



Health Watch USAsm Newsletter

www.healthwatchusa.org Sept. 6, 2014

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



Effectiveness of CMS's Policy For Non-Payment of HACs

Letter to the journal Health Policy describes the infrequent and small penalties of Medicare's policy of non-payment for hospital acquired conditions. This has been associated with little change in hospital quality and is one of the reasons that Medicare's new Value Based Purchasing

initiate on hospital acquired conditions is needed.

Kavanagh K, Medicare's The effectiveness of Medicare's non-payment of hospital-acquired conditions policy. Health Policy. Aug. 27, 2014.

To Download Authors Accepted Manuscript From HW

USA: <http://www.healthwatchusa.org/HWUSA-Publications/PDF-Downloads/20140829-JHP-HAC-Letter.pdf>

- To Download the PDF from Health Policy (NOT FREE ACCESS): www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0168851014002218

2014 Sept. 5th: Jeanine R. Thomas, President and Founder of the MRSA Survivors Network, FDA Staph Workshop

A short presentation that reviews the evidence supporting surveillance and some of the concerns with chlorhexidine bathing can be viewed by downloading the following PDF. (Health Watch USA - Collaborated with the production of this presentation.)

-- Download PDF of Slides: <http://www.healthwatchusa.org/HWUSA-Presentations-Community/PDF-Downloads/20140905-FDA Staph Workshop Final.pdf>

Infections

Relationship Between Occurrence of Surgical Complications and Hospital Finances

In this hospital system, the occurrence of postsurgical complications was associated with a higher per-encounter hospital contribution margin for patients covered by Medicare and private insurance but a lower one for patients covered by Medicaid and who self-paid. Depending on payer mix,

many hospitals have the potential for adverse near-term financial consequences for decreasing postsurgical complications.

<http://jama.jamanetwork.com/article.aspx?articleid=1679400>

CMS's New Program to Reduce HACs

Alicia Budd, MPH presented on Aug. 20, 2014 on CMS's Hospital Acquired Condition (HAC) Reduction Program.

To View The Slides: http://www.healthwatchusa.org/HWUSA-Presentations-Meeting/20140820-Budd-Alicia/HealthWatch_082014.pdf

Senators Urge FDA to Remove Power Morcellators from Device Market

DrugWatch: <http://www.drugwatch.com/2014/08/28/senators-want-power-morcellators-pulled/>

That new knee will come with a guarantee: Virginia Mason to offer warranties on joint replacement surgeries

Puget Sound Business Journal "Seattle's Virginia Mason is offering surgical warranties for hip and knee replacements that would cover the additional costs of any avoidable, surgery-related complications..... Virginia Mason's warranties for hip and knee replacement surgery will cover a bundle of services related to the replacements, from diagnosis to surgery to rehabilitation. "

<http://www.bizjournals.com/seattle/blog/health-care-inc/2014/09/that-new-knee-will-come-with-a-guarantee-virginia.html>

Infections

MRSA Bacteremia -- Kentucky is the Fourth Highest State in the Nation.

Data is from the National Healthcare Safety Network. Acquisition dates are Jan. 1, 2013 to Sept, 30, 2013.

Download File <http://www.healthwatchusa.org/downloads/20130101-20130930-MRSA-Bloodstream-Infections-Hospital-All-States.pdf>

Healthcare Workers Exposure to Triclosan

"A growing body of scientific research calls into question the safety of triclosan... Use of triclosan-containing antibacterial soaps in health care settings represents a substantial and potentially biologically relevant source of occupational triclosan exposure."

http://journals.lww.com/joem/Fulltext/2014/08000/Health_Care_Worker_Exposures_to_the_Antibacterial.7.aspx

Daily antiseptic baths for patients in intensive care units may become less effective

<http://www.medicalnewstoday.com/releases/281039.php?tw>

Healthcare Reform

National Health Expenditure Projections, 2013–23: Faster Growth Expected With Expanded Coverage And Improving Economy

"National Health Expenditure Projections, 2013–23: Faster Growth Expected With Expanded Coverage And Improving

Economy"

<http://content.healthaffairs.org/content/early/2014/08/27/hlthaff.2014.0560>

Upcoming Events:



Sept. 9, 2014: Dr. Peter Pronovost on the Jack Pattie Show.

"Dr. Pronovost has earned several national awards, including the 2004 John Eisenberg Patient Safety Research Award and a coveted MacArthur Fellowship in 2008, known popularly as the "genius grant." He was named by *Time* magazine as one of the world's 100 "most influential people" for his work in patient safety. He regularly addresses Congress on the importance of patient safety, prompting a report by the U.S. House of Representatives' Committee on Oversight and Government Reform strongly endorsing his intensive care unit infection prevention program."

http://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/anesthesiology_critical_care_medicine/research/experts/research_faculty/bios/pronovost.html

When: Sept. 9, 2014, 9:00 to 10:00 Eastern Time. The program can be listened to by going to <http://www.wvlkam.com/> and selecting the "Listen Live" button in the upper right hand corner of the page.

HW USA Annual Patient Safety Conference



Nov. 7, 2014: Health Watch USA's Annual Health Policy Conference, Lexington, KY. Continuing Education Credits for physicians, nurses, social workers and physical therapists will be offered. This year's conference will focus on patient safety, advocacy, healthcare associated infections and multi-resistant drug organisms. (A working agenda can be viewed at

<http://www.healthconference.org/agenda.htm>

In the Conference's Patient Advocacy Section, we have a number of nationally renowned speakers,

including Past Surgeon General Joycelyn Elders, MD, Kathy Day, RN, and Karen Meyers, JD. In addition, the following presentations will deal with full disclosure.

- Patient Advocate David Anton will present on how a lack of transparency can inhibit the correction of medical errors that are found on CMS Surveys. (David Anton is the patient advocate who was involved in the CMS, Cleveland Clinic, VA Secretary Appointment Issue.) <http://www.modernhealthcare.com/article/20140607/MAGAZINE/306079939/-cleveland-clinic-cases-highlight-flaws-in-safety-oversight>
- Dr. Steve Kraman, will give an update on the full disclosure initiative. Dr. Kraman was one of the first to start the full disclosure initiative back in the late 1990's. It has since been adopted by Stanford University and the University of Michigan and found to lower malpractice costs.
- James Anderson, will give the morning keynote address on disclosure of adverse events. Mr. Anderson is on the Board of Directors for the Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) & Former President and Chief Executive Officer, Cincinnati Children's Hospital. [About the James M. Anderson Center for Health Systems Excellence.](#)

In the Conference's Adverse Events and Healthcare Associated Infections Section, Dr. Richard Wild, Chief Medical Officer CMS Atlanta Region will present on the CMS initiative on decreasing Hospital Acquired Conditions (HACs). Representative Tom Burch, Kentucky House Health and Welfare Committee Chairman and Dr. Kraig Humbaugh, Director of the Kentucky Department for Public Health (KDPH) Division of Epidemiology Planning will present on the revised Kentucky regulation for reportable diseases, including CRE. Dr. Kevin Kavanagh will present on the prevention of surgical site infections, and Dr. Raul Nakamatsu will present the Louisville, VA experience of universal surveillance to control MRSA.

Conference registration is \$50. To register go to: <http://www.healthconference.org/payment-fax-check.htm>

Full conference agenda can be viewed at: <http://www.healthconference.org/agenda.htm>

For more information go to: www.healthconference.org Registration is now open

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