



## Michael Bell, MD

Director of Laboratory Safety  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

**Dr. Michael Bell** was appointed to the newly created position of director of laboratory safety for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on July 15, 2014. A 19-year CDC employee, Dr. Bell most recently served as deputy director of the Division of Healthcare Quality Promotion in CDC's National Center for Emerging Zoonotic and Infectious Diseases.

An expert in drug-resistant pathogens and hospital-acquired infections, Dr. Bell's career has focused on investigating and preventing transmission of healthcare-associated illnesses for hospital patients and staff alike as well as developing evidence-based infection control guidelines. He has been instrumental in advancing programs for prevention of antimicrobial resistance and improvements in safe medical practices.

Dr. Bell began his CDC career in 1997 as an Epidemic Intelligence Service officer investigating outbreaks of healthcare-associated illness and writing national infection control guidelines for the agency's Hospital Infections Program. He then became a medical epidemiologist and laboratory sciences liaison for the Division of Healthcare Quality Promotion in CDC's National Center for Infectious Diseases. As chief of the epidemiology unit in the

Special Pathogens Branch, Division of Viral and Rickettsial Diseases, he recommended steps to improve control of high-risk pathogens—such as the Ebola, Marburg, and Nipah viruses—during numerous outbreak responses.

In 2005, Dr. Bell was named associate director for infection control in the Division of Healthcare Quality Promotion, becoming deputy director of the division in 2010.

Dr. Bell served for four years as executive secretary for the Healthcare Infection Control Practices Advisory Committee of the US Department of Health and Human Services. He has authored more than 20 peer-reviewed articles and book chapters.

Dr. Bell earned the Bachelor of Science in biology and microbiology as well as the Doctor of Medicine from the University of Washington. He completed his internship and residency in internal medicine at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center. He completed a clinical fellowship in infectious diseases at the University of California San Francisco as well as a postdoctoral fellowship in virology and immunology. Dr. Bell is board certified in infectious disease and internal medicine.

