



Health Watch USAsm Newsletter

www.healthwatchusa.org May 1, 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

Only 251 Hospitals Score Five Stars In Medicare's New Ratings

Rau, J, Kaiser Health News: "Medicare's new summary star rating, posted Thursday on [Hospital Compare](#), is based on 11 facets of patient experience, including how well doctors and nurses communicated, how well patients believed their pain was addressed, and whether they would recommend the hospital to others." Reviews are randomly collected by hospitals by randomly surveying all adult patients (not just Medicare) after they are discharged from the facility.

<http://kaiserhealthnews.org/news/only-251-hospitals-score-five-stars-in-medicares-new-ratings/>

Kentucky 5 Star Hospitals

CLINTON COUNTY HOSPITAL, INC

MARSHALL COUNTY HOSPITAL

WESTLAKE REGIONAL HOSPITAL

SAINT JOSEPH MARTIN

ROCKCASTLE COUNTY HOSPITAL, INC

PIKEVILLE MEDICAL CENTER

RUSSELL COUNTY HOSPITAL

Kentucky 2 Star Hospitals

GEORGETOWN COMMUNITY HOSPITAL

HARLAN ARH HOSPITAL

HAZARD ARH REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

SPRING VIEW HOSPITAL

UNIVERSITY OF LOUISVILLE HOSPITAL

LAKE CUMBERLAND REGIONAL HOSPITAL

[Download PDF of Entire Data File](#)

<http://cdn.kaiserhealthnews.org/attachments/HospitalStarsForPatientSatisfaction.csv>



Dr. Steve Kraman's Commentary on "Do Written Disclosures of Serious Events Increase Risk of Malpractice Claims?: One Healthcare System's Experience" by Painter LM, Kidwell KM, Kidwell RP, et al.

http://journals.lww.com/journalpatientsafety/Citation/publishahead/Commentary_on_Do_Written_Disclosures_of_Serious.99673.aspx

Prevention of Transmission of the 'Superbug' Carbapenem-Resistant Enterobacteriaceae (CRE) during Gastrointestinal Endoscopy.

Lawrence F Muscarella, PhD. LFM Healthcare Solutions, LLC View Video Presentation:

<http://www.healthwatchusa.org/HWUSA-Presentations-Meeting/20150415-CRE-Endoscopes/20150515-Muscarella.htm>



- **Deadly CRE bacteria on medical duodenoscopes trigger deadly virtually untreatable infections**
<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/2015/01/21/bacteria-deadly-endoscope-contamination/22119329/>
- **Reports to Feds on deadly CRE bacterial outbreaks from duodenoscopes were reported late to the FDA.**
<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/2015/04/15/endoscope-bacteria-cre-infections-mdr/25535471/>
- **Olympus Warned Europe about Superbug Scope Dangers in 2013 (Two Years Before the USA Outbreak).**
<http://www.drugwatch.com/2015/04/21/olympus-warned-europe-superbug-scope-2013/>
<http://www.fiercehealthcare.com/story/olympus-warned-alert-us-hospitals-scopes-superbug-risk/2015-04-23>

New Study Shows Nursing Homes are a Hotbed for Multi-drug Resistant Gram Negative Bacteria.

Twenty to forty percent of nursing home residents are colonized with multi-drug resistant gram negative bacteria. And patients that have advanced dementia are colonized three times more often. "One in five nursing home residents with advanced dementia harbor strains of drug-resistant bacteria and more than 10 percent of the drug-resistant bacteria are resistant to four or more antibiotic classes."

ICHE, 20150429: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/25133863>

Measuring Vital Signs, An IOM Report on Core Metrics for Health and Health Care Progress

Composite Measures & Outcome Measures are Key. "Commonwealth Fund: Across regions, organizations, and partisan lines, there is increasing agreement that we cannot commit more resources to health care without accounting for value, the authors say. Measuring and monitoring performance will be critical to this endeavor."

CF: <http://www.commonwealthfund.org/publications/in-brief/2015/apr/iom-report-on-core-metrics>

JAMA: <http://jama.jamanetwork.com/article.aspx?articleid=2288464>

Dr. H. Noorchashm & Dr. Amy Reed's FDA Testimony on How Morcellation Spreads Cancer

FDA Testimony on the dangers of a medical procedure and device which can spread uterine cancer. - April 21, 2015 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jjQV4anaUqw>

As the FDA Requires Approval for Very (Decades) Old Drugs, Prices Skyrocks

The next bend up in the cost curve: Rising prices for old proven drugs?

Paul Levy <http://runningahospital.blogspot.com/2015/04/the-next-bend-up-in-cost-curve-rising.htm>

Outpatient Laboratory Hit With a \$48.5 Million Fine for Unnecessary Lab Tests .

"The US Department of Justice disclosed on Thursday that both companies were charged under the False Claims Act because they carried out very unnecessary lab tests for patients that were referred to them by doctors who got paid back between \$10 to \$17 as kickbacks."

<http://www.thestandarddaily.com/two-american-diagnostics-lab-get-hit-with-a-48-5-million-fine-for-providing-unnecessary-medical-tests/1473/1473/>

And another study showing the benefit of MRSA Screening for Surgical ICU Patients.

"After adjusting for effects of confounding variables, the active screening and decolonization program was independently associated with a decrease in in-hospital MRSA infections (adjusted odds ratio: 0.3; 95% CI: 0.1-0.8) and 90-day mortality (adjusted hazard ratio: 0.8; 95% CI: 0.7-0.99). Cost analysis showed that \$22 medical costs can be saved for every \$1 spent on the intervention. Conclusions Active screening for MRSA and decolonization in ICU settings is associated with a decrease in MRSA infections, mortality and medical cost." <http://ccforum.com/content/19/1/143/abstract>



**Health Watch USA - Patient Safety
Conference
November 13, 2015
Four Points Sheraton in Lexington Kentucky**

Speakers Include:

- **Peter Eisler**, Medical Reporter for USA Today, presenting on the newspaper's role in the assurance of medical quality.
- **Briana Aguirre**, RN, Nurse and Healthcare Quality Advocate who treated the first patient with Ebola in Texas.
- **Kaci Hickox, MPH, RN**, Nurse and Healthcare Quality Advocate who treated patients with Ebola in Africa. She underwent mandatory quarantine upon her return to the United States, despite being asymptomatic and not having any history of a break in contact precaution protocols.
- **Richard Wild, MD, MPH**, Chief Medical Officer CMS Atlanta Region
- **Kraig Humbaugh MD, MSP** Director, Epidemiology and Health Planning Kentucky Department for Public Health.

Download Conference Flyer: <http://www.healthconference.org/2015conference-downloads/20151113-ConferenceFlyer-SDM.pdf>

For More Information An a Full List of Speakers Go To: www.healthconference.org

To Register Go To: <http://www.healthconference.org/payment-fax-check.htm>

Future Health Watch USA Meetings:

- Apr. 15, 2015 at 7:00 PM ET. Speaker: LF Muscarella PhD presenting on Deadly Bacteria (CRE) spread by Medical Endoscopes.
<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/2015/01/21/bacteria-deadly-endoscope-contamination/22119329/>
- May. 20, 2015 at 7:00 PM ET. Speaker: Helen Bukulmez on Medical Devices / Patient Advocacy
- Jun. 17, 2015 at 7:00 PM ET. Speaker: Roy Poses, MD, on Research Integrity.

To attend these meetings over Adobe Connect (using your computer) please email us at healthwatchusa@gmail.com

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