



Health Watch USAsm Newsletter

www.healthwatchusa.org June 1st, 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

Hospitals Profit from Central Line Infections

"The researchers also found that private insurers, rather than Medicare and Medicaid, pay the most for patient stays complicated by CLABSIs — roughly \$400,000 per hospital stay"

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2013/05/130522141841.htm>

http://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/news/media/releases/hospitals_profit_when_patients_develop_bloodstream_infections

MRSA trial Evaluating Chlorhexidine Bathing - New England Journal of Medicine

"In addition to being effective at stopping the spread of MRSA in ICUs, the study found that the use of germ-killing soap and ointment on all ICU patients was effective for preventing infections caused by germs other than MRSA." – CDC

<http://content.govdelivery.com/bulletins/gd/USCDC-7d0307>

<http://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMoa1207290>



Infections are Unlike Any Other Patient Safety Event

If one facility in a referral region performs poorly, it places all facilities at risk.

"...the transmission dynamics of nosocomial pathogens, especially of multiple antibiotic-resistant bacteria, is not exclusively amenable to single-hospital infection prevention measures." Int J Med Microbiol 2013 PMID: 23499307

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/23499307>

Why-Not-the-Best (Commonwealth Fund) Updates Comparative Data on Facilities

<http://whynotthebest.org/>

Cause-of-Death Reporting By Resident Physicians

"Most resident physicians believed the current cause-of-death reporting system is inaccurate, often knowingly documenting incorrect causes. The system should be improved to allow reporting of more causes, and residents should receive better training on completing death certificates."

http://www.cdc.gov/pcd/issues/2013/12_0288.htm

U.S. News Best Hospitals Rankings May Be Misleading, According to Comparison

<http://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20130507005013/en/U.S.-News-Hospitals-Rankings->

Misleading-Comparion

<http://www.fiercehealthcare.com/story/us-news-best-hospital-rankings-shouldnt-be-gold-standard/2013-05-10>

California Exchanges will have 13 Insurance plans with Premiums Ranging From a 2% increase to a 29% Decrease.

<http://www.businessinsider.com/obamacare-california-insurance-premiums-2013-5>

**The \$2.7 Trillion Medical Bill – The New York Times
Colonoscopies Explain Why U.S. Leads the World in Health Expenditures**

<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/06/02/health/colonoscopies-explain-why-us-leads-the-world-in-health-expenditures.html>

HW USA Meetings - Past and Future Speakers

Future HW USA Meetings:

June 19, 2013. Guest Speaker (over Adobe Connect) is Dr. James Battles (pictured on right) from AHRQ speaking on the direction of some of his recent projects and information about the agency. If you wish to attend over Adobe Connect, please contact us at healthwatchusa@gmail.com



July 31, 2013: Guest Speaker (over Adobe Connect) is Dr. Patrick Conway, Chief Medical Officer for the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and Director of the Center for Clinical Standards and Quality. This meeting will start at 5:00 pm. Space is limited, if you wish to attend please contact me at healthwatchusa@gmail.com.

Dr. Conway's resume: <http://www.cms.gov/About-CMS/Leadership/ocsq/>

Previous HW USA Meetings:

PowerPoint slides are available for the last meeting from Author Rosemary Gibson of "Medicare Meltdown". Download PowerPoint Slides: <http://www.healthwatchusa.org/publications/2013-Documents/20130515-HWUSA-Gibson.pptx>

Dr. Gerald Hickson, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs at Vanderbilt University. Dr. Hickson presented on how patient complaints can predict physician malpractice risk. This is somewhat analogous to what CMS is doing with CAHPS Surveys. Both give patients a voice with value purchasing or employment connections.

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**Call For Papers
Health Watch USASM
Nov. 1, 2013 Patient Safety Conference**

Submit a 250 Word Abstract on Patient Safety
to healthwatchusa@gmail.org

Four papers will be selected for a 30 min presentation
For more information go to: www.healthconference.org

Deadline June 19th, 2013



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