



Health Watch USA™ Newsletter

www.healthwatchusa.org November 12th, 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

HW USA Op-Ed Consumers Need to Know the Details of Hospital Ranking Systems.

Some stress patient safety others stress reputation.

Lexington Herald Leader. Nov. 7th 2012

<http://www.kentucky.com/2012/11/07/2398709/ky-voices-consumers-must-scrutinize.html>

Health Watch USA 2012 Conference Information Now On-Line

Over 140 participants were at the 2012 Health Watch USA Conference. Topics included Shared Decision Making, Overutilization, Value Purchasing and Patient Engagement. Presentations now online include: Dr. Leana Wen, Dr. Joycelyn Elders, Dr Said Abusalem, and Rosemary Gibson.



To view presentations and PowerPoints go to:

<http://www.healthwatchusa.org/conference2012/index.html>

To the left are pictures of Dr. Joycelyn Elders receiving an appreciation award by Dr. Leana Wen (far left); Speaker Rosemary Gibson (center) and Speakers Dr. Elders, Dr. Wen and Patty Skolnik.

[Click on Pictures to Enlarge](#)

MedPAC Considering Equal Pay for Outpatient Services From Free Standing Doctor Offices and Hospital Employed Physicians.

http://www.fiercehealthcare.com/story/medicare-considers-equal-outpatient-payments-hospitals-doc-offices/2012-11-01?utm_medium=nl&utm_source=internal

http://www.medpac.gov/transcripts/1012_presentation_amcareservices.pdf

Parachute use to prevent death and major trauma related to gravitational challenge: systematic review of randomized controlled trials

<http://www.bmj.com/content/327/7429/1459>

This article relates to the high bar which is sometimes advocated before standards can be set.

C. Difficile is on the Rise According to H-Cup Data

<http://www.healthwatchusa.org/publications>

[/2012-Documents/20121103-](#)

[CDI_Regional_projections_Final.pdf](#)

59% of Surveyed ICUs are Now Screening for MRSA.

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/23021413>



Are Some of the Barriers to Screening are Based in Questionable Studies?

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

[A_Perspective_on_the_Evidence_Regarding.6.aspx](#)

Should Antibacterial Soap Not be Routinely Used ??

<http://health.howstuffworks.com/skin-care/cleansing/myths/antibacterial-soap-outlawed.htm>

Hospital Pay for Performance Reduces Mortality in England

-- New England Journal of Medicine. Nov. 7, 2012

<http://www.nejm.org/doi/pdf/10.1056/NEJMSa1114951>

Medicare's (CMS) Policy of Non-Payment of Hospital Acquired Conditions.

New Data has been posted for 2010 for CMS's policy of recouping money for Healthcare Acquired Conditions. The data is not much different from the previous year. See Chart F: Estimated Net Savings of Current HACs

<https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2012/08/31/2012-19079/medicare-program-hospital-inpatient-prospective-payment-systems-for-acute-care-hospitals-and-the#t-9>

In 2012 the total money recouped from approximately 5000 facilities was \$19.4 million dollars, and only \$92,100 was for central line vascular infections, a very small sum of money.

Surgical Mortality is Lower at Magnet Hospitals

<http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/773611>

Healthcare Integration: Humana Spending 500 Million to Buy Provider Network
<http://www.businessweek.com/news/2012-11-05/humana-to-buy-metropolitan-health-for-500-million>

Kentucky Justice Center for Elders and Vulnerable Adults -- Fall 2012 Conference

Challenges of End-of-Life Issues: The Good, Bad & Ugly
Friday November 16, 2012. 8:30 am - 5:00 pm
UK Chandler Hospital Auditorium Pavilion A
Lexington, Kentucky.

Download More Information and Announcement
<http://healthwatchusa.org/publications/2012-Documents/november/KY-Justice-CTR-2..pdf>

Download Schedule
<http://healthwatchusa.org/publications/2012-Documents/november/KY-Justice-CTR..pdf>

Visit and "Like" HW USA's Face Book Page at:

<http://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Health-Watch-USA/153721114718392>

To Subscribe to this Newsletter Go To:

<http://www.onlineent.org/lists/?p=subscribe&id=2>



**This Newsletter is the Express Opinion of its Authors
and Health Watch USA™.**