



Health Watch USAsm Newsletter

www.healthwatchusa.org Mar. 10th, 2015

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

The Bizarre Business Case for Patient Safety

Michael L. Millenson presents a history of the data pointing to hospital costs savings which would be achieved by the promotion of patient safety practices. Despite this hospitals have been slow to adopt these interventions. Prevention of adverse events should not be done because it is in an institution's interest since it is their duty to prevent them. Michael L. Millenson, is a contributor to Forbes Online and on the Editorial Board of the American Journal of Medical Quality.

<http://youtu.be/zitRmkLOIhM> [Download Slides](#)



Bugs VS Bugs, Not Drugs

Health Watch USA's T-Shirt Entry.

HW USA t-shirt entry in the American Society for Microbiology's T-Shirt Contest, highlights the importance of the microbiome and not over utilizing antibiotics. **"BUGS VS BUGS, NOT DRUGS"**

Surveillance for The Prevention of MRSA Infections

"The use of surveillance and isolation to address epidemics and common dangerous pathogens should solely depend upon surveillance and isolation's ability to prevent further spread to and infection of other patients through indirect contact. At present, there is a preponderance of evidence in the literature to support continuing use of surveillance and isolation to prevent the spread of MRSA. "

Viewpoint: A response to "Screening and isolation to control methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus: sense, nonsense, and evidence", Antimicrobial Resistance and Infection Control 2015, 4:4 (5 February 2015) <http://www.aricjournal.com/content/pdf/s13756-015-0044-9.pdf>

Infectious Disease

Burden of Clostridium difficile Infection in the United States

"A total of 15,461 cases of C. difficile infection were identified in the 10 geographic areas; 65.8% were health care-associated, but only 24.2% had onset during hospitalization. C. difficile was responsible for almost half a million infections and was associated with approximately 29,000 deaths in 2011. "

<http://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMoa1408913>

USA Today: "Dangerous infections now spreading outside hospitals. Life-threatening infections caused by bacteria called Clostridium difficile now sicken nearly half a million Americans a year, health officials said Wednesday."

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/2015/02/25/clostridium-difficile-infections-grow/23942147/>

Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus Optimization of the antibiotic policy in the Netherlands XI Revision SWAB Guideline for the Treatment of MRSA Carriage

" (MRSA) today is endemic in health care institutions almost everywhere in the world. In addition a strong increase in MRSA in the open population has been observed. Resistance percentages for invasive infections with S. aureus of 60% and more are now being observed in countries with a high prevalence. MRSA infections are difficult to treat because only a limited arsenal of effective antibiotics remains. Moreover they are accompanied by an increase in morbidity and mortality. The mortality associated with MRSA bacteraemia has been estimated to be twice as high as that for a susceptible staphylococcus. Furthermore the number of patients with invasive infections increases when MRSA is present. In the Netherlands the prevalence of MRSA is still exceptionally low despite the high prevalence in surrounding countries. To keep the prevalence low a "Search and Destroy" (S&D) policy is followed."

[Download Netherlands XI Revision SWAB Guideline for the Treatment of MRSA Carriage](#)

Other Patient Advocacy Reports

The Risk of Statins in Low Risk Patients is Being Questioned

Medscape: "It's worth saying this another way: when the ACC/AHA ASCVD score predicted event rates of 7.5 to 10%—a range deemed above the statin-benefit cutoff—the actual events were just 3%." <http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/840073>

Justices Shield Medical Devices From Lawsuits

New York Times: "Makers of medical devices like implantable defibrillators or breast implants are immune from liability for personal injuries as long as the Food and Drug Administration approved the device before it was marketed and it meets the agency's specifications, the Supreme Court ruled on Wednesday."

<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/02/21/washington/21device.html>

New Website Which Gives Summary Totals for What Insurers Pay Providers

<http://www.beckershospitalreview.com/finance/want-to-know-how-much-insurers-pay-providers-there-s-a-website-for-that.html>

**To subscribe to Health Watch USAsm
newsletter go to:**

<http://www.hwusa-newsletter.org/lists/?p=subscribe&id=1>



Visit and "Like" HW USA's Facebook Page at:
<https://www.facebook.com/HealthWatchUsa>

