



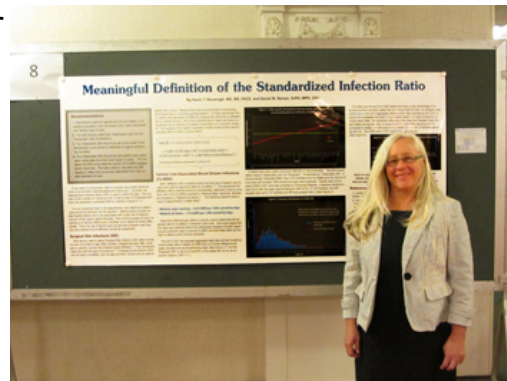
# Health Watch USA Newsletter

[www.healthwatchusa.org](http://www.healthwatchusa.org) June 16, 2012

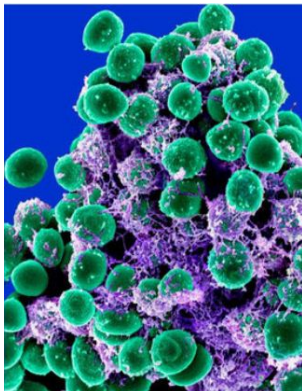
Member of the National Quality Forum and a designated "Community Leader" for Value-Driven Healthcare by the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services

## Health Watch USA Presents Poster at the 2012 HAI Data Summit (US Dept. of Health and Human Services).

Health Watch USA in conjunction with Consumer Reports had a poster presentation on the Standardized Infection Ratio (SIR) at the US DHHS 2012 HAI Data Summit in Kansas City, MO. The presentation's recommendations were as follows:



- Risk factors used for adjustment should relate to the patient population and not based upon risks associated with facility type or size.
- The SIR should reflect the "Obtainable" and not the "Expected" rate of infections.
- The Obtainable SIR should be set at the peak of the distribution curve which is reflective of higher performing facilities.
- The Obtainable SIR should be calculated every other year using data from the most recent 3 years. This enables the SIR to be reset as control of CLABSI progressively improves. The data used to calculate the SIR needs to reflect the outcomes obtainable from the current standard of care.



Shown in the picture above is Lisa McGifferts from Consumer Reports standing in front of the poster.

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### New Research Published in Nature Studies the Structure, Function and Diversity of Human Bacteria.

<http://www.nature.com/nature/journal/v486/n7402/full/nature11234.html>

If knowing what "normal bacteria" a person is carrying is important, then what about surveillance of abnormal bacterial such as MRSA ??

Will surveillance someday be part of a periodic physical exam ??

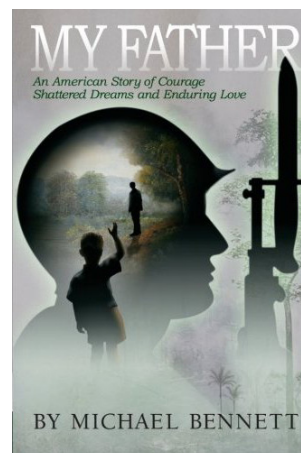
The Journal Nature published some of the findings of a \$170 million project to survey the normal bacteria on the human body and at the same time the Medical Industry appears stuck in the Stone Age debating whether we should survey for abnormal bacteria.

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### **Book Review of My Father: An American Story of Courage, Shattered Dreams and Enduring Love.**

A biography of the life of a son's father who overcame many adversities but eventually died of multiple healthcare associated infections. -- Courier Journal, June 14, 2012.

<http://www.courier-journal.com/article/20120616/FEATURES06/306160026/Book-review-My-Father->



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### **High Utilization of CT and MRIs Scans Continues.**

Over a 15 year period the use of CT Scans increased more than 2.8 times and the use of MRI scans increased more than 3.8 times. During this time, studied patients had a doubling of their radiation dosage.

<http://jama.jamanetwork.com/article.aspx?articleID=1182858>

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### **Insurance Companies are Forming Accountable Care Organizations.**

<http://jama.jamanetwork.com/article.aspx?articleid=1172053>

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### **Leapfrog Group Releases their 2012 Hospital Survey.**

Coverage by Medpage Today:

<http://www.medpagetoday.com/HospitalBasedMedicine/GeneralHospitalPractice/33120>

Go to Leapfrog Groups: <http://hospitalsafetyscore.org> to compare facilities.

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**Only a Small Fraction of Doctors are Participating in CMS's Quality Reporting Program, The Others Will be Facing a Penalty.**

[http://www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/amawire/2012-june-06/2012-june-06-general\\_news2.shtml](http://www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/amawire/2012-june-06/2012-june-06-general_news2.shtml)

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**A Good Website on Prevention of Healthcare Associated Infections**

<http://en.haiwatch.com/patientpage/HaiwatchPatientPage.htm>

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**Health Watch USA Fall Conference on Shared Decision Making**

--Nov. 9th, 2012 go to [www.healthconference.org](http://www.healthconference.org) for more details.

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