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BETH ISRAEL MEDICAL CENTER RECEIVES THIRD PINNACLE AWARD FOR INFECTION PREVENTION

July 15, 2010 -- Beth Israel Medical Center is the winner of the 2010 Health Care Association of New York State's Pinnacle Award for its program to prevent catheter-associated urinary tract infections.

The effort to reduce these infections was led by Brian Koll, MD, FACP, Chief of Infection Prevention at Beth Israel. He has been an innovator in the prevention of healthcare-associated infections not only within Beth Israel but throughout New York State.

This is Beth Israel's third Pinnacle Award in four years. In 2009 Beth Israel received the award for sustained reduction in hospital-acquired MRSA, and in 2007, for its program to reduce central line associated bloodstream infections.

Dr. Koll noted, "This has been a team effort involving staff from our critical care units, transport services, nursing education and infection prevention coaches, most notably Daisy Bartholomew, RN, at Petrie and Michelle Jack, PCA, at the Kings Highway Division." Dr. Koll also spoke highly of the efforts of Laura O'Brien, RN, and Cathy Binck, RN, MSN, in making this initiative so successful.

A recipient of the 2010 Heroes of Infection Prevention Award from APIC, an organization of infection preventionists, Dr. Koll is quick to point out that, "infection prevention is everyone's responsibility, and we need to continue to promote that to all healthcare workers."

"Beth Israel's patients are the greatest beneficiaries of Dr. Koll's leadership on infection prevention efforts," said Harris M. Nagler, MD, president of Beth Israel Medical Center. "We are grateful for the recognition of the work Dr. Koll and his team have been doing at Beth Israel and sharing with other institutions."