



Health Watch USA Newsletter

www.healthwatchusa.org June 1, 2010

***** Conference Announcement *****

Health Watch USA 2010 Conference

2010 Conference Topic: Value Purchasing and Hospital Acquired Conditions. Date: Nov 19, 2010, Lexington Embassy Suites on Newtown Pike, Lexington, Kentucky. ON-LINE REGISTRATION NOW OPEN Brochure: http://healthconference.org/2010conference_downloads/HCTPA_Brochure.pdf

Scheduled speakers include:

- 1) Richard Wild, MD, JD, Chief Medical Officer, Atlanta Regional Office Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), will present "CMS Perspectives on Value Based Purchasing, P4P, and Meaningful Use of Electronic Health Records."
- 2) Dr Jim Battles, PhD, Center for Quality Improvement and Patient Safety, AHRQ - Presenting Quality and Safety Provisions in the New Health Care Reform Law.
- 3) Jill Rosenthal, Program Director, National Academy for State Health Policy -- Presenting on State Medicaid Policy on Hospital Acquired Conditions.
- 4) Jeannie Cimiotti, DNSc, RN, Center for Health Outcomes and Policy Research, University of Pennsylvania – School of Nursing. Co-Author of "Implications of the California Nurse Staffing Mandate for Other States." <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/20351541>
- 5) Lisa McGifferts, Senior Policy Analyst on Health Issues, Consumer Union. Presenting on Hospital Acquired Infections.
- 6) Alicia Cole, Patient Advocate, Actress, and Necrotizing Fasciitis Survivor - A Hospital Acquired Condition. <http://www.aliciacole.com/>
- 7) Joycelyn Elders, MD, former US Surgeon General.
- 8) Marvin Feit, PhD, Editor of the Journal of Health and Social Policy.

Continuing education credits will be applied for RN, MD, JD, OT, PT, Social Work and Human Resource Managers.

To register go to: www.healthconference.org

To register as an exhibitor go to: <http://healthconference.org/exhibits.htm> [View Exhibitors](#)

The 2009 Conference Presentations Can be Viewed at:

<http://www.healthwatchusa.org/conference2009/index.html>

Veterans Administration MRSA Study Results Obtained by HW USA.

HW USA has obtained the results of the VA MRSA prevention study. Data was collected while patients were treated under VHA Directive 2007-002 which mandated universal active surveillance/screening of all patients admitted to the VA Hospital (except psychiatric units), contact precautions and hand hygiene. http://www.healthwatchusa.org/mrsa/pdf_downloads/VHA-MRSA-Directive-2007-002.pdf
Results are as follows:

“The most recent Veteran Health Administration (VHA) evaluation of the data for Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (MRSA) Healthcare Associated Infections (HAI’s) shows the following:

(http://www.healthwatchusa.org/mrsa/pdf_downloads/VAH-MRSA-2010-Results.pdf)

- MRSA HAI rates in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) setting declined 76% (from 1.62/1,000 Bed Days of Care (BDOC) in October 2007 to 0.39/1,000 BDOC in June 2009)
 - MRSA HAI rates in the non-ICU setting declined 28% (from 0.46/1,000 BDOC in October 2007 to 0.33/1,000 BDOC in June 2009)
- ”

(Note; VHA Directive 2007-002 has been replaced with VHA Directive 2010-006
http://www.healthwatchusa.org/mrsa/pdf_downloads/VHA-MRSA-Directive-2010-006.pdf)

Healthcare Acquired Infections:

Congressional testimony by Thomas Frieden, MD, MPH Director of the CDC regarding antibiotic resistance and the threat to health and the positive results the Pittsburg VA MRSA study had on prevention of infections. “Disease surveillance is a core CDC activity. CDC uses surveillance systems to assess and monitor the scope, magnitude and trends of the antibiotic resistance problem. Surveillance data are used not only to monitor resistance rates but are also used to drive and direct prevention efforts, determine treatment recommendations, guide new drug development, and evaluate the effectiveness of prevention programs.”

http://energycommerce.house.gov/Press_111/20100428/Frieden%20Testimony%204.28.10.pdf

Infectious Disease Society of America (IDSA)

Launches an infections map on the IDSA (Infectious Diseases Society of America) website that has information about antimicrobial resistance for every state.

<http://www.idsociety.org/antimicrobialresistanceinUSA.htm>

Public Reporting of Infections in Illinois is Producing Results.

http://articles.chicagotribune.com/2010-05-16/health/ct-met-infections-low-performers-20100515_1_infections-surgical-illinois-hospital-report-card

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/health/ct-met-hospital-infections-20100515,0,2528455.story>

Illinois website on healthcare transparency: <http://www.healthcarereportcard.illinois.gov/>

APIC Survey on Hospital Protocols for Control of C. Diff.

[http://www.apic.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Featured News and Events&TEMPLATE=/CM/ContentDisplay.cfm&CONTENTID=15496](http://www.apic.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Featured_News_and_Events&TEMPLATE=/CM/ContentDisplay.cfm&CONTENTID=15496)

American Hospital Association

Releases report on “Advancing Excellence in Patient Care, Improving Quality and Patient Safety”

<http://www.aha.org/aha/content/2010/pdf/10-quality.pdf>

Texas Hospital Association

Launches Patient Safety Institute

<http://www.tha.org/HealthCareProviders/AboutTHA/PressRoom/TexasHospitalAssoci09B7.asp>

Nursing Home Safety – GAO Report

GAO report studies Nursing Home Quality and recommends changes to the Special Focus Facility (SFF) Program (established in 1998 to help address poor nursing home performance.)

<http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d10197high.pdf>

Proposed Model Statue for Public Reporting of HAI for Kentucky.

This is posted as a resource to be modified and used as a basis for legislation.

This sample has been constructed from prior proposed Kentucky and Federal Legislation.

<http://www.healthwatchusa.org/downloads/20100118-KY%20HAI%20bill.pdf>

Speakers now available on Healthcare Transparency and Value Purchasing (How to shop for quality and price in our healthcare system) for more information contact

healthwatchusa@gmail.com