



Health Watch USAsm

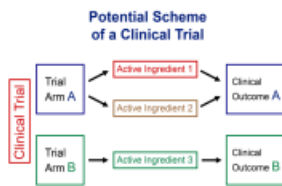
Newsletter

www.healthwatchusa.org Aug. 1, 2017

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 Acquired Infections

The Research Evidence Behind Chlorhexidine Recommendations



Dr. Maiwald Matthias discusses research integrity concerns regarding the antiseptic chlorhexidine. Specific topics relate to incomplete reporting of methodology, errors in data interpretation, clinical equipoise and bias in meta-analyses. Specific attention is given on how these problems impact the WHO indications for surgical antisepsis. (July 19th HW USA meeting.)

View YouTube Video: <https://youtu.be/8YDMQjinn7g>

Shoddy research, deadly results - OpEd Lexington Herald Leader

"(The problem of Conflicts of interest) is of paramount importance. Research is the foundation for treatment protocols and health policy. A murky fog has descended over what works and what does not. The U.S. private health-care system is following the path of least resistance, hoping the emphasis on inexpensive hand hygiene programs will be enough to reverse this epidemic, rather than making the hard and expensive investment needed in infection control."

<http://www.kentucky.com/opinion/op-ed/article163753803.html>

National Trends in the Frequency of Bladder Catheterization and Physician-diagnosed Catheter-associated Urinary Tract Infections

Noel Eldridge, (Senior Advisor AHRQ) presents on national trends of CAUTI infections in the United States during the July 2017 HW USA meeting. "There were statistically significant declines in observed bladder catheterization frequency and adjusted CAUTI frequency in some patient populations between 2009 and 2014."

View YouTube Video: https://youtu.be/olZGy1jJ3_Y

CDC Consumer Advocates Submit Comment Regarding MRSA Testing of Healthcare Workers.

"Unlike the general population, healthcare workers are in frequent contact with patients with fresh surgical wounds and in immunocompromised states. This makes control of MRSA carriage in

this population of greater concern. At least one study has found a significant decrease in MRSA associated with screening and decolonization of healthcare workers."

<http://www.healthwatchusa.org/HWUSA-Initiatives/PDF-Downloads/MRSA-Hospital-Worker-Screening-Comment.pdf>

Second Study Confirms HW USA's Analysis that MRSA Bloodstream Infection Rates Did Not Decline Between 2014 to 2015

Clinical Infectious Disease: "Serious MRSA-related infections not declining, despite overall MRSA decline. A new study from CDDEP researchers and collaborators finds that rates of the most serious methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) infections—blood infections and pneumonias—did not decline from 2010 to 2014, despite a decline in all MRSA infections"

<https://academic.oup.com/cid/article-abstract/doi/10.1093/cid/cix640/4036368/Trends-in-Methicillin-Resistant-Staphylococcus>

HW USA's Article: The incidence of MRSA infections in the United States: is a more comprehensive tracking system needed? <https://aricjournal.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s13756-017-0193-0>

A hospital in Belfast has been affected by an outbreak of Clostridium difficile

BBC: "The Belfast Trust confirmed that a ward was closed briefly and two patients were affected in Musgrave Park Hospital in Belfast." Of importance is that an "outbreak" appears to be defined as two cases and the extent taken to eliminate C. Difficile in facilities.

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-northern-ireland-40614788>

CDC Report: Antibiotic Use in the United States, 2017: Progress and Opportunities <https://www.cdc.gov/getsmart/stewardship-report/>

Healthcare Quality

Death Rates May Even Go Down With hospital Readmission Reductions

JAMA: "Among Medicare fee-for-service beneficiaries hospitalized for heart failure, acute myocardial infarction, or pneumonia, reductions in hospital 30-day readmission rates were weakly but significantly correlated with reductions in hospital 30-day mortality rates after discharge."

JAMA: <http://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/article-abstract/2643762>

FierceHealthcare : <http://www.fiercehealthcare.com/healthcare/death-rates-don-t-go-up-when-hospitals-reduce-readmissions?>

Myth of Drug Expiration Dates

NPR: "Though the government requires pharmacies to throw away expired drugs, it doesn't always follow these instructions itself. Instead, for more than 30 years, it has pulled some medicines and tested their quality."

<http://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2017/07/18/537257884/that-drug-expiration-date-may-be-more-myth-than-fact>

Editorial: Patients have a right to know when a doctor is on probation for a serious violation

<http://www.latimes.com/opinion/editorials/la-ed-docs-probation-patient-notification-20170727-story.html>

Medical Devices

The Battle Over Essure

Washington Post: "The warning — coming 14 years after Essure went on the market and two years after Keisha had it implanted — was a major victory for anti-Essure activists. But it also left a number of unresolved questions: How did this device come to market? What made it so popular? And should women continue to use it?"

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/sf/style/2017/07/26/essure/>

Two More Duodenoscopes Are Recalled

- Fujifilm Duodenoscope Model ED-530XT
http://www.fujifilmusa.com/products/medical/endoscopy/pdf/UrgentFieldCorrectionAndRemoval_ED530XT_072117.pdf
- Pentax Duodenoscope Models Ed-3490TK and ED-3270K
<https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/cdrh/cfdocs/cfRES/res.cfm?id=155670>

=====

Health Watch USA's 2017 Healthcare Quality & Patient Safety Conference



The Setting Of Strong Quality Standards & Research Integrity

Nov. 3rd, 2017 at the Four Points Sheraton, Lexington, KY

Speakers to Include:

- Joycelyn Elders, MD – Past U.S. Surgeon General
- Deborah Nelson: Pulitzer prize winning investigative reporter presenting on conflicts-of-interest and infectious disease policy. Associate Professor Investigative Journalism. University of Maryland.
Resume: <https://merrill.umd.edu/about-merrill/staff-faculty/deborah-nelson/>
- Ivan Oransky, MD -- Distinguished Writer in Residence, New York University & Co-Founder of "Retraction Watch" presenting on Characteristics and Findings of Retracted Peer-Reviewed Scientific Manuscripts.
Resume: <https://journalism.nyu.edu/about-us/profile/ivan-oransky-md/>

- Lisa McGiffert, Consumer Union's Safe Patient Project, presenting on Patient Safety and Healthcare Accountability.

Resume: <http://consumersunion.org/experts/lisa-mcgiffert/>

Presentation videos for the 2016 Conference are now online.

To view the conference presentations: Go To:

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

=====

**To subscribe to Health Watch USAsm
newsletter go to:**

<http://www.hwusa-newsletter.org/lists/?p=subscribe&id=1>



Visit and "Like" HW USA's Facebook Page at:

<https://www.facebook.com/HealthWatchUsa>

