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UCLA INFECTIOUS DISEASE SPECIALIST TESTIFIES AT HOUSE HEALTH SUBCOMMITTEE HEARINGS EXPRESSING ALARM AT LACK OF ANTIBIOTICS IN DEVELOPMENT

*Infectious Disease Specialist Dr. Brad Spellberg and Industry Leader
Zimek Technologies Spearhead Efforts in Treatment Solutions*

Washington, D.C. (June 14, 2010) -- Dr. Brad Spellberg, associate professor of medicine at the UCLA School of Medicine and an expert in infectious diseases, expressed alarm at the lack of antibiotics currently in development during a special testimony during a House Energy and Commerce Health Subcommittee hearing June 9.

Dr. Spellberg, and other physicians who testified, raised concern for the spread of antibiotic-resistant microbes, including out of the hospital and into the community -- with lethal results.

"Everyone is at risk of these infections," warned Dr. Spellberg, who spoke on behalf of the Infectious Diseases Society of America. Dr. Spellberg is also a member of the Advisory Board of Zimek Technologies, a worldwide leader in infection control which has been developing and marketing its patented automatic Micro-Mist decontamination technologies for more than five years.

Zimek's industry-leading technologies are used by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Fire and EMS departments, healthcare facilities, public health agencies, transit systems, correctional facilities, and local law enforcement agencies across America. Zimek's special products "micronize" disinfectants that can quickly and automatically decontaminate facilities, equipment and vehicles. The germ-killing, revolutionary micro-mist can permeate crevasses and hidden surfaces where super-germs are untouched by standard sanitizing methods.

Energy and Commerce Chairman Henry A. Waxman (D-Calif.) said the issue "deserves the full and complete attention" of the committee and called antibiotic resistance "a growing and dangerous threat to the public health."

Antibiotic-resistant infections "are extremely difficult to treat and frequently recur," Spellberg testified. "These infections result in tremendous pain, suffering and disfigurement in adults, children and infants, and have caused millions of deaths worldwide."

Nearly 100,000 Americans die annually from infections acquired in hospitals, and treatment-resistant strains are spreading into the community, Spellberg noted. "A number of advanced interventions that we currently take for granted -- surgery, cancer treatment, transplantation and care of premature babies -- would be impossible to perform without effective antibiotics."

Kurt Grosman, CEO of Zimek Technologies stated, "We are delighted Dr. Spellberg was invited to make such an important presentation and applaud both Chairman Waxman and Subcommittee Chairman Frank Pallone Jr. (D-N.J.) for spotlighting the alarming prevalence of antibiotic-resistant bacteria. We share their concern and look forward to being part of the solution."

Meanwhile, "antibiotic development is dying," Spellberg testified, adding that "we would be lucky to have two or three new antibiotics approved in the next few years given the sorry state of antibiotic development."

"Prior generations gave us the gift of antibiotics," he concluded in his testimony. "Today we have a moral obligation to ensure that antibiotics are available for our children and future generations."

According to Dr. Spellberg, who serves as a Zimek Advisory Board member and is a recognized scholar on drug-resistant bacteria, "In the face of this growing threat, it is incumbent upon the medical and research communities to explore every credible tool for combating dangerous, life threatening bacteria, many of which have grown resistant to antibiotics. Zimek's technology provides us with a new and powerful addition to our arsenal."

In addition to advising Zimek, Dr. Spellberg is a medical doctor, renowned researcher, UCLA professor, and author of the new book, "Rising Plague: the Global Threat from Deadly Bacteria and Our Dwindling Arsenal to Fight Them." He joined Zimek's Advisory Board to support the company's innovative approach to combating dangerous pathogens.

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