

Healthcare Policy



To Patient



2010 Conference for Health Care Transparency & Patient Advocacy

Health Watch USA

501C3 Non-Profit Organization



All presentations and handouts are the express opinions of the speakers.

Paradigm Shift In Our Thinking

Evidence indicates that, with focused efforts, these once formidable infections can be greatly reduced in number, leading to a new normal for healthcare-associated infections as rare, unacceptable events.

-- Thomas R. Frieden, Director of the CDC – Oct. 6, 2010

<http://www.journals.uchicago.edu/doi/full/10.1086/656002>

Healthcare Acquired Conditions

- "We found that about one in seven hospitalized Medicare beneficiaries (13.5 percent) experienced harm as a result of an adverse event during hospital stays"
- Physician reviewers determined that 44 percent of events were preventable, most commonly because of medical errors, substandard care, and inadequate patient monitoring.

MRSA – Prevention (DRAFT)

⦿ Different Approaches

- Collaboratives among facilities, public and private sectors, disciplines
- Focus on basic infection control practices (e.g., barrier precautions, **surveillance**)
- Focus on standardizing measures across facilities and settings
- Focus on decreasing device use by ensuring appropriateness for insertion and maintenance
- **Active surveillance testing**

⦿ Allowing some heterogeneity in terms of how success is defined

⦿ Ensuring the availability of local data for local action/local strategies for local issues