

**“Hospitals Fight to Stop Superbugs’ Spread”** NPR Talk of the Nation Story Homework Assignment

*Control + Click on link to access story, or cut and paste the link below into your browser.*

URL: <http://www.npr.org/2012/09/18/161355297/hospitals-fight-to-stop-superbugs-spread>

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

1. What is the scientific name of the bacterial species that has developed “superbug” strains referred to as KPC?
2. In what hospital did the outbreak of KPC featured in this story occur? What’s special / different about this hospital? What type of health care facilities are at risk?
3. Dr. Eli Perencevich explained the two main reasons that KPC and other antibiotic resistant Gram negative pathogens so difficult to eliminate. What are those two reasons?
4. What is the mortality rate for bacteremia (bacteria in blood) from KPC, in this most recent outbreak?
5. Although we have not been successful in entirely stopping their spread, what are the current recommended practices for infection prevention and control regarding these superbugs?
6. Why are pharmaceutical companies reluctant to devote resources to developing new classes of antibiotics?