MRSA: Suit Claims Nurse Should Have Seen The Signs.

A patient came to the emergency room two weeks after giving birth complaining of a two-day history of hip pain radiating down both legs.

The triage nurse reported it to the physician as a simple case of low back pain, so he gave the patient a prescription for ibuprofen and a muscle relaxant and sent her home.

She came back five days later with a methicillin-resistant Staph infection which put her in the ICU for eleven days.

The Court of Appeals of Texas refused to accept an expert witness's report laying full blame on the triage nurse for not suspecting a post-partum infection. <u>McKenna</u> <u>Memorial Hosp. v. Quinney</u>, 2006 WL 3246524 (Tex. App., November 10, 2006).

Legal Eagle Eye Newsletter for the Nursing Profession