



# Health Watch USA Newsletter

[www.healthwatchusa.org](http://www.healthwatchusa.org) May 29, 2018

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 Associated Infections

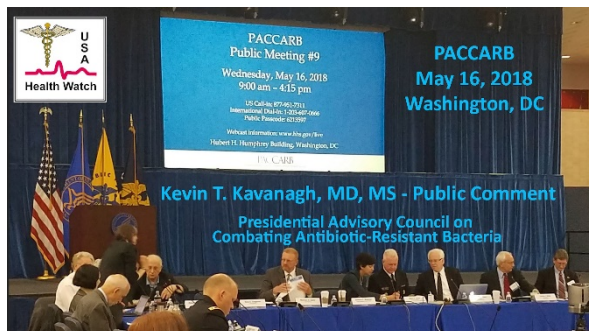


### Contact Precautions -- Newly Posted Recommendations

"CDC recommends the use of Contact Precautions (CP) in inpatient acute care settings for patients known to be colonized or infected with epidemiologically important Multidrug-Resistant Organisms (MDROs) including Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA)."

<https://www.cdc.gov/mrsa/healthcare/clinicians/index.html>

[Download MRSA Bloodstream Infection Cases in U.S. Hospitals](#)



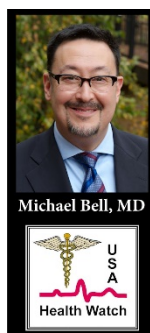
### PACCARB - Facility Level Containment And Control - Public Comment

Kevin Kavanagh, MD, MS stresses the importance of setting standards for facility level containment and control of multi-drug resistant organisms. Public comment given before the Presidential Advisory Council on Combating Antibiotic Resistant Bacteria. May 16, 2018.

YouTube Video (2

mins): <https://youtu.be/ufOXcHitRp0>

Download Transcript of Presentation: <http://www.healthwatchusa.org/HWUSA-Presentations-Community/PDF-Downloads/20180516-EffortsToControlTheEpidemicOfMDROs--Final.pdf>



### What You Need to Know About Hepatitis A, B and C Prevention, Risks and Vaccines

**Michael Bell, MD**

Deputy Director of Division of Healthcare Quality Promotion, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

With Jack Pattie &  
Kevin Kavanagh, MD, MS

The Jack Pattie Show  
WVLK AM  
May 23, 2018

### A, B, Cs of Hepatitis Risks, Prevention and Vaccines

Dr. Michael Bell, Deputy Director of Division of Healthcare Quality Promotion, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention discusses the dangers, transmission, prevention and vaccines for Hepatitis. With Jack Pattie and Kevin Kavanagh, MD, MS. May 23, 2018.

YouTube URL: <https://youtu.be/CqgLSOVUSMY>

## Medical Devices & Drugs



### **China RX: Is Our Drug Supply Safe? -- A New Book By Rosemary Gibson**

Award winning author Rosemary Gibson discusses here new book China Rx, an investigative report into the dependence on China for the provision of crucial medications and the difficulties it creates for FDA oversight and more importantly for national security. Jack Pattie Show April 26, 2018. (Video has

been shortened from original presentation). Jack Pattie Show - WVLK-AM April 26, 2018. YouTube Video <https://youtu.be/4qbxJeRSIY8>

### **HW USA Letter to the CDC Supporting Action Regarding the High Incidence of Occult Cancer in Hysterectomy Specimens**

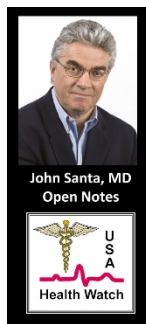
"Health Watch USA strongly supports the announcement that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention plans to take action on the pre-operative evaluation of women scheduled for hysterectomy or myomectomy, using the non-oncological techniques such as morcellation. A recent article in the journal Obstetrics and Gynecology (Desai VB, et al, April 13, 2018) found an astonishingly high risk of unsuspected uterine, cervical and ovarian cancers (1.44%, 0.60%, and 0.19%, respectively) in women undergoing uterine operations for presumably benign conditions." View Letter: <http://www.healthwatchusa.org/HWUSA-Initiatives/PDF-Downloads/20180509-OccultCarcinomaInHysterectomy-Final.pdf>

### **The Never-Ending Misuse of Antipsychotics In Nursing Homes**

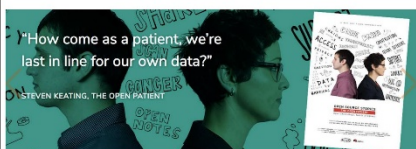
HealthAffairs: "In response to a generic question about post-market drug surveillance posed during a February 2007 House Energy and Commerce Committee hearing, Dr. David Graham, then associate director of science and medicine in the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA's) Office of Surveillance and Epidemiology, stated: "I would pay careful attention to antipsychotic medications. ... The problem with these drugs are that we know that they are being used extensively off label in nursing homes to sedate elderly patients with dementia ... . It is known that the drugs don't work in those settings. ... But the fact is, is that it increases mortality perhaps by 100 percent. It doubles mortality. So I did a back-of-the-envelope calculation on this and you probably got 15,000 elderly people in nursing homes dying each year from the off-label use of antipsychotic medications for an indication that FDA knows the drug doesn't work. This problem has been known to FDA for years and years and years."

<https://www.healthaffairs.org/doi/10.1377/hblog20180424.962541/full/>

## Healthcare Safety and Advocacy



A growing patient movement...



### Open Notes - Medical Record Transparency - - John Santa, MD

John Santa, MD, MPH discusses the research and patient experiences which support the use of Open Notes, an initiative to make doctor patient notes readily accessible to the patient. The initiative was found to create,

greater patient trust, satisfaction and engagement in their medical care. Health Watch USA Meeting. May 23, 2018. YouTube Video: <https://youtu.be/XBYHxIQPD7o>

## Healthcare Finances

### Dominant hospitals dictate price and contract terms

Health Care Pricing Project: "Hospital market structure is strongly associated with price levels and contract structure. Prices at monopoly hospitals are 12 percent higher than those in markets with four or more rivals."

<http://www.modernhealthcare.com/article/20180509/NEWS/180509912>

Modern Healthcare: <http://www.modernhealthcare.com/article/20180509/NEWS/180509912>

### Monopolized healthcare market reduces quality, increases costs

Modern Healthcare: "As providers increasingly look to consolidate in order to lower operating costs and create economies of scale, the Center for Health Policy at the Brookings Institution and Carnegie Mellon University's Heinz College on Thursday said the trend has led to a dearth of competition. That's why the healthcare industry sees rising prices, price variation and uneven quality of care, according to the groups' white paper." "States should eliminate certificate-of-need regulations." <http://www.modernhealthcare.com/article/20170413/NEWS/170419935>

### Humana offers incentives to hospitals on patient outcomes

"Humana has created an incentive program that, for the first time, will provide financial bonuses to hospitals based in part on how well they take care of patients with short-term medical conditions, such as heart attacks, broken bones and gunshot wounds."

<https://insiderlouisville.com/health/humana-offers-incentives-to-hospitals-on-patient-outcomes>

### More than 30,000 nursing home eviction notices to be sent in Louisiana Thursday

USA Today "Louisiana's Department of Health will begin sending nursing home eviction notices Thursday to more than 30,000 residents who could lose Medicaid under the budget passed by the state House of Representatives."

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation-now/2018/05/07/louisiana-nursing-home-eviction-notices-could-create-mass-chaos/588867002/>

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# Health Watch USA Fall Conference - October 4, 2018.

## Call for Presentations!

Health Watch USA is hosting their annual Healthcare Transparency and Patient Safety Conference on Thursday, October 4 in Lexington, KY. We are calling for submission of abstracts by potential speakers on topics relating to patient safety and advocacy for consideration to present. Conference presentations can be 30 or 60 minutes. If you are interested, please send a brief abstract with learning objectives to [heather.norris@eku.edu](mailto:heather.norris@eku.edu) by July 15th, 2018

Authors will be notified of acceptance or declination by Aug 1th, 2018.

Thank you!

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