



Health Watch USAsm Newsletter

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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

Second Major Report Shows MRSA (Drug Resistant Staph) is Not Falling.

Drug-resistant staph infections increasing at a slower pace. "... the number of MRSA hospitalizations increased by 30,000 between 2005 and 2009."

http://cddep.org/blog/posts/drug_resistant_staph_infections_increasing_slower_pace

<http://aje.oxfordjournals.org/content/early/2013/02/20/aje.kws273.abstract>

CDC CRE Advisory 4% of US Hospitals had at least one CRE Infection in 2012. CRE Kills up to half of the patients

infected. <http://www.cdc.gov/vitalsigns/HAI/CRE/>

Media Kit on CRE <http://www.cdc.gov/media/dpk/2013/dpk-vs-hai.html>

Abstract

Background: Enterobacteriaceae are a family of bacteria that commonly cause infections in health-care settings as well as in the community. Among Enterobacteriaceae, resistance to broad-spectrum carbapenem antimicrobials has been uncommon. Over the past decade, however, carbapenem-resistant Enterobacteriaceae (CRE) have been recognized in health-care settings as a cause of difficult-to-treat infections associated with high mortality.

Methods: The percentage of acute-care hospitals reporting at least one CRE from health-care-associated infections (HAIs) in 2012 was estimated using data submitted to the National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) in 2012. The proportion of Enterobacteriaceae infections that were CRE was calculated using two surveillance systems: 1) the National Nosocomial Infection Surveillance system (NNIS) and NHSN (for 2001 and 2011, respectively) and 2) the Surveillance Network–USA (TSN) (for 2001 and 2010). Characteristics of CRE culture-positive episodes were determined using data collected as part of a population-based CRE surveillance project conducted by the Emerging Infections Program (EIP) in three states.

Results: In 2012, 4.6% of acute-care hospitals reported at least one CRE HAI (short-stay hospitals, 3.9%; long-term acute-care hospitals, 17.8%). The proportion of Enterobacteriaceae that were CRE increased from 1.2% in 2001 to 4.2% in 2011 in NNIS/NHSN and from 0% in 2001 to 1.4% in 2010 in TSN; most of the increase was observed in *Klebsiella* species (from 1.6% to 10.4% in NNIS/NHSN). In the EIP surveillance, 92% of CRE episodes occurred in patients with substantial health-care exposures.

Conclusions: Carbapenem resistance among common Enterobacteriaceae has increased over the past decade; most CRE are associated with health-care exposures.

Implications for Public Health: Interventions exist that could slow the dissemination of CRE. Health departments are well positioned to play a leading role in prevention efforts by assisting with surveillance, situational awareness, and coordinating prevention efforts.

NPR Diane Rehm Show on CRE -- CDC Investigators Describe the "Nightmare Bacteria"

<http://thedianerehmshow.org/shows/2013-03-07/fighting-deadly-superbugs>

Despite Efforts, C. Difficile Have Infection Rates are Not Decreasing.

http://www.modernhealthcare.com/article/20130311/NEWS/303119959?AllowView=VW8xUm o5Q21TcWJOb1gzb0tNN3RLZ0h0MWg5SVgra3NZRzROR3l0WWRMWGJWL3dBRWxiNUtpQzMy WmVvNW4wWUpibW8=&utm_source=link-20130311-NEWS-303119959&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=dose#

Chief Medical Officer of the United Kingdom - Warns of a Catastrophe

"Antibiotic-resistant bacteria with the potential to cause untreatable infections pose "a catastrophic threat" to the population -- Dame Sally Davies."

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/news/datablog/2013/mar/11/antibiotic-drug-resistance>

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/society/2013/mar/11/superbugs-antibiotics-bacterial-diseases-infections>

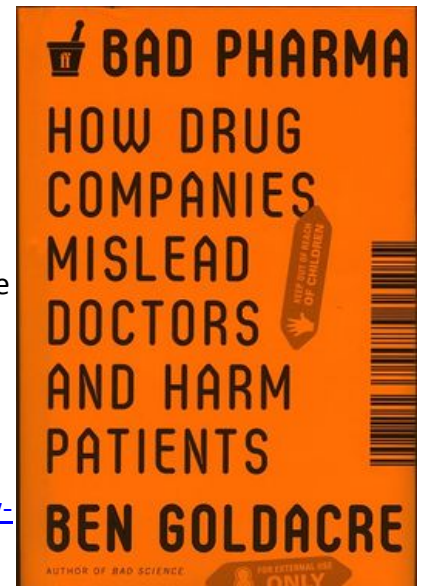
Book Review: "Bad Pharma" -- Now ONLINE !!!!

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 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



CMS May Have "Gaps in Oversight of Conflicts of Interest in Medicare Prescription Drug Decisions" - OIG. <https://oig.hhs.gov/oei/reports/oei-05-10-00450.pdf>

National Health Service Will Have to Disclose Patient Safety Failures (Errors) To Patients

<http://mediacentre.dh.gov.uk/2012/12/04/nhs-will-have-to-admit-to-patient-safety-failures/>

Commission Advocates End of Fee for Service System

<http://www.kaiserhealthnews.org/daily-reports/2013/march/04/physician-pay.aspx>

C-Section Rates Vary Between 7% to 70% at Different Facilities

<http://www.medpagetoday.com/OBGYN/Pregnancy/37658>

Leapfrog Group Updates Their Data on Rates of Early Elective Deliveries

<http://www.leapfroggroup.org/patients/tooearlydeliveries>

For Kentucky Go To: <http://www.leapfroggroup.org/patients/tooearlydeliveries#kentucky>

I-Phone Helps to Monitor Patients and Save Money

<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/21134540/vp/50582822#50582822>

Choosing Wisely Targets 90 Dubious Tests

<http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/779700>

Consolidation and Mergers May Be Encouraged by Accountable Care Organizations and May Increase Costs Without Increasing Quality.

<http://www.aei.org/events/2013/03/01/big-health-consolidation-and-competition-under-the-affordable-care-act/>

2012 Medical Staff Salary Survey

The 2012 Horne LLP Medical Office Staff Salary Survey appears to show a trend for increased salaries between 2011 and 2012. <http://www.medicalnewsinc.com/moving-up-cms-469>

NEJM Article - Proposed Modifications to Improve CMS's Readmission Policy

<http://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMp1300122>

MedPAC Ponders "Tweaks" in Medicare's Readmission Policy

<http://www.commonwealthfund.org/Newsletters/Washington-Health-Policy-in-Review/2013/Mar/March-11-2013/MedPac-Ponders-Tweaks-in-Medicare-Readmissions-Policy.aspx>

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