



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

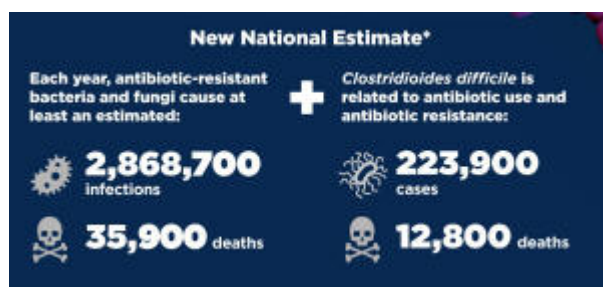


**YouTube Video:** <https://youtu.be/Gijk606uY9E>

A group of 18 people, including students and faculty, posing for a photo on a modern staircase with large windows in the background. The group is diverse in age and appearance, and they are all smiling for the camera. The setting appears to be a contemporary building with large glass windows and a metal railing on the stairs.

- "Transmission develops signs" **Colonization ≠ Infection** (resident on)
- "Facility policies must identify type and duration of Transmission-Based Precautions"
- "Transmission possible for the least" **Duration of MDRO colonization can be prolonged (>6 months)** (yes, it is used for)
- "Once removed" **Resident remains at risk for transmitting the MDRO even when not actively infected**

**Colonized Residents in Nursing Homes May Carry the Organisms for Months.** -- Preventing the Spread of Novel or Targeted Multidrug resistant Organisms (MDROs) in Nursing Homes through Enhanced Barrier Precautions Clinician, CDC. Oct. 24, 2019.



## CDC Releases the 2019 Threat Assessment for Drug Resistant Bacteria.

"The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) today released its updated [Antibiotic Resistance Threats in the United States](#) (AR Threats Report) indicating that antibiotic-resistant bacteria and fungi cause more than 2.8 million infections and 35,000 deaths in the United States each year.

That means, on average, someone in the United States gets an antibiotic-resistant infection every 11 seconds and every 15 minutes someone dies. When *Clostridioides difficile*, a bacterium which is not typically resistant but can cause deadly diarrhea and is associated with antibiotic use, is added to these, the U.S. toll of all the threats in the report exceeds 3 million infections and 48,000 deaths." <https://www.cdc.gov/drugresistance/biggest-threats.html>

READ REPORT: <http://www.healthwatchusa.org/downloads/20191114-ar-threats-report-508.pdf>  
<https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/health/2019/11/15/antibiotic-resistant-superbugs-killing-thousands-what-know/4189718002/>

**Click on Pictures to Enlarge**

## 'Nightmare' bacteria, resistant to almost every drug, stalk U.S. hospitals

"Many researchers have worried about the emergence of a "post-antibiotic era," in which patients succumb to once-treatable infections. Antibiotics don't just save lives when people develop infectious diseases such as pneumonia: They are also the "safety net" for patients undergoing surgery and cancer treatment, Schuchat said." <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2018/04/03/nightmare-bacteria-antibiotic-resistant-stalk-hospitals/482162002/>

## Healthcare Quality & Safety



### Healthcare may not be a right but it is a necessity for society

Almost everyone is worried about healthcare. Kentuckians are pushing for reforms on a state level, but state administrations have limited ability to transform our system, since so much of the framework is mandated and fixed in stone by either federal law or federal dollars. <https://www.kentucky.com/opinion/op-ed/article237405224.html>

Read more here: <https://www.kentucky.com/opinion/op-ed/article237405224.html>

## 13 Kentucky hospitals earn A's for patient safety. 2 Lexington hospitals decline to D's.

Lexington Herald Leader: "Thirteen Kentucky hospitals, including Baptist Health in Lexington, earned A's. Newcomers to the fall A list were Flagnet in Bardstown and Jewish Hospital-Shelbyville." ... "In contrast, seven hospitals earned D's or F's. Three of those — University of Kentucky Chandler Hospital and UK Good Samaritan Hospital in Lexington along with Sts. Mary & Elizabeth Hospital in Louisville — worsened from a C in the spring to a D." <https://www.kentucky.com/news/state/article237108084.html>

## **CMS Sharpens Weapon to Kick 'Problematic' Docs Out of Medicare**

"Starting January 1, 2020, the giant federal health program will have new power to bar clinicians' participation if agency officials can cite potential harm to patients based on specific incidents, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) said." <https://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/920994>

## **How serious are nursing home medication errors?**

Medication errors are a pervasive problem in our healthcare system. In fact, experts estimate that, in one form or another, more than 7 million Americans experience a medication error each year. These mistakes are costly – estimated at over \$21 billion ... As described by the Nursing Home Law Center, federal law requires skilled nursing facilities to keep errors within a 5% margin."

<https://azbigmedia.com/lifestyle/consumer-news/how-serious-are-nursing-home-medication-errors/>

## **This Arizona nonprofit health system CEO topped the salary list at \$25.5 million in 2017**

AZ Central: "The following is the total gross compensation for top nonprofit health system CEOs in Arizona in 2017(\*2016):

1. Peter Fine, Banner Health: \$25.5 million
2. Linda Hunt, Dignity Health: \$1.8 million
3. Thomas Sadvary, HonorHealth: \$1.8 million (through 04/17 as CEO, plus work through the end of the year as adviser to the CEO and board of directors)"

<https://www.azcentral.com/story/money/business/health/2019/10/23/banner-health-ceo-peter-fine-arizona-nonprofit-health-system-topped-salary-list/3779681002/>

## **Patients feel the pain of hospital-physician consolidation**

Modern Healthcare: "The share of physicians employed by hospitals increased from 26% in 2012 to 44% in 2018. But the consolidation has had another effect. Medicare enrollees pay more cost-sharing since their medical bills are higher due to the shift in care settings. "

<https://www.modernhealthcare.com/patients/patients-feel-pain-hospital-physician-consolidation>

## **Prozac for Kids With Autism: Verdict Is In - Randomized trial undercuts rationale for common therapy**

MedPage Today: "The results of this trial "will challenge the field to reconcile the limited performance of the drug with long-standing utilization patterns," observed Bryan King, MD, of the University of California San Francisco, in an accompanying editorial." <https://www.medpagetoday.org/neurology/autism/83173>

## Health Watch USA Oct. 17, 2019 Conference



### Public Health in Crisis MDRO Epidemics & FDA Oversight Health Watch USA<sup>sm</sup> Patient Safety Conference Oct 17, 2019 in Lexington, Kentucky

Conference Website is now online with presentation

slides: <http://www.healthwatchusa.org/conference2019/>

#### View Presentations:

- 1) Lisa Middleton, PhD: The high cost of insulin and diabetic healthcare, <https://youtu.be/HnhodaAdHdE>
- 2) Steve Roach: Resistant bacteria: Risks of antibiotic use in livestock and non-prescription antibiotics, <https://youtu.be/qDPLOXKgRBc>
- 3) Suzanne Robotti - CEO and Founder MedShadow: Fosamax post approval label changes - protecting the patient or the pharmaceutical company? <https://youtu.be/1MripZTWMBQ>

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