



Health Watch USAsm

Newsletter

www.healthwatchusa.org Nov. 15, 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

National Quality Forum
Consensus Standards Approval Committee

Kevin Kavanagh's comments regarding the NQF Standing Committee's non-approval of two metrics to measure dialysis center referral rates for kidney transplantation.

- 3402: Standardized First Kidney Transplant Waitlist Ratio for Incident Dialysis Patients (SWR) (CMS).
- 3403: Percentage of Prevalent Patients Waitlisted (PPPW) (CMS).

Final CSAC Recommendation was not to accept the Standing Committee's Recommendation and to refer the metrics back to the Standing Committee for reconsideration.

Proposed Measurement of Dialysis Referral For Transplantation

Kevin Kavanagh, MD. comments regarding the National Quality Forum Standing Committee's non-approval of two metrics to measure dialysis center referral rates for kidney transplantation. Final CSAC recommendation was not to accept the Standing Committee's recommendation and to refer the metrics back to the Standing Committee for reconsideration. Oct. 23, 2018.

View YouTube Video: <https://youtu.be/SCbpBMsUC8k>

Public Comment on the Safety of Healthcare Workers & Dangerous Pathogens.

Major Points:

- 1) Periodic Screening of Healthcare Workers for Dangerous Pathogens.
- 2) National Registry With Public Transparency for Healthcare Worker Acquisition (carriage & infection) of Dangerous Pathogens.
- 3) Healthcare Worker Economic Safety Net Including Sick Leave, Healthcare Plus Disability for Acquisition of Dangerous Pathogens.

View Regulation.Gov Comment Letter Regarding "Infection Control in Healthcare Personnel: Infrastructure and Routine Practices for Occupational Infection Prevention and Control Services."

View Comment Letter: <http://www.healthwatchusa.org/HWUSA-Initiatives/PDF-Downloads/20181031-RecommendationsForHealthcareWorkers.pdf>

Download Commentary Discussing These Principles: Kavanagh KT, Abusalem S, Calderon LE. Viewpoint: Gaps in the current guidelines for the prevention of Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus surgical site infections Antimicrobial Resistance and Infection Control. Sept. 18, 2018. Free Access:

<https://aricjournal.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s13756-018-0407-0>



The Epidemic of Multi-Drug Resistance Organisms -- It is NOT the Nurses Fault!!

Kevin Kavanagh, MD, MS, discusses healthcare worker and patient safety issues which are created by the United States Response to the drug resistant bacteria epidemic. Not setting firm standards and research integrity problems have prevented an effective response in many of our institutions.

This is a slightly longer version with additional slides than the abbreviated talk given at the Nov. 2, 2018 Kentucky Nursing Association Conference. **View YouTube Video:** <https://youtu.be/k-fXApc3IA>

Research Integrity

1 in 4 Statisticians Say They Were Asked to Commit Scientific Fraud

ACSH.ORG: "The absolute worst offense (i.e., being asked to fake statistical significance) occurred to 3% of the survey respondents. Another 7% reported being asked to change data, and a whopping 24% -- nearly 1 in 4 -- said they were asked to remove or alter data. Unequivocally, that is a request to commit scientific fraud. Of the less serious offenses, 55% of biostatisticians said that they received requests to underreport non-significant results."

<https://www.acsh.org/news/2018/10/30/1-4-statisticians-say-they-were-asked-commit-scientific-fraud-13554>

Source Article: Ann Int Med: <http://annals.org/aim/article-abstract/2706170/researcher-requests-inappropriate-analysis-reporting-u-s-survey-consulting-biostatisticians>

Scientific Misconduct and Medical Journals

JAMA, Editorial: "Ultimately, authors, journals, and institutions have an important obligation to ensure the accuracy of the scientific record."

<https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/fullarticle/2708590>

Healthcare Associated Infections

Antibiotic-Resistant Infections Doubled Since 2007 in Europe

Medscape: "More than 33,000 people died from antibiotic-resistant bacterial infections in the European Union and European Economic Area (EU/EEA) during 2015, a study has found. The estimated burden of these infections has doubled since 2007 and was similar to the combined burden of influenza, tuberculosis, and HIV."

<https://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/904640>

Source Study: [https://www.thelancet.com/journals/laninf/article/PIIS1473-3099\(18\)30605-4/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/laninf/article/PIIS1473-3099(18)30605-4/fulltext)

Probiotic bacillus eliminates staphylococcus bacteria

"The researchers, led by scientists at NIH's National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID),

unexpectedly found that Bacillus bacteria prevented S. aureus bacteria from growing in the gut and nose of healthy individuals. "

<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2018/10/181010135010.htm>

Denver doctor sues Porter Adventist Hospital after surgical site infection nearly takes her life

9news.com: "A Denver doctor has alleged in a lawsuit that Porter Adventist Hospital has continued performing surgeries despite knowing the facility had a history of problems with sanitizing equipment."

<https://www.9news.com/article/news/investigations/denver-doctor-sues-porter-after-surgical-site-infection-nearly-takes-her-life/73-610050899>

Healthcare Quality

Association between patient outcomes and accreditation in US hospitals: Observational study

BMJ: "US hospital accreditation by independent organizations is not associated with lower mortality, and is only slightly associated with reduced readmission rates for the 15 common medical conditions selected in this study. There was no evidence in this study to indicate that patients choosing a hospital accredited by The Joint Commission confer any healthcare benefits over choosing a hospital accredited by another independent accrediting organization."

<https://www.bmj.com/content/bmj/363/bmj.k4011.full.pdf>

Should Patients Be Alerted When Doctors Are Disciplined?

Medscape, Commentary: " Art Caplan, PhD - Division of Medical Ethics NYU: I applaud what California is doing. State medical boards are very conservative in revoking licenses and in administering punishments. Some would argue—and I am among them—that they're too lenient and they don't take a "me too" attitude that says, "One conviction of sexual assault, that's it—you lose your license."

<https://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/903878>

Health Watch USA 2018 Fall Conference.

12th Annual Patient Safety Conference held on Oct. 4, 2018 in Lexington, KY.



My family's experience

2012

- My father was badly burned in Kansas
- Local hospital delayed transfer to burn center
- He died 11 days later


Melissa Clarkson
Oct. 4, 2018

USA
Health Watch

The Importance of Transparency and Full Disclosure of Adverse Events

Melissa Clarkson, PhD, discusses her family's experiences with the healthcare legal system and gag clauses, along with the importance of full disclosure of adverse events and support of the injured patient and family.

YouTube Video: <https://youtu.be/LZxDsOp3rao>




FDA Warning

FDA News Release
FDA updates warnings for fluoroquinolone antibiotics on risks of mental health and low blood sugar adverse reactions

The FDA first added a **boxed warning** to fluoroquinolones in July 2008 for the increased risk of tendonitis and tendon rupture. In February 2011, the risk of worsening symptoms for those with myasthenia gravis was added to the boxed warning. In August 2013, the agency required updates to the labeling to describe the potential for irreversible peripheral neuropathy (serious nerve damage).

In 2016, the FDA enhanced warnings about the association of fluoroquinolones with disabling and potentially permanent side effects involving tendons, muscles, joints, nerves and the central nervous system. Because the risk of these serious side effects generally outweighs the benefits for patients with acute bacterial sinusitis, acute bacterial exacerbation of chronic bronchitis and uncomplicated urinary tract infections, the FDA determined that fluoroquinolones should be reserved for use in patients with these conditions who have no alternative treatment options.

Jonathan Furman
 Oct. 4, 2018



The Dangers of Fluoroquinolone Antibiotics

Jonathan Furman presents on the adverse effects of fluoroquinolones and the shortcomings of FDA oversight. Adverse events include, tendon rupture and psychological dysfunction. The frequency of these events has caused the FDA to issue black box warnings and recommend restricting fluoroquinolones usage.

YouTube Video: <https://youtu.be/gclD4WjBMRo>



Rebecca Krall, PhD
 Oct. 4, 2018




The most important thing in communication is hearing what isn't said.
 --Peter Drucker

The Importance of Communication To Avoid Adverse Events

Rebecca Krall, PhD, Discusses what happens when an asplenic patient is bitten by a dog: A caregivers' perspective on healthcare communication issues.

YouTube Video: <https://youtu.be/hINGum9y2bc>



Christine Pontus, RN
 Oct. 4, 2018



The intersection of occupational hazards for nurses, safe staffing, and infection control

Christine Pontus, MS, RN, CDHN-5/CCM
 Associate Director Health & Safety
 Massachusetts Nurses Association


Jonathan Rosen, MS CIH
 AJ Rosen & Associates LLC




The Importance of Nursing To Assure Patient Safety

Christine Pontus, MS, RN, reviews the literature and discusses the importance of nursing to assure patient safety. The negative impact of inadequate RN staffing on several key patient outcomes has been documented in the peer-reviewed literature. Nationally, unions and associations representing RNs have been advocating for safe staffing legislation at state and federal levels. YouTube

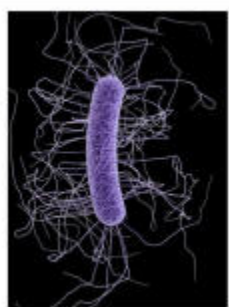
Video: <https://youtu.be/nkDEe2L-8h4>



Catherine Duff
 Oct. 4, 2018



Clostridium Difficile (C.Diff.)



Fecal Transplantation - Current Status, FDA Policy & A Patient Advocate's Story

Catherine Duff, President and Founder of The Fecal Transplant Foundation, tells a harrowing story of how a family administered fecal transplant saved her life and started her down the road of fecal transplant advocacy and FDA policy advisor. The Fecal Transplant Foundation:

<http://thefecaltransplantfoundation.org>

YouTube Video: <https://youtu.be/u1c5T3j4OOE>

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