



Health Watch USAsm Newsletter

www.healthwatchusa.org March 1th, 2013

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

Note: Some of the Links Must be Pasted Into Your Browser To View

Book Review: "Bad Pharma"

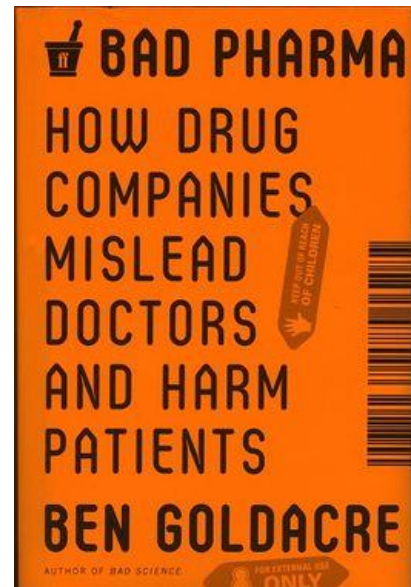
Courier Journal. Feb. 23, 2012 - (In Print Only)

"If you are one of the many Kentuckians who take multiple psychotropic medications (nerve, sleep, pain), no one even pretends to know how these pills will interact or even if these combinations are safe. I highly recommend that caregivers, doctors and patients read this book."

To View the Book Review Go To:

<http://www.courier-journal.com/article/20130223/FEATURES06/302230110/Book-review-Bad-Pharma->

To Buy the Book Go To: http://www.amazon.com/Bad-Pharma-Companies-Mislead-Patients/dp/0865478007/ref=sr_1_1



The Bitter Pill. Why Healthcare Bills are Killing Us

Time Magazine March 4, 2013. (Paste Link Into Browser)

A huge report of almost 25,000 words of what is wrong with our healthcare system and "How outrageous pricing and egregious profits are destroying our health care."

<http://healthland.time.com/2013/02/20/bitter-pill-why-medical-bills-are-killing-us/>

ER Admission Rates vary 2.5 Fold In Different States

"Higher proportions of Medicare and uninsured patients, more inpatient beds, lower ED volumes, for-profit ownership, trauma center status, and higher hospital occupancy rates were associated with higher ED admission rates."

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/23295438>

Healthcare Costs More Than You May Know (Paste Link Into Browser)

<http://www.startribune.com/opinion/commentaries/192756641.html>

Hundreds Sue Kentucky Hospital over Alleged Unnecessary Heart Procedures

Nearly 400 people have filed suit, US Attorney also investigating.

<http://www.courier-journal.com/article/20130216/PRIME01/302160096/Hundreds-sue-Kentucky-hospital-over-alleged-unnecessary-heart-procedures>

Use of Robots for Hysterectomy Soars, but with Little Benefit

<http://www.medpagetoday.com/HematologyOncology/OtherCancers/37435>

Medical Groups Identify 90 Unnecessary and Overused Treatments.

<http://www.fiercepracticemanagement.com/story/physicians-choosing-wisely-campaign-unnecessary-overused-tests-treatments/2013-02-21>

Kentucky Hospitals Report Very Few Infection Outbreaks for 2012

Healthcare Associated Infections

Outbreaks in Healthcare Facilities -- Kentucky, 2012				
Organism	Hospital	LTCF	Correctional Healthcare Facility	Total
B. pertussis	1	0	0	1
C. difficile	0	1	0	1
CRE (Klebsiella Pneumoniae)	1	0	0	1
GI illness, unspecified	1	33	0	34
Influenza	0	13	1	14
Legionella	0	1	0	1
MRSA	1	0	0	1
Norovirus	2	27	0	29
Norovirus, suspected (unconfirmed)	0	5	0	5
Respiratory Illness, unspecified	0	1	0	1
Unknown Cause	0	5	0	5

Click on Table to
Enlarge

Definition of an outbreak is when the number of infections are above the facility's baseline. The definition of a baseline is up to the facility.

HW USA's Kentucky State House Presentation on Healthcare Reform and Healthcare Acquired Infections.

<http://www.healthwatchusa.org/HWUSA-Presentations-Testimony/20130215-KY-House/20130214-kavanagh.htm>

Rare Super Bug (CRE) is Spreading in the U.S.

<http://www.foxnews.com/health/2013/02/27/reports-rare-superbugs-increasing-in-us/>

DC Hospitals and Nurses Fight Over Patient-to-Nurse Ratios

Nurses say a law is needed to assure minimal staffing and patient safety. Hospitals state that the cost would put them out of

business. <http://www.kaiserhealthnews.org/Stories/2013/February/22/DC-Hospitals-Nurses-Staffing-Ratios-Fight.aspx>

Is the Patient Safety Movement in Danger of Flickering Out? By Bob Wachter

<http://community.the-hospitalist.org/2013/02/18/is-the-patient-safety-movement-in-danger-of-flickering-out/>

[Dr Gary Kaplan](#), CEO of Virginia Mason Health System in Seattle and probably the most admired hospital leader in the country, recently reflected on the state of patient safety in a note to the board of the [Lucian Leape Institute](#) at the National Patient Safety Foundation (we're both on the LLI board). Gary wrote,

[The] reduction in reimbursement and increasing consolidation threatens to make the focus on economics, size, and market competitiveness take precedence over getting better in terms of quality and safety. This will be in part because the 'line of sight' from senior leaders to the front lines of care will be even more distant.

Women are Experiencing 29% more Hip Implant Failures than Men

<http://www.medpagetoday.com/Orthopedics/Orthopedics/37420>

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