



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



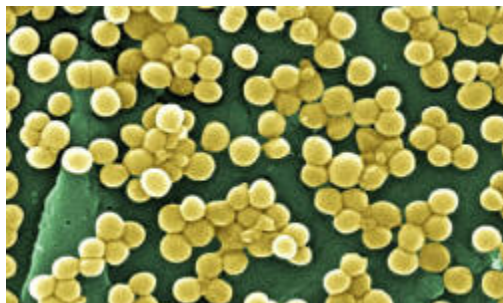
HW USA Comments at the Presidential Advisory Council on Combating Antibiotic Resistant Bacteria -

"Kevin Kavanagh, MD comments on the importance of preventing the transmission of resistant bacteria between patients. In addition, the

importance of nursing, worker safety and carrier surveillance was stressed. Attention was also drawn to polymixin B in topical over-the-counter antibiotics as a possible cause of resistance to colistin. Finally, it was pointed out that the emergence of antibiotic resistance, places many drug sectors at risk, including cancer therapeutics and immunosuppressive agents. This creates a significant financial risk for the pharmaceutical industry." [Download Text of Comment](#) View

YouTube Video: <https://youtu.be/t2LM9IuN7fQ>

Healthcare Infections



MRSA Surveillance of High Risk Patients Lowers MRSA Infection Rate.

"Compared with a baseline incidence of 8.9 cases per 10,000 patient-days, clinical MRSA infections declined to 3.9 cases per 10,000 patient days ($P < .001$) within 18 months of extending surveillance to all admissions. Rates of nosocomial MRSA infections among each hospital — including the one acquired in 2010 — declined

approximately 70% by the end of the study period ($P < .001$)." <http://www.healio.com/infectious-disease/nosocomial-infections/news/online/%7B8ca8b91b-2d9d-42db-ba2a-76c1693bb919%7D/nasal-mrsa-testing-upon-hospital-admission-reduces-clinical-infection>

U.K. National Health Service Protocols for Screening MRSA screening

Who should be screened? There is good evidence and strong consensus that screening should be applied to certain groups based on the Trust's patient population and current MRSA data (DH 2007). However, there is now a requirement following the Health & Social Care Act 2012 and DH regulations to screen a wider group.

All medical and surgical admissions, including many day surgery patients, should be screened for MRSA in line with the DH MRSA screening operational guidance 2 (Dec 2008). In addition, from December 2010 there is also a commitment to screen all emergency/trauma admissions (DH 2010).

A full list of all day cases which must be screened are detailed at Appendix 5 (See [The NHS Document](#)).

The ONLY exceptions are the following groups:

- Day case ophthalmology
- Day case dental
- Day case endoscopy
- Day case minor dermatology including LOPAS, eg, warts or other liquid nitrogen applications
- Children / paediatrics unless already in high risk group
- Maternity / obstetrics except for elective caesareans and high risk cases
- Mental health patients admitted to mental health facilities.

In addition, the following high risk groups must also be screened:

- All emergency admissions (excluding children unless in a high risk group)
- Critical care, eg, burns patients
- All those known to have been previously positive
- Patients currently known to be MRSA-positive
- Patients admitted from other hospitals or healthcare facilities or receiving nursing care from care agencies in their own homes
- Patients admitted who are normally resident in nursing or care homes
- Those who have been an in patient in any hospital (including QVH within the last year)
- All health care workers admitted for surgery.

Source Document <http://www.qvh.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/Management-and-screening-of-patients-with-MRSA-Oct-2015.pdf> [Download Document](#)

Sepsis Is The Most Expensive Condition To Treat In Hospitals

Modern Healthcare: "Sepsis, or septicemia, was by far the most costly condition across all payers. Patients with sepsis represented \$23.7 billion in hospital costs, or about 6.2% of the nation's hospital bill, but sepsis patients represented only 3.6% of all hospital stays."

<http://www.modernhealthcare.com/article/20160628/NEWS/160629901>

The superbug That Doctors Have Been Dreading Just Reached the U.S.

Washington Post: " "It basically shows us that the end of the road isn't very far for antibiotics — that we may be in a situation where we have patients in our intensive-care units, or patients getting urinary tract infections for which we do not have antibiotics," CDC Director Tom Frieden said in an interview Thursday. " <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/to-your-health/wp/2016/05/26/the-superbug-that-doctors-have-been-dreading-just-reached-the-u-s/>

U.S. House Committee Hearing on Combating Superbugs
Committee on Energy and Commerce
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zb1ohwpcJno>

Superbug Found On The Beaches of Rio Olympics

CNN ""This bacteria colonizes the intestine and it goes along with feces to the hospital sewage," Picao said. "We believe that hospital sewage goes into municipal sewage and gets to the Guanabara Bay or to other rivers and finally gets to the beach.""
<http://www.cnn.com/2016/07/05/americas/rio-de-janeiro-super-bacteria/index.html>

Superbugs from hospital sewage have also been found on the beaches of Los Angeles. <http://www.latimes.com/business/la-fi-superbug-sewers-20160307-story.html>

Healthcare Quality

Utilization of non-US Educated Nurses in US Hospitals: Negative Impact on Patient Mortality.

"Employing non-US-educated nurses has a negative impact on patient mortality except where patient-to-nurse ratios are lower than average. Thus, US hospitals should give priority to achieving adequate nurse staffing levels, and be wary of hiring large percentages of non-US-educated nurses unless patient-to-nurse ratios are low." <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/23736834>

Biden Threatens Funding Cuts for Researchers Who Fail to Report Clinical Trial Results.

"Under the law, it says you must report. If you don't report, the law says you shouldn't get funding," Biden said, citing a STAT investigation that found widespread reporting lapses. "I'm going to find out if it's true" that the research centers aren't reporting the results, Biden said — "and if it's true, I'm going to cut funding. That's a promise." <https://www.statnews.com/2016/06/29/biden-clinical-trials-cancer/>

Pharmaceutical Industry–Sponsored Meals Was Associated With An Increased Rate of Prescribing the Brand-Name Drugs.

"Receipt of industry-sponsored meals was associated with an increased rate of prescribing the brand-name medication that was being promoted. The findings represent an association, not a cause-and-effect relationship." <http://ja.ma/299BUyE>

Association between Inpatient Hospital Experiences and Patient Safety Indicators-- Canadian Study.

"There is clear evidence that inpatient experience ratings are associated with PSIs, one element of quality of care. Future research, examining individual PSIs and patient experience questions, is warranted, as this may inform targeted quality improvement initiatives."

<http://bmjopen.bmj.com/content/6/7/e011242.full>

11 Hospitals to Avoid If You Don't Want a C-Section

CR: "Consumer Reports (CR) asked large hospitals to explain why their cesarean rates are so much higher than their competitors'. Here's what they said:" <http://bit.ly/25NKyeG>

CR: "What does it take for a hospital to maintain low cesarean rates over time? Consumer Reports asked and they explained:" <http://bit.ly/25NKyeG>

CR: "Want to avoid a C-section? Use Consumer Reports Hospital Ratings to compare the cesarean rates of hospitals in your area:" <http://bit.ly/1gGAGcO>

Medical Devices

When Doctors Have Conflicts of Interest

"Certainly, the relationships doctors have with drug or device manufacturers drive innovation, and help make those products better for patients. But can we ever be sure these relationships aren't influencing the purity of our practice of medicine, even a little?"

http://well.blogs.nytimes.com/2016/06/29/when-doctors-have-conflicts-of-interest/?_r=0



Germs cling to hard-to-clean medical scopes, Swedish and other Providence hospitals find

<http://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/health/germs-cling-to-hard-to-clean-medical-scopes-swedish-and-other-providence-hospitals-find/>

A Retort To The N of 1 Editorial Regarding Morcellation

"It is true that an N of 1 mobilized a large-scale focus on determining the actual risk of death from cancer upstaging owing to morcellation — on the order of 1 in 300, as now established by several notable studies."

<http://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMc1605896#t=article>

Cancer Upstaged by Morcellation

Woman's Health Issues: "Approximately 1 in 350 women undergoing laparoscopic supracervical hysterectomy had an undiagnosed uterine cancer, with higher risks among older women. Approximately one-half of women had endometrial biopsies documented before hysterectomy. Safer alternatives, such as contained morcellation, should be evaluated to reduce the risk of complications after morcellation procedures.:"

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/26701205?dopt=Abstract>

Health Watch USA Fall Conference -- Nov. 4th, 2016

Four Points Sheraton, Lexington, KY



The conference's theme this year is the reliability of research and protocols for infectious disease, medical device safety and patient safety. Registration is \$48. Continuing education for physicians (Type I AMA), nurses, occupational therapists and physical therapists have been applied for.

To Register Go

To: <http://www.healthconference.org/payment.htm>

View

Agenda: <http://www.healthconference.org/agenda.htm>

For More Information Go To www.healthconference.org

If you would like to submit a 25 min presentation on a topic related to patient safety please send a 250 word abstract to healthwatchusa@gmail.com



Health Watch USA Meeting, July 20, 2016 -- Adobe Connect

Presentation: Terrie Morgan-Besecker, investigative reporter from the Times-Tribune, will present on the financial impact on patients of hospital facility fees for outpatient services.

View Recent News Article: <http://thetimes-tribune.com/news/facility-fees-cost-medicare-billions-1.2054288>

Terrie Morgan-Besecker has been an investigative newspaper reporter for 27 years, focusing on the court system and social justice issues. She has won more than a dozen statewide journalism awards for her work with The Times-Tribune newspaper in Scranton, Pa. and her former employer, The Times Leader newspaper in Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

Morgan-Besecker was featured prominently in "Kids for Cash," a feature length documentary regarding a 2009 juvenile justice scandal in Luzerne County that led to the imprisonment of two county judges. Her work on that story was recognized with several awards, including a prestigious national award for investigative reporting from the Society for Professional Journalists. She won that award again in 2014 for series of stories for the Times Tribune that uncovered pension abuses in Scranton.

To attend this informative presentation via Adobe Connect (webinar) please send an email to healthwatchusa@gmail.com

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