



Health Watch USA Newsletter

www.healthwatchusa.org Sept 20th, 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

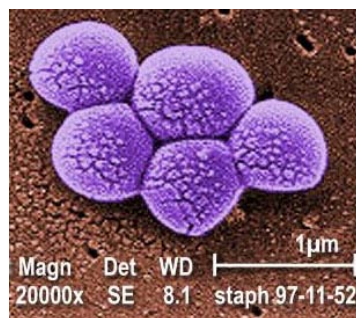
A Perspective on the Evidence Regarding Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus Surveillance.

Review article published in the Journal of Patient Safety now with FREE ACCESS.

Download Free Access PDF At:

<http://journals.lww.com/journalpatientsafety/Fulltext/2012/09000/>

[A Perspective on the Evidence Regarding.6.aspx](#)



Institute of Medicine Report: Better Care at Lower Cost.

"Current waste (in our healthcare system) diverts resources; the committee estimates \$750 billion in unnecessary health spending in 2009 alone."

"Health care delivery organizations should develop organizational cultures that encourage continuous improvement by incorporating best practices, transparency, open communication, staff empowerment, coordination, teamwork, and mutual respect, and that align incentives accordingly."

"Health care delivery organizations, clinicians, and payers should increase the availability of information about the quality, price, and outcomes of care, and professional specialty societies should encourage transparency in the information provided by their members."

<http://www.healthwatchusa.org/publications/2012-Documents/BestCareReportBrief.pdf>

Health Watch USA Represented at AHRQ 2012 Conference.

To the right is a picture of Dr. Said Abusalem from Health Watch USA and Dr. Carolyn Clancy, Director of AHRQ.

Massachusetts Healthcare Has Rising Costs but Enacted Reform Has Slowed the Increase. -- Poster Presentation at AHRQ 2012 Conference.



Click on Pictures to Enlarge



Tax Penalty to Hit Nearly 6 Million People Under Healthcare Reform.

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/09/19/health-care-tax-penalty_n_1898005.html?ir=Business

IRS will not be involved in tax audits, pursuing Americans without health insurance.
<http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2012/09/16/irs-agents-will-not-be-involved-in-tax-audits-pursuing-americans-without-health/#ixzz272HW8xMY>

The US is not the Only Country with an Overutilization Problem

The Guardian reports that half the drugs prescribed in France may be useless or dangerous.

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?shva=1#inbox/139de118199d110e>

The Non-Payment Policy of Catheter Associated Urinary Tract Infection has been Found to Reduce Payments to Hospital in only 0.003% of hospitalizations.

Inaccuracies in Claims Data was found to be a factor.

<http://annals.org/article.aspx?articleid=1355682>

CMS Releases 2011 Financial & Accreditation Report for Facilities.

http://healthwatchusa.org/publications/2012-Documents/2011_CMS_Financial_Report.pdf



Nurse Centric (Lead by Nurses) Models for ACOs are Proposed.

[http://www.fiercehealthcare.com/story/
acos-transform-nurse-centric-model/2012-09-17](http://www.fiercehealthcare.com/story/acos-transform-nurse-centric-model/2012-09-17)

CDC Email on HAIs and State Efforts:

"CDC Funds Help States Prevent Healthcare-Associated Infections"

"With funds made possible by the Affordable Care Act, all states that applied to CDC for infrastructure funds (49 states, Washington D.C. and Puerto Rico), will receive funding to continue to implement strategies to protect patients from health care-associated infections (HAI). 16 states are receiving funding to prevent HAIs across the spectrum of health care by building multi-facility prevention initiatives, including: California, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Illinois, Iowa, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Tennessee, Vermont, and Wisconsin. Previous investments have resulted in 21 states demonstrate significant reductions in HAIs in their states, which have saved lives and health care costs."

"Four states will receive HAI funding to advance the national implementation of electronic laboratory records by improving capacity to receive, validate, process, and use incoming electronic laboratory records messages in surveillance systems. These states include: Arizona, Tennessee, South Carolina, and New Mexico. This work will impact the timely reporting of health care-associated infections to CDC's National Healthcare Safety Network."

"Learn more about what your state is doing to prevent HAIs at CDC's clickable map;"
<http://www.cdc.gov/HAI/state-based/index.html>

2012 Health Watch USA Conference Registration is Now Open.

This year's conference will cover Healthcare Overutilization, Shared Decision Making and Value Purchasing -- Continuing Education Credits for 6.5 hours have been approved for MD, RN, LPN, ARNP, OT, and PT. Credits for SHRM and CLE are pending.

Speakers: Among the nationally renowned speakers on Overutilization, Shared Decision Making and Unnecessary Healthcare are Rosemary Gibson, Patty Skolnik, Dr. Leana Wen and Dr. Joycelyn Edlers.

Speakers on obtaining high quality, low cost, safe care are Dr. Richard Wild (CMS), Tahisha Rawlins (AARP), Karen Curtiss, Chandra Venettozzi (KY CHFS) and Howard Blackburn Jr. (SHRM).

Health Watch USA Presentors include Dr. Said Abusalem and Dr. Daniel Saman who will

present on measures of quality, and Helen Bukulmez, JD who will present on medical devices.

Nov. 9th, 2012, Four Points Sheraton in Lexington, Kentucky.
Go To: www.healthconference.org for more information.

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



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