



Health Watch USAsm

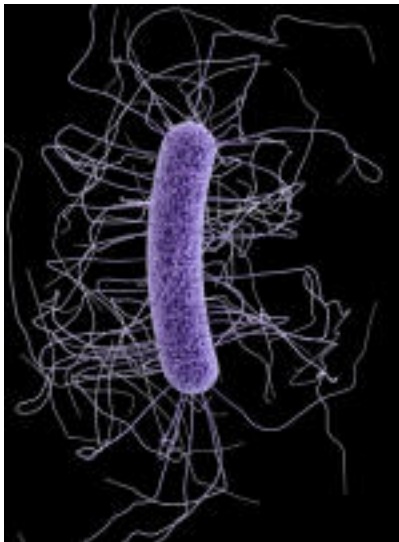
Newsletter

www.healthwatchusa.org Dec. 20, 2016

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

Health Care Quality



One life, two donated organs and \$5.7 million in bills – a tale of superbugs' deadly costs

"Recovering from transplant surgery, Dan Greulich fell prey to a drug-resistant infection. What happened over the next five months shows the terrible human and financial price of an epidemic raging through the U.S. healthcare system." From

Reuters: <http://www.reuters.com/investigates/special-report/usa-uncounted-costs/>

Hospital Mortality Should Be Dissociated From Patient Context.

Kevin T. Kavanagh, MD, MS presents on preventable hospital mortality and how the context of the patient should not be used to lessen the severity of the event. In addition, the applicability of the

foreign studies to predict the safety of the U.S. healthcare system is questioned.

YouTube Video: <https://youtu.be/HRIfxB-cQY>

The National Scorecard on Rates of Hospital-Acquired Conditions

The scorecard shows "that about 125,000 fewer patients died and more than \$28 billion in health care costs were saved from 2010 through 2015 due to a 21 percent drop in hospital-acquired conditions (HACs). In total, hospital patients experienced more than 3 million fewer HACs from 2010 through 2015. HACs include adverse drug events, catheter-associated urinary tract infections, central line associated bloodstream infections, pressure ulcers and surgical site infections, among others.

<http://www.ahrq.gov/news/newsroom/press-releases/national-patient-safety-efforts-save-lives.html>

Call for Ban On Concurrent Surgeries

Boston Globe: "A powerful US Senate committee wants all hospitals to explicitly ban surgeons from overseeing two simultaneous operations, weighing in on a controversy that has roiled Massachusetts General Hospital and spurred a national debate on patient safety."

<https://apps.bostonglobe.com/spotlight/clash-in-the-name-of-care/story/>

Health Care Associated Infections

Commentary Questioning Efficacy and Conflict-of-Interest Statement In Hand Hygiene Monitoring Research.

The main issue is regarding the accuracy of the finding that the intervention caused a 42% decrease in MRSA infections. HW USA submitted a Letter-To-The-Editor to the American Journal of Infection Control regarding this issue.

American Journal of Infection Control. December 01 2016 [http://www.ajicjournal.org/article/S0196-6553\(16\)30904-X/fulltext](http://www.ajicjournal.org/article/S0196-6553(16)30904-X/fulltext)

Although the author provided a response, we are still not able to reconcile the newly provided data in the letter with the article's concluded result. We calculate a 30% reduction from the data in the letter. However, the manuscript stated there was a 42% reduction. Below is a second comment expressing these concerns.

In: PubMed Commons [Internet]. Bethesda (MD): National Library of Medicine; 2016 Dec. 16. Available from: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/27908437#cm27908437_34333

Will 10 Million People Die a Year due to Antimicrobial Resistance by 2050?

<http://journals.plos.org/plosmedicine/article?id=10.1371/journal.pmed.1002184>

Healthcare Devices

Hospital Impact: Drug companies win, patient safety loses with 21st Century Cures Act

FierceHealthcare: "On its surface, there seems to be little controversy in supporting more funding to the National Institutes of Health (NIH) for innovative research, more expeditious approval of promising drugs by the Federal Drug Administration (FDA), and better approaches to combat the opioid abuse epidemic. However, there are a number of troubling provisions in this potential law of which the public should be aware."

<http://www.fiercehealthcare.com/hospitals/hospital-impact-drug-companies-win-patients-lose-21st-century-cures-act>

Rochester Hospitals Under Pressure From FDA For Reporting Failures On Power Morcellators

<http://www.democratandchronicle.com/story/news/2016/12/09/fda-rgh-strong/95151254/>

The Throwaway Scope:

"In response to a series of superbug outbreaks around the country, some doctors and hospitals are trying out disposable scopes to combat the spread of antibiotic-resistant bacteria."

<http://khn.org/news/the-throwaway-scope-a-way-to-ditch-superbugs/>

Healthcare Finances

New Medicare data show steep increases in drug prices

<http://www.modernhealthcare.com/article/20161207/NEWS/161209924/new-medicare-data-show-steep-increases-in-drug-prices>

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Health Watch USA's 2016 Healthcare Quality & Patient Safety Conference

The presentation videos are now online.

To view the conference presentations: Go To:

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLKKV6p_etRmPhxndxrvt7yeE-ICUmqzK

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