

COLORADO

CAFÉ SCIENTIFIQUE

TUESDAY 22 JANUARY 2008

at the Wynkoop Brewing Company

<http://www.wynkoop.com/>

Corner of 18th and Wynkoop in LoDo, Denver

About a block from Light Rail. Thirteen minutes by foot from Auraria.

FROM MIASMAS TO MRSA:

How Did We Get Here and What Do We Do Now?

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News reports warn that MRSA is a “superbug” that is resistant to antibiotics and will sweep through schools and communities. Headlines like "**MRSA More Deadly Than AIDS**" are factually true, but they ignore the point that *more people die from common things than uncommon things*. In fact, methycillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus is a collection of different staph strains that are resistant to some antibiotics and quite sensitive to others. They are by no means untreatable. But while it used to be a hospital-acquired infection, MRSA is now the most common pathogen isolated in the emergency department from patients with skin and soft-tissue infections. At 3% of all staph isolates, MRSA was infrequent in community-acquired infections before 2000; but now it represents 55-65% of staphylococcal infections in the community. Where is it coming from? What do we need to do to stop it? Are other bugs heading towards ever-increasing resistance?

EVERYONE IS WELCOME. The discussion starts at 6:30 in the Mercantile Room (no food service there). Come before 6 PM to leave yourself time to get something to eat in the restaurant area, or stay and eat afterwards. We end around 8 PM.

There's no charge. The Wynkoop is generously providing the facility; we buy our own drinks. It is first come, first seated, and **seating is limited** so that everyone can take part in the discussion.

The Colorado Café Scientifique in Denver is organized by an informal committee of faculty from CU and institutions up and down the Front Range, as well as writers, students, and science fans from industry, government and all over. We welcome your input, including ideas for speakers and topics. Bring them with you to the next Café, or e-mail them and any questions to John.Cohen@UCHSC.edu

Essential information on our Web site at <http://CafeSciColorado.org>