



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



Commentary on the Dr. Charles Denham ChloroPrep Controversy and the Journal of Patient Safety (JPS).

This article looks at alleged conflicts of interest that arose out of the \$50 Million Dollar Department of Justice Settlement with CareFusion over their product ChloroPrep (Chlorhexidine and Alcohol antiseptic) and an alleged \$11 million dollar kickback. "Journals for quality and patient safety in general, and JPS in particular need to take steps to assure that they can avoid future entanglements with conflicts of interest. This is crucial if the articles they publish are to remain credible and trustworthy. For this reason, there have already been changes at the Journal."

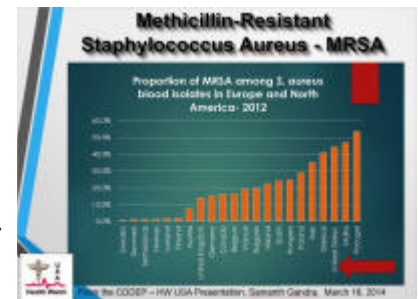
Wu AW, Kavanagh KT, Pronovost PJ, Bates DW. Conflict of Interest, Dr Charles Denham and the Journal of Patient Safety. Journal of Patient Safety. Nov. 2014

http://journals.lww.com/journalpatientsafety/Fulltext/2014/12000/Conflict_of_Interest,_Dr_Charles_Denham_and_the.1.aspx

Testimony to the Kentucky Joint (Senate & House) Health and Welfare Committee - Nov. 19, 2014.

This presentation presents the need for greater Health Department engagement and a proposed improved system of reporting dangerous pathogens and Multi-Drug Resistant Organisms in Kentucky. In addition, lessons learned from Ebola and the need for better standards are discussed. YouTube [\(Click on Picture To Enlarge\)](#)

Video <http://youtu.be/OqP0p6OMgsM> [Download Handout](#)



2014 Health Watch USA Conference Presentations

Videos of the 2014 Conference are now online:

- Stephen Tower, MD - Stephen is an arthroprosthetic surgeon and an affiliated Professor at WWAMI. He is a top national researcher on the epidemiology and mechanisms of failure of Total Hip Arthroplasty. Adverse events are discussed with emphasis on heavy metal poisoning from cobalt. YouTube Video: http://youtu.be/j0t_Kv3k70Y
- Steve Kraman, MD is credited with development and successful implementation of one of the first full disclosure policies in a healthcare setting. This program was first implemented at the Lexington VA Hospital and has since been adopted by institutions around the nation. Dr. Kraman presents on

how transparency and full disclosure in risk management facilitates patient safety. Health Watch USA Nov 7, 2014 Patient Safety Conference. YouTube Video: <http://youtu.be/EED9gy1SPGo>

- Kevin T. Kavanagh, MD - Board Chairman of Health Watch USA discusses the current status of MRSA Epidemiology, Surveillance and Chlorhexidine. YouTube Video: <http://youtu.be/dgsQatT4f8I>
- James M. Anderson Board of Directors Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) & Former President and CEO, Cincinnati Children's Hospital. - Key Note Address: discusses full disclosure of adverse events and patient harm at the 2014 Health Watch USA Conference. YouTube Video: http://youtu.be/8HL3W_FAWNk
- Richard Wild, MD Chief Medical Officer, CMS Atlanta Region. Presentation on The CMS Hospital Acquired Conditions Initiative and an Update on Value Purchasing. Health Watch USA, Nov 7th 2014 Patient Safety Conference. YouTube Video: <http://youtu.be/C1Mffj8LEgl>

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services' Technical Expert Panel on Hospital Acquired Condition

The names, titles, and affiliations of the HAC TEP members are:

Dave Allen, BS, CPA – CEO, Richland Memorial Hospital

Melissa Danforth, BA – Senior Director for Hospital Ratings, the Leapfrog Group

Beth Feldpush, DrPH – Senior Vice President, Policy and Advocacy, America's Essential Hospitals

Lee Fleisher, MD – AHA; Professor and Chair of Anesthesiology and Critical Care, University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine

Tejal Gandhi, MD, MPH, CPPS – President, National Patient Safety Foundation

Kevin Kavanagh, MD, MS, FACS – Board Chairman, Health Watch USA

Eugene Kroch, PhD – Vice President and Chief Scientist at Premier, Inc.

Mary Beth Landrum, PhD – Professor, Harvard Medical School

Mitchel M. Levy, MD, FCCM, FCCP – Professor of Medicine, Brown University; Division Chief, Rhode Island Hospital

Lisa McGiffert, BA – Project Director, Safe Patient Project, Consumers Union

Jennifer Meddings, MD, MSc – Assistant Professor, University of Michigan Health System

Michael Shwartz, PhD, MBA – Professor, Boston University School of Management

For More About the panel's responsibilities go to: <http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Quality-Initiatives-Patient-Assessment-Instruments/MMS/TechnicalExpertPanels.html>

Panel's comment file: <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Quality-Initiatives-Patient-Assessment-Instruments/MMS/Downloads/Reevaluation-of-HAC-Reduction-Program-Scoring-Methodology-.zip>

How To Send In Your Comments: [Directions for Comments](#)

Dr. Leana Wen's TedMed Presentation on Transparency and the Backlash She Experienced From the Medical Community.

TedMed YouTube Video: <http://youtu.be/uzO-K1K7wZ8>

Obama administration predicts significantly lower health-care enrollment though the ACA Exchanges

"The administration's expectations are as much as roughly 30 percent beneath the most recent prediction of the Congressional Budget Office — that 13 million people will have health coverage through these exchanges next year."

http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/wonkblog/wp/2014/11/10/obama-administration-predicts-significantly-lower-health-care-enrollment/?wpisrc=al_national

National Nurses United Strike over Ebola

"They don't have the appropriate training and protection," (Deborah Burger, co-president of National Nurses United) said of nurses in her organization and nationwide, urging that hospitals provide nurses with hazmat suits, proper protective equipment and training to safeguard against Ebola. "These are human beings. We're talking about our nurses that are heroes and take care of this country."

http://www.mercurynews.com/my-town/ci_26832718/national-nurses-union-plans-strike-demand-greater-protections

Dangerous Bacteria Spreads Beyond Hospitals

"Clostridium difficile has emerged as the single most common hospital-acquired infection in the U.S., affecting more than 330,000 patients a year and causing 14,000 deaths." "... up to half of C. diff infections now may be happening out in the community and among people previously thought to be at low risk."

<http://www.bendbulletin.com/home/2552834-151/c-diff-infections-spread-beyond-hospitals#.VF93wzlZLMs.facebook>

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