



Health Watch USA Newsletter

www.healthwatchusa.org July 27, 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

Process and Mortality Measures used in Value Purchasing

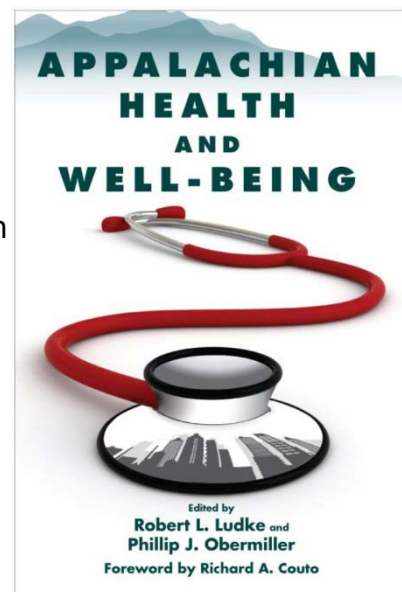
Process Measures do not appear to effectively promote healthcare quality and Mortality Measures may be hard to financially incentivize: Health Watch USA has a letter published regarding Quality Measures and the Premier Study in the NEJM.

<http://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMc1206170>

Appalachian Health and Well Being -- Book Review and Comment

For those who wish to understand the health and well-being in Eastern Kentucky this is an insightful book which will give all an appreciation of the herculean task that has been placed upon the Kentucky Dept. of Health and Human Services.

<http://www.courier-journal.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2012307140037>



Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Study Finds That Hospital Consolidation Leads to Price Increases.

"Hospital mergers in concentrated markets generally lead to significant price increases."
"Hospital competition improves quality under an administered pricing system."

<http://www.rwjf.org/files/research/5973.74582.synthesisprojectupdate.hospitalconsolidation.pdf>

Hospitals are only Reporting 1% of Adverse Events to the States that have Adverse Event Reporting Systems.

<http://oig.hhs.gov/oei/reports/oei-06-09-00092.pdf>

<http://kyhealthnews.blogspot.com/2012/07/hospitals-not-reporting-cases-of-harm.html>

Patients Reluctant to Disagree with their Doctor and to Participate in Shared Decision-Making.

Only 14% of patients stated they if they disagreed with their doctor, they would express and discuss the disagreement with their doctor.

<http://archinte.jamanetwork.com/article.aspx?articleid=1212630>

2012 State of Massachusetts Report Shows Healthcare Costs Still Rising.

According to a Massachusetts Employer Survey, rising Healthcare Costs continue in Massachusetts. The Employer Survey found that from 2009 to 2010 Family and Individual Coverage rose 6.1% and 8.4%, respectively (No data for 2011).

<http://www.mass.gov/hqcc/docs/meetings-2012/2012-05-04-cc-presentation.pdf>

Drugs for Anemia Have Made Billions but Possibly Doing Harm To Patients.

http://www.washingtonpost.com/business/economy/anemia-drug-made-billions-but-at-what-cost/2012/07/19/gJQAX5yqww_story.html?wpisrc=nl_headlines

Insurance Companies Are Forming Accountable Care Organizations.

FierceHealthPayer http://www.fiercehealthpayer.com/story/aetna-cigna-blues-launch-new-acos/2012-07-18?utm_medium=nl&utm_source=internal

New York City Hospitals are Dropping Malpractice Insurance.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2012/07/16/nyregion/some-hospitals-in-new-york-lack-a-malpractice-safety-net.html>

FDA Spied on E-Mails from its Own Scientists.

Possible implications for Whistle Blowers.

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?shva=1#inbox/13887eda521d3ad8>

Central Line Associated Blood Stream Infections Drop 79% in Kansas Hospitals and a 48% Drop in Ohio Hospitals.

<http://www.fiercehealthcare.com/story/infection-rates-drop-79-hospital->

collaboration/2012-07-16?utm_medium=nl&utm_source=internal

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 Jr. 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.
- Leana W. Wen, MD. President of the American Academy of Emergency Physicians/Residents and Students Association on How to Avoid Misdiagnosis and Unnecessary Tests.
- Karen Curtiss, Author of Safe and Sound in the Hospital.
- Tihisha Rawlins, Associate Director of Advocacy, Kentucky AARP on Tips for Getting Safer Healthcare.
- Chandra Venettozzi (Ky CHFS, Office of Health Policy).
- Past U.S. Surgeon General, Dr. Joycelyn Elders, on the Importance of Speaking Up.



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

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