

# Health Watch USAsm Newsletter

www.healthwatchusa.org June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 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

Presentation at the Joint Kentucky House and Senate Health and Welfare Committee on Healthcare Acquired Infections -- June 19, 2013.

View Video of Presentation (Flash):

http://www.healthwatchusa.org/HWUSA-Presentations-Testimony/20130619-KY-House-Senate/20130619kavanagh.htm

View Video of Presentation (I-Pad/I-

Phone): http://www.healthwatchusa.org/HWUSA-

Presentations-Testimony/20130619-KY-House-Senate/20130619-kavanagh2.htm

View PDF of PowerPoint Slides: http://www.healthwatchusa.org/publications/2013-

Documents/20130619-HAI-CRE-MRSA-Web.pdf



**HW USA Meeting June 19th, 2012:** Dr. James B. Battles, PhD:

Senior Service Fellow for Patient Safety and Medical Errors AHRQ Center for Quality Improvement and Patient Safety.

Presentation: Prototype Consumer Reporting Systems for Patient Safety Events:

http://www.healthwatchusa.org/publications/2013-

Documents/PrototypeConsumerReportingSystem 6-19-13.pdf

Redefining the Standardized Infection Ratio to Aid in Consumer Value Purchasing. Journal of Patient Safety. Can Now be Downloaded For Free!!!

http://journals.lww.com/journalpatientsafety/Abstract/2013/06000/Redefining the Standardi zed Infection Ratio to Aid.1.aspx

Clostridium Difficile Infections (CDI) Linked to Exposure at Healthcare Delivery Systems.

"Most patients with community-associated CDI had recent outpatient health care exposure, and up to 36% would not be prevented by reduction of antibiotic use only."

http://archinte.jamanetwork.com/article.aspx?articleid=1697791

#### **Decolonization of MRSA Carriers prevents Surgical Infections:**

"Surgical programs that implement a bundled intervention including both nasal decolonization and glycopeptide prophylaxis for MRSA carriers may decrease rates of surgical site infections caused by *S aureus* or other Gram positive

bacteria." http://www.bmj.com/content/346/bmj.f2743

#### **Active Surveillance Advocated for Deadly Coronavirus**

"Three of four patients (75%) whose cases were detected by active surveillance during the outbreak, as compared with 3 of 19 (16%) whose cases were identified clinically, have recovered (P=0.04)."

http://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMoa1306742?query=featured home#t=article



## University (of Kentucky) Says It Sued Reporter to Protect Patients - Over a Freedom of Information Request

"The idea that the University of Kentucky would sue one of its own public radio reporters to block access to basic information about its Children's Hospital seemed so hard to believe that I had to ask for clarity."

http://www.reportingonhealth.org/2013/06/06/slap-university-says-it-sued-reporter-protect-patients

#### **Hospital Mergers May be Driving Up Healthcare Cost**

"Mark Neaman, Evanston's chief executive, had told his board that the deal would "increase our leverage, limited as it might be," the investigation found, and "help our negotiating posture" with managed care organizations."

http://www.nytimes.com/2013/06/12/business/examinations-of-health-costs-overlook-mergers.html

#### **States Place Pricing Information on the Web**

Health Cost Websites Not Much Help -- Med Page Today

- \* "Most of the websites reported prices for inpatient care involving specific medical conditions (72.6%) or surgeries (71%)."
- \* "Far fewer sites reported pricing information for more routine outpatient services, such as diagnostic or screening procedures (37.1%), radiology studies (22.6%), prescription drugs (14.5%), or lab tests (9.7%)."

http://www.medpagetoday.com/PublicHealthPolicy/HealthPolicy/39987

Source Article http://jama.jamanetwork.com/article.aspx?articleid=1697957

#### **Medicaid Expansion Effect on Population Health**

NEJM - State of New York, Maine and Arizona

"State Medicaid expansions to cover low-income adults were significantly associated with reduced mortality as well as improved coverage, access to care, and self-reported health."

http://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMsa1202099

NEJM - State of Oregon

"This randomized, controlled study showed that Medicaid coverage generated no significant improvements in measured physical health outcomes in the first 2 years, but it did increase use of health care services, raise rates of diabetes detection and management, lower rates of depression, and reduce financial strain." <a href="http://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMsa1212321">http://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMsa1212321</a>

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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 EST. Space is limited, if you wish to attend please contact me at <a href="mailto:healthwatchusa@gmail.com">healthwatchusa@gmail.com</a>

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

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### Health Watch USA<sup>sm</sup> Nov. 1, 2013 Patient Safety Conference

Lexington, Kentucky at the Four Points Sheraton For more information go to: www.healthconference.org



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