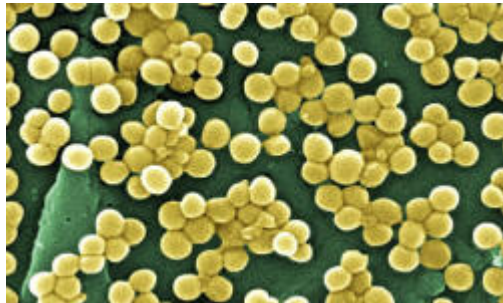




# Health Watch USA<sup>sm</sup> Newsletter

[www.healthwatchusa.org](http://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



## The Year In Infection Control

Below is a link to a presentation on infection control by Dr. Stephanie Dancer which was given at ECCMID (the 25th European Congress of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases, Copenhagen, Denmark). The presentation's title was "The Year in Infection Control". She is the past editor of the *Journal of Hospital Infection*. HW USA's recent publication on control of MRSA is quoted in slides 12 & 27.

[Link To Presentation Slides](#)   [View Video of Presentation](#)

## A Veil of Secrecy Shields Hospitals Where Outbreaks Occur

This was a significant factor in not alerting the FDA to outbreaks of the deadly superbug CRE which infected GI Endoscopes. "When you keep it secret, other hospitals are uninformed," said Lisa McGiffert, a patient safety expert at Consumers Union. "Public disclosure is absolutely essential." LA Times: <http://www.latimes.com/business/la-fi-hospital-outbreaks-secrecy-20150419-story.html>

**Seattle Hospital Sues Olympus Over Duodenoscope Devices Days Before FDA Panel Meeting** <http://www.latimes.com/business/la-fi-olympus-scope-seattle-20150512-story.html>

**FDA To Get More Data on the Safety of Antiseptics But Exclude the One of Most Concern and Whose Use is Skyrocketing -- Chlorhexidine.**

<http://www.fda.gov/Drugs/NewsEvents/ucm445234.htm>

## C. difficile Used to Beat C. difficile Infection

Trials on 173 people, published in the Journal of the American Medical Association, showed the odds of repeat infection were cut dramatically.

BBC News: <http://www.bbc.com/news/health-32551873>

<http://jama.jamanetwork.com/article.aspx?articleid=2281703>

## Infant Antibiotic Use Linked to Illnesses in Adulthood

"Antibiotics may be causing changes in infant gut bacteria, which has been connected to allergies, diseases and obesity, and may lead to changes in their use."

UPI: [http://www.upi.com/Health\\_News/2015/05/13/Infant-antibiotic-use-linked-to-illnesses-in-adulthood/1931431547891/](http://www.upi.com/Health_News/2015/05/13/Infant-antibiotic-use-linked-to-illnesses-in-adulthood/1931431547891/)

## PBS Frontline on the Ebola Outbreak

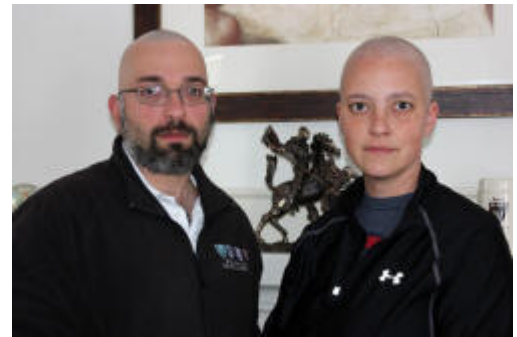
<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/outbreak/>

Don't Forget our two Key Note Speakers at HW USA's 2015 Conference. For more information go to [www.healthconference.org](http://www.healthconference.org)

- **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.

## Dr. Hooman Norchashm & Dr. Amy Reed on Uterine Morcellation and The Spreading of Cancer

Doctors Noochashm and Reed discuss the dangers of using a surgical morcellator to remove tumors of the uterus. Although most are benign, if an unsuspected cancer is present, then the malignancy will most likely be spread throughout the abdominal cavity, causing advanced and often incurable disease. Also, discussed are the FDA and the 510(k) approval process. YouTube Video: <http://youtu.be/IY4sFn5hybg>



## Sobering Report on the Heels of National Nurses' Week: 40 Percent of Hospitals Fail to Meet National Nursing Workforce Standards

"Leapfrog-reporting hospitals achieving Magnet Status increased from 15.5 percent in 2013 to 16 percent in 2014."

[http://www.leapfroggroup.org/policy\\_leadership/leapfrog\\_news/5300254](http://www.leapfroggroup.org/policy_leadership/leapfrog_news/5300254)



## Single-Payer Health Care May Emerge As Best Option

How would the ACA be fixed? Returning to the free market is not likely; few legislators have the power or will to enact the below six changes. Returning to a free-market system will be more difficult than just saying "repeal Obamacare." The following would have to be accomplished to create a free market:

- Break up the large hospital corporate oligopolies.
- Reverse the massive physician employment by hospitals, including the elimination of non-compete clauses.
- Eliminate payment inequities (as much as 100 percent) for different provider types who provide essentially the same service.
- Inform patients of the cost of a service. Costs can vary more than five times over among providers.
- Inform patients of the quality of care. This would be a herculean task, judging from the health-care industry's resistance to publicly reporting outbreaks of untreatable bacteria in their facilities.
- Repeal insurance companies' anti-trust exemption.

Read more here: <http://www.kentucky.com/2015/05/15/3854064/single-payer-health-care-may-emerge.html>

## Employer Based Health Insurance Coverage Growing Faster Than Exchanges.

- 6.5 Million People obtained insurance through exchanges
- 9 Million people have obtained insurance through Medicaid
- 9.6 Million people have obtained insurance through their employer

Source Fierce Healthpayer: <http://www.fiercehealthpayer.com/story/employer-based-coverage-growing-faster-exchange-medicaid-plans/2015-05-07>



**Health Watch USA - Patient Safety  
Conference**  
**November 13, 2015**  
**At the 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 And a Full List of Speakers Go To: [www.healthconference.org](http://www.healthconference.org)

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

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