



Health Watch USA Newsletter

www.healthwatchusa.org July 10, 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

2012 Health Watch USA Conference Registration is Now Open.

This year's conference will center on Shared Decision Making and Value Purchasing -- Be sure you need the recommended healthcare and if so how to obtain low cost high quality healthcare. Nov. 9th, 2012 Four Points Sheraton in Lexington, Kentucky. See www.healthconference.org for more information.

Speakers Include:

- Howard Blackburn J. Chair Elect, Kentucky Society for Human Resource Managers on Value Purchasing.
- Rosemary Gibson. Author of the Treatment Trap on Medical Overutilization and Over Treatment.
- Richard Wild, MD, Chief Medical Officer, CMS Atlanta Region on Hospital Safety and Value Purchasing.
- Karen Curtiss, Author of Safe and Sound in the Hospital.
- Tihisha Rawlins, Associate Director of Advocacy, Kentucky AARP on Tips for Getting Safer Healthcare.
- Venettozzi, Chandra (Ky CHFS, Office of Health Policy).
- Past US Surgeon, General Dr. Joycelyn Elders, on the Importance of Speaking Up.



Download Brochure: http://healthconference.org/2012conference_downloads/2012-Brochure.pdf

The Variability in Recommended Healthcare -- OP-Ed in Lexington Herald Leader.

The variability of medical care causes patient dissatisfaction and the loss of trust in the healthcare industry. The results of the recent poll conducted by the Harvard School of Public Health and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation about patient satisfaction with the U.S. health care system were, unfortunately, not surprising.

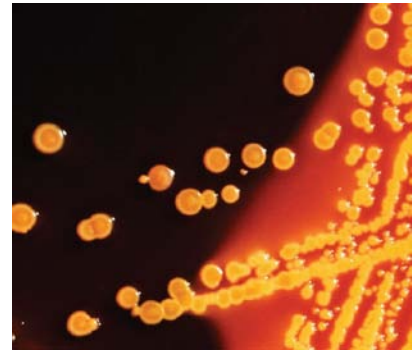
<http://www.kentucky.com/2012/06/25/2236895/patients-dissatisfied-with-unnecessary.html#storylink=misearch>

CDC Releases Updated Guidance to Fight Carbapenem-Resistant Enterobacteriaceae (CRE)

CRE causes a deadly form of Healthcare Associated Infection, with 40% of the patients infected dying.

New CDC Website: <http://www.cdc.gov/HAI/organisms/cre/index.html>

Download CDC PDF on Guidance for Control of CRE:
<http://www.cdc.gov/hai/pdfs/cre/CRE-guidance-508.pdf>



A CRE Tracking Map is Starting to Be Developed:

<http://www.cdc.gov/hai/organisms/cre/TrackingCRE.html>

[Click on Image to Enlarge](#)

CMS Suspends Regulations Which Mandate that at least one Member of the Medical Staff Sits on the Hospital Board.

<http://www.fiercehealthcare.com/story/cms-puts-hospital-board-rule-hold/2012-06-19>

http://www.ahanews.com/ahanews/jsp/display.jsp?dcrpath=AHANEWS/AHANewsNowArticle/data/ann_061812_CoP&domain=AHANEWS

Fiduciary Responsibility

Similar to the financial industry the concept of having a fiduciary responsibility to the customer or beneficiary has been lost in the healthcare industry. The most important charge that needs to be made is that all levels of healthcare, should have their primary fiduciary responsibility to the patient.

Read more on Fiduciary Responsibility:

<http://www.indexuniverse.com/publications/journalofindexes/joi-articles/6047-the-fiduciary-principle.html?fullart=1&start=4>

Consumer Reports Releases New Hospital Rating System

Below is a link which explains Consumer Reports rating system and lists the top and bottom 10 rated hospitals. <http://www.consumerreports.org/cro/magazine/2012/08/how-safe-is-your-hospital/index.htm?EXTKEY=ZF27P000>

Consumer Reports - Hospital Survival Guide:

<http://www.consumerreports.org/health/doctors-hospitals/hospital-care/hospital-survival-guide-6-11/the-basics/safe-hospital-stay.htm>

Hospital Care for the Medically Indigent May Go Uncompensated.

The Supreme Court struck down the mandate of insuring patients up to 133% of the Federal Poverty Level at the same time the healthcare reform law eliminated DSH payments which were largely used to compensate hospitals for uncompensated care.

http://www.fiercehealthcare.com/story/hospital-bills-could-go-unpaid-if-states-opt-out-medicaid/2012-07-09?utm_medium=nl&utm_source=internal

According to CMS Office of the Actuary, Healthcare Costs will Continue To Rise Faster than the GNP.

"2011 through 2021, national health spending is projected to grow at an average rate of 5.7 percent annually, which would be 0.9 percentage point faster than the

expected annual increase in the gross domestic product during this period. "

<http://content.healthaffairs.org/content/31/7/1600.early>

Finding a Job Not Easy for Newly Graduated Nurses

What happened to the nursing shortage ?

<http://www.marketplace.org/topics/life/finding-first-job-not-easy-new-nurses>

Hospital Acquired Infections Have Fallen by 20% in England.

<http://www.bmj.com/content/344/bmj.e3664>

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