

UPMC Beacon Hospital

Press Release

Monday 16th November, 2009

“Superbugs” main fear during hospital stay - UPMC Beacon Hospital survey reveals greatest patient concerns -

Almost three in four adults (72%) “worry a lot” about the risks of contracting a Superbug/MRSA when staying in Irish hospitals, survey results published today on behalf of UPMC Beacon Hospital reveal. Conducted by Behaviour & Attitudes, the survey explored patient concerns when staying in hospital.

When asked to nominate their single greatest concern when staying in hospital (see details below), the majority (58%) stated the risk of contracting a “Superbug” or MRSA. The risk of contracting a Superbug/MRSA or picking up an infection from another patient, concerned 70% of respondents.

UPMC Beacon Hospital, who commissioned the survey, is pleased to report that it has had no cases of MRSA in 2008 or the first half of 2009. “Effective infection prevention and control is crucial to the smooth working of our hospital and excellent standard of care for our patients, and we are very pleased to highlight our continued success in this area today. It is important patients feel confident that they will not fall victim to infection or poor standards of care when entering hospital, and this survey highlights that this is a very real fear for too many patients”, said Joel Yuhas, CEO UPMC Beacon Hospital.

Stringent quality measures are employed in the hospital to ensure infection is controlled and that patients are safe and able to ask questions of their medical team.

1,040 adults aged 15 and older were interviewed face-to-face in the home between 26 June and 7 July 2009. Respondents were asked to voice their concerns on a number of issues including; Superbug/MRSA, standards of food, quality of accommodation, volumes of adequate nursing staff, rates of room overcrowding, infection fears, and availability and accessibility of physicians.

UPMC Beacon Hospital

Located in south Dublin, UPMC Beacon Hospital provides world-class acute care services, including heart surgery, neurosurgery, comprehensive cancer care, and emergency medicine services. The hospital, which opened in October 2006, has 183 acute care beds, eight operating theatres, two endoscopy suites and 14 dedicated critical care beds.

The eight-bed medical-surgical intensive care unit (ICU) and six-bed coronary care (CCU) unit are designed to provide specialized patient care and recovery. Each suite has individual, glass-fronted cubicles to ensure privacy and to minimise the risk of infection. UPMC Beacon Hospital prides itself on a comprehensive infection control programme, highlighting the hospital's commitment to being the highest-quality and safest provider of acute care services.

UPMC Beacon Hospital opened its consultant-delivered Emergency Department in March 2007, the first Emergency Department in the Eastern region attached to an independent hospital, giving patients immediate access to all major specialties including orthopaedics, cardiac care, medicine and general surgery.

The UPMC Beacon Cancer Centre offers patients the latest advances in cancer prevention, detection, diagnosis and treatment, with an unparalleled range of treatment options, including diagnostic testing, surgery, chemotherapy and radiotherapy in one convenient location.

The UPMC Beacon Women's Centre, which encompasses the full spectrum of women's gynaecological care, utilises minimally invasive procedures whenever

possible. The Beacon Comprehensive Breast Centre also provides same-day mammography results and treatment in a warm, comforting environment.

About UPMC

University of Pittsburgh Medical Centre (UPMC) is an integrated global health enterprise headquartered in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and one of the leading nonprofit health systems in the United States. As a global employer with 50,000 employees and nearly \$8 billion (more than €5.5billion) in revenue, UPMC is focused on integrating medicine, research and technology to deliver world-class healthcare.

UPMC operates 20 academic, community, and specialty hospitals and 400 outpatient sites, and is renowned for its integrated health delivery system. Through this network, the organisation has advanced the quality and efficiency of health care and developed internationally renowned programs in cancer, neurosurgery, orthopaedics, sports medicine, transplantation and psychiatry, among others.

Through UPMC's International and Commercial Services Division, the organisation has launched a portfolio of new businesses and international ventures, bringing world-class health care, advanced technologies, and management skills to populations throughout the world.

Internationally, UPMC operates a transplant facility in Italy and two cancer centres and a hospital in Ireland. UPMC also provides emergency medical services and training in Qatar and is implementing electronic medical record technology at two hospitals in the United Kingdom. UPMC recently announced an agreement to manage a planned health centre in Cyprus and a partnership with GE Healthcare to develop cancer centres throughout Europe and the Middle East.

Further information can be found at: www.upmc.com <<http://www.upmc.com>> .