**SuperBug**

**Instructions:** Read the book excerpt, *SuperBug: The Fatal Menace of MRSA* by Maryn McKenna, carefully. The excerpt is found on the assignment page of the course website under Biol 2301. Write a concise 1-2 page commentary-style paper consisting of exactly 3 paragraphs typed in MS Word (do not go over 2 pages; do not add an Intro and Summary paragraph – only 3 body paragraphs because this is a scientific/technical paper). Your format for the paper should be single-spaced paragraphs. Place a double-space between paragraphs. Use a 12pt font such as Arial, Helvetica or Times-Roman. No references are needed. The title of your paper is “SuperBug: The Fatal Menace of MRSA”.

In the paper, address the following content thoroughly but succinctly:

Paragraph 1. Jay Sorenson went through living hell. In fact, during his illness from 2005 to 2008, his insurance company paid out over 1 million dollars on his care due to MRSA. Jay, unfortunately, is part of a growing trend rather than a rare exception. And, new strains of drug-resistant superbugs like VRE are emerging. What do you think about what happened to Jay? Give what you have learned, what this might mean for all of us?

Paragraph 2. What is the number one thing that medical personnel can do to cut the risk tremendously in spreading MRSA/VRE? Do you feel our local hospitals are safe? Explain.

Paragraph 3. MRSA survives on surfaces in hospitals. Not just hard surfaces such as

 counters and bed rails but also on soft surfaces such as curtains and

 doctor’s coats for days. Given this fact, how do you really protect yourself?

 What about the practice of rolling a portable blood pressure device with the

 cloth cuff from room-to-room down the hospital hall? If you were in

 charge, what would you require hospitals to do differently to help stop or

 eradicate MRSA/VRE?

Additionally, the paper must have a title page stapled on top of the paper *(NOTE: a stapler is generally not in the classroom so please have this step done ahead of time).* The paper must be stapled and may not be turned in with paper clips. Center & mid-page on this title page, place your first and last name, course and number (i.e., Biol 2301), day/time of class meetings (MW 11:00am – 12:15pm), and title of paper (as shown in the first paragraph of this document).

Please note, I do not accept email submissions. You must turn in a hard copy (i.e., already printed out). I do not accept late papers. Do not bring your paper to my office. It must be turned in during class time on the appropriate day & time that I have assigned as the due date.