



Health Watch USAsm Newsletter

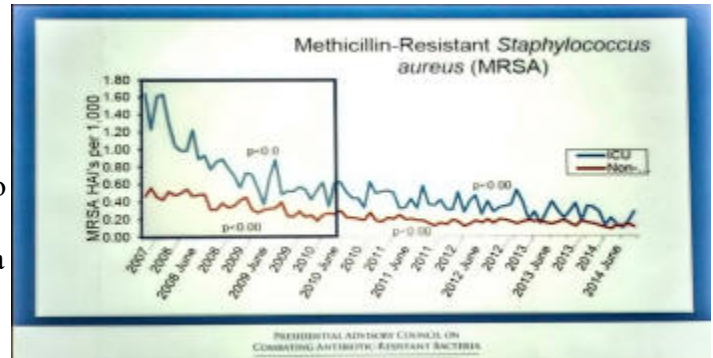
www.healthwatchusa.org Oct. 10, 2015

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

Healthcare Infections

Sept 29, 2015 - Presidential Advisory Council on Combating Antibiotic-Resistant Bacteria.

The Council's meeting was held in Washington, DC, on designing interventions to reverse the epidemic of antibiotic resistant bacteria. The conference was covered by Lisa McGiffert in an Op-Ed "Keep antibiotics safe and effective" published in The Hill. <http://thehill.com/blogs/congress-blog/healthcare/255235-keep-antibiotics-safe-and-effective>



Health Watch USA also gave comments to the Council which called for transparency of members' conflict-of-interest, the generation of firm and meaning standards, along with antibiotic stewardship. The comments can be viewed here: [View Document](#)

The Veteran's Administration also gave an update on their excellent results using a strategy of active detection and isolation (see picture above right). An update on control of central line infections, stated that programs which participates in CUSP the percentage of facilities with zero infections increased from 30% to 60% and this zero is achievable.



HW USA - CDDEP Op-Ed: Needed: Better Antibiotic Resistance Surveillance, New Norms for Antibiotic Stewardship

There is no question that federal dollars spent on antibiotic production without being tied to intense stewardship and utilization monitoring will be an expensive and futile process. We should take the opportunity afforded by new antibiotics from BARDA (and other sources) to mend our ways and adopt new norms for antibiotic use. Remember, insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting a different result. - See more at:

http://cddep.org/blog/posts/needed_new_norms_antibiotic_resistance_surveillance_stewardship#sthas.h.BgcXfHAP.dpuf

CRE: Is the Epidemic Out of Control??

A new study estimates the incidence of CRE is 2.93 CRE cases per 100,000 people over a two year period. That equates to over 4500 cases in the United States per year. A far cry for a rare case. When CRE enters the blood there is almost a 50% fatality rate.

<http://jama.jamanetwork.com/article.aspx?articleid=2450329>

Consumer Union Posting The Low Down Dozen Hospital Ratings

Consumer Union Ranking the 12 hospitals with the lowest infection prevention ratings. "Every year an estimated 648,000 people in the U.S. develop infections during a hospital stay, and about 75,000 die with these infections, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). That's more than twice the number of people who die each year in car crashes."

Read More: <http://safepatientproject.org/posts/5536-the-low-down-dozen-consumer-reports-flags-twelve-hospitals-for-low-infection-prevention-ratings>

New Study Finds MRSA Can Live For Years in a Patient's Home

USA300, an extremely virulent strain of MRSA is known to cause necrotizing pneumonia and endocarditis. Researchers have concluded that this strain can live in houses for 2.33 to 8.55 years, underscoring the importance of viewing the home as a long-term reservoir and the need for decontamination of a patient's environment.

Alam MT, Read TD, Petit RA 3rd, Boyle-Vavra S, Miller LG, Eells SJ, Daum RS, David MZ. Transmission and microevolution of USA300 MRSA in U.S. households: evidence from whole-genome sequencing. MBio. 2015 Mar 10;6(2):e00054. doi: 10.1128/mBio.00054-15. PMID PMC4453535

FDA Orders Duodenoscope Manufacturers to Conduct Postmarket Surveillance

<http://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/ucm465639.htm>

Healthcare Safety

National Hospital Laboratory Accreditation Organizations Fail To Find Problems

"The industry self-inspects itself to a point," said Melvin Lawrence, a retired clinical lab scientist who performed inspections for CAP in Ohio. "If you are CAP certified, part of your certification is that you will provide a team to inspect other facilities."

http://www.cleveland.com/healthfit/index.ssf/2015/10/accrediting_bodys_failure_to_detect_violations_at_cleveland_clinics_marymount_lab_sparks_federal_review.html

CMS Levies Fine For Poor Quality

In the past, CMS has almost always addressed quality problems with the notification of a facilities that they no longer be a CMS provider (notification of termination. However, recently they have taken a rare action, they have levied a fine related to the poor quality of a hospital's laboratory.

<http://www.modernhealthcare.com/article/20150911/NEWS/150919960>

<http://www.beckershospitalreview.com/quality/cms-fines-cleveland-clinic-hospital-for-lab-deficiencies.html>

The Leapfrog Group is Posting C-Section Rates - Kentucky has the Highest Rate in the

Nation <http://www.leapfroggroup.org/patients/c-section>

Healthcare Finance

ACA Insurance Co-Ops May Be In Trouble -- "Health Republic" in New York Fails

Washington Post: "The nation's biggest nonprofit health insurer spawned by the Affordable Care Act has been ordered to shut down as it reels toward insolvency, disrupting coverage for more than 200,000 New York state residents and becoming the fourth such co-op to collapse in recent months."

https://www.washingtonpost.com/national/health-science/new-york-health-co-op-ordered-to-close-down/2015/09/25/5022acde-63b2-11e5-b38e-06883aacba64_story.html

Kentucky's Insurance Co-Op Shutting Down; 51,000 Insurance Customers Affected

Herald Leader: "The largest private provider of health insurance policies on Kynect, Kentucky's health insurance exchange, is going out of business."

http://www.kentucky.com/2015/10/09/4079682_kentucky-health-cooperative-going.html



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

Speakers Include:

Medical Devices:

- **Peter Eisler**, Investigative Reporter for USA Today, presenting on the newspaper's role in the assurance of medical quality.
- **Steve Tower, MD**: Medical risks and adverse events associated with Hip Implants.
- **Hooman Norchasm, MD**: Medical risks and adverse events associated with Morcellators.
- **Joleen Chambers**, president of FIDA (Failed Implant Device Association) will discuss overriding issues with implant safety.

Healthcare Infections:

- **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.
- **Jean Ross, RN**, Nurse and Healthcare Quality Advocate who will discuss the need for better standards to protect staff and patients.

- **Kraig Humbaugh MD, MSP** Director, Epidemiology and Health Planning Kentucky Department for Public Health.
- Mara Rice, RN, on the need for a better measurement technique for the determination of catheter associated urinary tract infections.

Patient Safety:

- **Richard Wild, MD, MPH**, Chief Medical Officer CMS Atlanta Region

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

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

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Future Health Watch USA Meetings:

Health Watch USA's Meeting on Oct. 21st at 7:00 PM ET.

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