commonly on ventilators and they often stay at the facility for an extended period of time," Dr. Dawn Terashita, medical epidemiologist and lead author of the study, said in a statement.

CRKP joins other superbugs such as methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus, or MRSA, in a league of bacteria that outwits typical antibiotics.

"We develop new drugs to defeat the infections and germs change to get around those drugs and this is one of those cases," Dr. Richard Besser, ABC News chief health and medical editor, said today in an interview on ABC News' "Good Morning America."

Besser is a former acting director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta.

"It's like an arms race and in many ways the germs are winning," he said.

CRKP is not new to California, or the rest of the country for that matter. The CDC has been tracking it across 35 states since 2009. It is young, however, compared to MRSA, according to Dr. Arjun Srinivasan, associate director of the CDC's health care-associated, infection-prevention programs.

"But in terms of mortality and morbidity, it's very, very serious," Srinivasan said. "These infections are more difficult to treat than MRSA."

CRKP is an enterobacterium like salmonella and E. coli.

It is unclear how many cases of the 350 reported by Terashita and colleagues were fatal. It is also unclear whether the infections stemmed from improper care at long term-care facilities or the frailty of the patients they serve. But Terashita said infected patients tended to have health problems that often resulted in antibiotic use, which might have made them more susceptible.

"All of these factors contribute to a greater risk for health care-acquired infections," she said.

Besser said, "This superbug is very dangerous. It tends to affect people that are in the hospital for long periods of time; people that have underlying medical problems; people who have been in nursing homes."

Although healthy people in the general public are not at risk for infection, they could transmit the bacteria to sick loved ones.

"As a loved one of someone that is in the hospital, you have to be vigilant when you're sitting there with your relative and anyone comes in and wants to touch your relative without washing their hands," Besser said. "You have to say something. ... It does come down to simple things like that, making sure no one is giving a germ to someone you care about."

Health-care workers should be equally vigilant,

"A lot of it comes down to hospitals," he said. "They need to make sure that health-care workers aren't spreading it from patient to patient. That's mainly
Preventing the spread of CRKP is key because the infections are so difficult to treat, the CDC's Srinivasan said. The "mainstay treatment," colistin, is an older generation antibiotic with toxic side effects. And newer, more effective treatment options are unlikely to be developed any time soon.

California CRKP was first noticed in New York City. In a 2010 study by researchers at the Columbia University Medical Center in New York City, for instance, 42 percent of infected patients died within 30 days of infection. "That's right, there are New York hospitals that have problems, North Carolina hospitals," Besser said. "It's not just limited to California."

The CDC website has a map detailing other affected states.

"If we want to stop resistant bacteria in their tracks, we have to know where to begin," the CDC's Srinivasan said in a statement.

"These findings demonstrate the vital need to monitor drug-resistant bacteria and highlight the important and growing role that state and local health departments are playing in helping monitor and prevent health care-associated infections."
Public Health update of Carbapenem-Resistant *Enterobacteriaceae* (CRE) producing metallo-beta-lactamases (NDM, VIM, IMP) in the U.S. reported to CDC

Given the importance of *Enterobacteriaceae* in healthcare-associated infections (HAI) and the extensive antimicrobial resistance found in these strains, all types of carbapenem-resistant *Enterobacteriaceae* (CRE) are an important public health problem, regardless of their mechanism of resistance or their country of origin. In addition, as *Enterobacteriaceae* are a normal part of human flora, the potential for community-associated CRE infections also exists. Carbapenem-resistance in *Enterobacteriaceae* can occur by many mechanisms, including the production of a metallo-beta-lactamase (such as NDM, VIM, and IMP) or a carbapenemase (such as *Klebsiella pneumoniae* carbapenemase, KPC).

CDC has been working with partners to prevent CRE infections, including those caused by KPC-producing organisms, which are the most common type of CRE in the United States. The KPC gene makes *Enterobacteriaceae* bacteria resistant to all beta-lactam/carbapenem antibiotics. KPC producers have been reported in about 36 states and are associated with high mortality, up to 40 percent in one report. They may be present in the other 14 states as well, but have not been reported to CDC. The presence of CRE, regardless of the enzyme that produced that resistance, reinforces the need for better antibiotic stewardship, transmission prevention, and overall HAI prevention in any healthcare setting.

The detection of new mechanisms of carbapenem resistance (ie, metallo-beta-lactamases) in the United States has raised questions about the identification and control of CRE. [See laboratory protocol for detection of KPC and NDM-1 genes (/HAI/settings/lab/kpc-ndm1-lab-protocol.html).] The mechanism of carbapenem-resistance is of epidemiologic interest but is not necessary for implementation of infection prevention recommendations. Current guidance for the control of all types of epidemiologically important multidrug-resistant organisms is available in the [2006 MDRO Guideline (/hicpac/mdro/mdro_0.html)]. In addition, see specific guidance for the control of CRE ([http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5810a4.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5810a4.htm)). These recommendations apply regardless of the resistance mechanism.

It is important to note that CRE, unlike other drug-resistant infections such as VRSA, are not a nationally reportable or notifiable disease. Therefore, there is not a requirement to report to CDC and therefore we may not know the true number of infections caused by these organisms in the US (only those voluntarily reported to CDC).

Below is a map showing states with confirmed CRE cases caused by the KPC enzyme in yellow. A blue dot represents a confirmation of CRE caused by the NDM-1 enzyme. An orange dot represents a CRE caused by a VIM or IMP enzyme.

**2010 Location of Carbapenem-Resistant *Enterobacteriaceae* (CRE) caused by KPC enzyme; CRE caused by other enzymes noted**
States with confirmed CRE cases caused by the KPC enzyme.

Alabama
Arizona
Arkansas
California (CRE caused by the NDM-1 enzyme and VIM or IMP enzyme)
Colorado
Delaware Florida
Georgia
Illinois (CRE caused by the NDM-1 enzyme)
Indiana
Iowa
Kentucky
Louisiana
Maryland (CRE caused by the NDM-1 enzyme)
Massachusetts (CRE caused by the NDM-1 enzyme)
Michigan
Minnesota
Mississippi
Missouri
Nebraska
New Hampshire
New Jersey
New Mexico
New York
North Carolina
Ohio
Oregon
Pennsylvania
South Carolina  
Tennessee  
Texas  
Utah  
Virginia (CRE caused by the NDM-1 enzyme)  
West Virginia  
Wisconsin  
Wyoming

State with confirmed CRE cases caused by a VIM or IMP enzyme
Washington

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National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases (NCEZID)  
Division of Healthcare Quality Promotion (DHQP)

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800-CDC-INFO (800-232-4636) TTY: (888) 232-6348, 24 Hours/Every Day -  
cdcinfo@cdc.gov  
http://www.cdc.gov/HAI/organisms/cre.html
The Prime Minister's Office issued a statement Tuesday bluntly denying a report that Binyamin Netanyahu intends to cave in to extreme Arab demands over Jerusalem and demographics.

A Kuwaiti newspaper, *Al Jarida*, reported that Netanyahu will present a diplomatic plan next month that includes Israeli acquiescence to a preliminary "Palestinian" with eastern Jerusalem as its capital. The paper also claimed that Netanyahu agreed to hand over the Temple Mount and other holy places to international sovereignty.

Netanyahu also supposedly consented to let Arab "refugees" into Israel, in accordance with a plan to annihilate the Jewish state demographically, known as the "right of return."

*Al Jarida* said that these concessions were detailed by Israeli delegate Attorney Yitzchak Molcho in a secret meeting with Palestinian Authority negotiator Saeb Erikat, ahead of Netanyahu's upcoming major policy speeches in Washington.

"There was never any secret meeting between Attorney Yitzchak Molcho and Saeb Erikat," the PMO said, "and therefore it is also clear that the alleged contents of the meeting have no basis in reality."

The Kuwaiti newspaper claimed that the United Nations, United States and Russia were involved in the plan to turn over the holy sites to international hands.
Give Me Something Nice!
Back to Mardi Gras in New Orleans

If there were no other evidence to tell us how close we are to the end of all things, it would be the rate at which time is hurtling into the past. It does not seem like a year since we were in New Orleans giving away books at Mardi Gras. But there again came the call, “Are you going to give away books during the parades?” And our response, once again: “Absolutely!”

The rolling and packaging of the books commenced. We planned to take thousands of books to an event which realistically could have accommodated hundreds of thousands more; but you do what you can as God makes provision for your efforts—right?

This year we decided to try a new tactic: we packaged a couple of boxes of books, then stood a bagful at bus stops along the parade route of the satellite community of Metairie. Once the parade began, we began our distribution to the crowds; once our supply ran out, we exited the parade and grabbed another bagful at the next bus stop, then went right back into the crowd. Within a couple of hours we had given away thousands of books to the crowds pleading, “Me! Me! Me! Give me something nice.”

A long-time veteran of book distribution, Emile Spalitta, made the suggestion that we try something similar the next day in New Orleans. So we devised a plan to place similar bags of books along the Saint Charles Avenue parade route once the cleaning regiment had gone through. At midnight that night we stood a bag at the corner of each block for almost a mile (the parade was scheduled to travel seven miles, with an estimated attendance of a million people). By 2 A.M. we were ready for bed.

The next day we parked in New Orleans and walked through the teeming crowds to where our first stack of books was waiting for us. The method again worked perfectly. The books were protected inside the big plastic bags, and simply blended in with the paraphernalia that campers and attendees of the parade had left overnight. As the floats started their procession, we began our distribution as the night before. Again, within a few hours we had successfully given away thousands more publications.

Our thanks are due to you, without whom our work would not be possible—thank you!

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