



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

A critique of the term "second victim"
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The Impact of the Term "Second Victim" Patient's Who Have Suffered Medical Harm. Melissa Clarkson, PhD discusses her recent BMJ commentary regarding the term "Second Victim" and how it is viewed by patients who have suffered medical harm. Health Watch USA meeting May 8, 2019. YouTube Video: <https://youtu.be/XURHky2FRd8>

Opioid Epidemic
Source: Higham et al., "The Fentanyl Problem," Wash. Post, March 13, 2019

Kevin Kavanagh, MD from Health Watch USA(sm) comments at the National Quality Forum CSAC meeting, April 24 -25, 2019:

- 1) The opioid epidemic and the effectiveness of opioids in chronic pain. <https://youtu.be/l0uYvfev8M>
- 2) The unintended harms of improper risk adjustments for disparities. <https://youtu.be/JNpww5ALbEg>
- 3) Metric approval by NQF and the role of the Scientific Methods Panel. <https://youtu.be/TEqvOBriDks>



Quality Reporting Metrics - CMS Strategy for Improving The Quality Of Care. Reena Duseja, MD, MS, Chief Medical Officer for the Quality Measurement and Value Based Incentives Group, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services discusses their program using metrics to promote healthcare quality and consumer choice. <https://youtu.be/tOPmdvvEwJY>

Research Integrity with Meta Analysis -- Recent Example.

A recent study published in JAMA Network illustrates how just a few controlled studies with integrity problems can alter findings and clinical recommendations. To paraphrase the findings of the study: This study found that 46% of all (total 22) meta-analysis publications (which contained at least one ARISTOTLE clinical trial data publication) had altered conclusions, and 32% of all the analyses (which contained the ARISTOTLE publications) had a considerable change in the outcome.

Summary "Fraud, errors were behind delay of apixaban approval, report shows" <https://www.mdedge.com/hematology-oncology/article/187991/thrombosis/fraud-errors-were-behind-delay-apixaban-approval-report-shows>

Evaluation of the Inclusion of Studies Identified by the FDA as Having Falsified Data in the Results of Meta-analyses. The Example of the Apixaban Trials:

<https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamainternalmedicine/fullarticle/2726046>

Kapoor certainly deserves to go to jail, but so do some other pharma execs.

STAT News: "There is no getting around this age-old imagery. Insys Therapeutics founder John Kapoor and his former gang members at the disgraced drug maker should get the maximum sentences for their shameful roles in helping to foment an opioid crisis that has claimed countless lives and roiled an entire nation. For years, Insys executives pressured their sales team to bribe doctors into writing more prescriptions for its Subsyst painkiller, which contains fentanyl, a powerful and addictive opioid. Doctors were given free meals, cash, and, sometimes, dark chocolate bars."

<https://www.statnews.com/2019/05/02/kapoor-jail-other-pharma-execs/>

80,000 Deaths. 2 Million Injuries. It's Time for a Reckoning on Medical Devices.

"The risks of waiting loom large: In the past decade, nearly two million injuries and more than 80,000 deaths have been linked to faulty medical devices, many approved with little to no clinical testing, according to a global investigation by the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists."

NYT Editorial: <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/05/04/opinion/sunday/medical-devices.html>

This doctor posted online in favor of immunization. Then vaccine opponents targeted her.

Kwalczyk L: "More than 100 negative one-star reviews and derogatory comments had been posted about her on popular physician rating websites."

Boston Globe: <https://www.bostonglobe.com/metro/2019/05/11/vaccine-opponents-target-doctors-social-media-and-ratings-websites/Y8RQie1xJdr1RtKvbdR9ml/story.html>

Many hospitals charge double or triple Medicare rates.

"In Indiana, a local hospital system, Parkview Health, charged private insurance companies about four times what the federal Medicare program paid for the same care, according to a study of hospital prices in 25 states released Thursday by the nonprofit RAND Corp."

New York Times: <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/05/09/health/hospitals-prices-medicare.html>

Health Watch USAsm June 19, 2019 Meeting

June 19, 2019 at 7:00 PM ET. Over Adobe Connect. To attend please email healthwatchusa@gmail.com

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