



On the Radar

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On the Radar

Editor: Dr Niall Johnson niall.johnson@safetyandquality.gov.au

Contributors: Niall Johnson

Journal articles

Adverse Outcomes of Polypharmacy in Older People: Systematic Review of Reviews

Davies LE, Spiers G, Kingston A, Todd A, Adamson J, Hanratty B

Journal of the American Medical Directors Association. 2020;21(2):181-187.

DOI	https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jamda.2019.10.022
Notes	Various studies have indicated that polypharmacy (the taking of multiple medications – often considered to be 5 or more) has potential risks. This systematic review drew together 26 reviews covering 230 studies and found that polypharmacy. The authors report that ‘The most consistent evidence was found for hospitalization and inappropriate prescribing ’ related to polypharmacy .

For information on the Commission’s work on medication safety, see <https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/our-work/medication-safety>

A systematic review exploring the content and outcomes of interventions to improve psychological safety, speaking up and voice behaviour

O'Donovan R, McAuliffe E

BMC Health Services Research. 2020;20(1):101.

DOI	https://doi.org/10.1186/s12913-020-4931-2
Notes	Having a culture that encourages speaking up and taking action on safety and quality is seen as important. This systematic review sought to identify from the literature those things that can in turn encourage psychological safety, speaking up and “voice behaviour” in health settings. The review focused on 14 interventions but found mixed results: “These interventions fell into five categories. Educational interventions used simulation, video presentations, case studies and workshops while interventions which did not include an educational component used holistic facilitation, forum play and action research meetings. Mixed results were found for the efficacy or effectiveness of these interventions. While some interventions showed improvement in outcomes related to psychological safety, speaking up and voice, this was not consistently demonstrated across interventions.”

A review of adverse event reports from emergency departments in the Veterans Health Administration

Gill S, Mills PD, Watts BV, Paull DE, Tomolo A

Journal of Patient Safety. 2020; [epub]

DOI	https://doi.org/10.1097/pts.0000000000000636
Notes	<p>Paper reporting on a retrospective cohort study examining adverse event reports from the emergency departments of Veterans Health Administration hospitals in the USA. In the two-year period studied (2015–2016), 144 cases were identified. The authors report that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The most common adverse events were as follows: delays in care (n = 38, 26.4%), elopements (n = 21, 14.6%), suicide attempts and deaths by suicide (n = 15, 10.4%), inappropriate discharges (n = 15, 10.4%), and errors in following procedures (n = 14, 9.7%). • the most common root cause categories leading to adverse events were knowledge/educational deficits (11.4%), policies/procedures needing improvement (11.1%), and lack of standardized policies/procedures (9.4%).

BMJ Quality & Safety

April 2020 - Volume 29 - 4

URL	https://qualitysafety.bmj.com/content/29/4
Notes	<p>A new issue of <i>BMJ Quality & Safety</i> has been published. Many of the papers in this issue have been referred to in previous editions of <i>On the Radar</i> (when they were released online). Articles in this issue of <i>BMJ Quality & Safety</i> include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Editorial: Identifying adverse events: reflections on an imperfect gold standard after 20 years of patient safety research (Kaveh G Shojania, Perla J Marang-van de Mheen) • Editorial: Medication non-adherence: an overlooked target for quality improvement interventions (Bryony Dean Franklin, Gary Abel, K G Shojania) • Editorial: Seeing the wood and the trees: the impact of the healthcare system on variation in primary care referrals (Thomas Round, Gary Abel) • Study of a multisite prospective adverse event surveillance system (Alan J Forster, Allen Huang, Todd C Lee, Alison Jennings, O Choudhri, C Backman) • ‘New Medicine Service’: supporting adherence in people starting a new medication for a long-term condition: 26-week follow-up of a pragmatic randomised controlled trial (Rachel Ann Elliott, Matthew J Boyd, Lukasz

	<p>Tanajewski, Nick Barber, Georgios Gkountouras, Anthony J Avery, Rajnikant Mehta, James E Davies, N-E Salema, C Craig, A Latif, J Waring, A Chuter)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribution of primary care organisation and specialist care provider to variation in GP referrals for suspected cancer: ecological analysis of national data (Christopher Burton, Luke O'Neill, Phillip Oliver, Peter Murchie) • Reflections on implementing a hospital-wide provider-based electronic inpatient mortality review system: lessons learnt (Mallika L Mendu, Yi Lu, Alec Petersen, Melinda Gomez Tellez, Jennifer Beloff, K Fiumara, A Kachalia) • Communicating with patients about breakdowns in care: a national randomised vignette-based survey (Kimberly A Fisher, Thomas H Gallagher, Kelly M Smith, Yanhua Zhou, Sybil Crawford, Azraa Amroze, K M Mazor) • Work systems analysis of sterile processing: decontamination (Myrte de Alfred, Ken Catchpole, Emily Huffer, Larry Fredendall, Kevin M Taaffe) • Application of human factors to improve usability of clinical decision support for diagnostic decision-making: a scenario-based simulation study (Pascale Carayon, Peter Hoonakker, Ann S Hundt, M Salwei, D Wiegmann, R L Brown, P Kleinschmidt, C Novak, M Pulia, Y Wang, E Wirkus, B Patterson) • Measuring safety of healthcare: an exercise in futility? (Khara Sauro, William A Ghali, Henry Thomas Stelfox) • The illusion of perfection (Peter Smulowitz) • Discharge against medical advice: 'deviant' behaviour or a health system quality gap? (Anshula Ambasta, Maria Santana, William A Ghali, Karen Tang)
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Healthcare Policy

Volume 15, Number 3, 2020

URL	https://www.longwoods.com/publications/healthcare-policy/26125
Notes	<p>A new issue of <i>Healthcare Policy</i> has been published. Articles in this issue of <i>Healthcare Policy</i> include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lessons from the International Experience with Biosimilar Implementation: An Application of the Diffusion of Innovations Model (Danial Khan, Thea Luig, Dianne Mosher and Denise Campbell-Scherer) • Health Policy as a Barrier to First Nations Peoples' Access to Cancer Screening (Joshua K Tobias, Jill Tinmouth, Laura C Senese, Naana Jumah, Diego Llovet, Alethea Kewayosh, Linda Rabeneck and Mark Dobrow) • Gender Differences in Surgery for Work-Related Musculoskeletal Injury: A Population-Based Cohort Study (Andrea M Jones, Mieke Koehoorn and Christopher B McLeod) • The Mosaic of Primary Care Nurses in Rural and Remote Canada: Results from a National Survey (Ruth Martin-Misener, Martha L P Macleod, Erin C Wilson, Julie G Kosteniuk, Kelly L Penz, Norma J Stewart, Janna Olynick and Chandima P Karunanayake) • Comparing Childhood Cancer Care Costs in Two Canadian Provinces (Mary L McBride, Claire de Oliveira, Ross Duncan, Karen E Bremner, Ning Liu, Mark L Greenberg, Paul C. Nathan, Paul C Rogers, Stuart J Peacock and Murray D Krahn) • An Exploratory Analysis of Predictors of Concordance Between Canadian Common Drug Review Reimbursement Recommendations and the Subsequent Decisions by Ontario, British Columbia and Alberta (Michael J Zoratti, Feng Xie, Kristian Thorlund, Nicola Allen and Mitchell Levine)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First Ready, First to Go: Ethical Priority-Setting of Allogeneic Stem Cell Transplant at a Major Cancer Centre (Jennifer A H Bell, Zoe Schmilovich, Daniel Z Buchman, Marnie Escaf, Judy Costello and Hans A Messner) • Policy Agenda-Setting and Causal Stories: Examining How Organized Interests Redefined the Problem of Refugee Health Policy in Canada (Valentina Antonipillai, Julia Abelson, Olive Wahoush, Andrea Baumann and Lisa Schwartz)
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The Milbank Quarterly
March 2020 (Volume 98)

URL	https://www.milbank.org/quarterly/issues/march-2020/
Notes	<p>A new issue of <i>The Milbank Quarterly</i> has been published. Articles in this issue of <i>The Milbank Quarterly</i> include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First in the Nation: Washington State’s Long-Term Care Trust Act (Laurie Jinkins) • Washington State’s Quasi-Public Option (James D Capretta) • Using Uncommon Data to Promote Common Ground for Reducing Infant Mortality (David A Kindig) • Tilting at Windmills: Global Warming and Global Warnings (David Rosner) • Maximizing Public Benefit From Opioid Settlement Resources (Robert P Pack, Cheryl G Heaton, Sandro Galea) • “Super-Utilizer” Interventions: What They Reveal About Evaluation Research, Wishful Thinking, and Health Equity (Paula M Lantz) • The Basic Criterion of Public Health (Sandro Galea) • Is Moderate Drinking Protective Against Heart Disease? The Science, Politics and History of a Public Health Conundrum (Gerald M Oppenheimer, Ronald Bayer) • The Association of State Opioid Misuse Prevention Policies With Patient- and Provider-Related Outcomes: A Scoping Review (Amanda I Mauri, Tarlise N Townsend, Rebecca L Haffajee) • Medicaid Utilization and Spending among Homeless Adults in New Jersey: Implications for Medicaid-Funded Tenancy Support Services (Joel C Cantor, S Chakravarty, J Nova, T Kelly, D Delia, E Tiderington, R W Brown) • Equity First: Conceptualizing a Normative Framework to Assess the Role of Preemption in Public Health (D Carr, S A Adler, B D Winig, J K Montez) • Maternal Mortality and Public Health Programs: Evidence from Florida (Patrick Bernet, Gulcin Gumus, Sharmila Vishwasrao) • Translating Knowledge into Action to Prevent Type 2 Diabetes: Medicare Expansion of the National Diabetes Prevention Program Lifestyle Intervention (C Burd, S Gruss, A Albright, A Zina, P Schumacher, D Alley) • Unraveling the Complexity in the Design and Implementation of Bundled Payments: A Scoping Review of Key Elements From a Payer’s Perspective (Sander Steenhuis, Jeroen Struija, Xander Koolman, J Ket, E Van Der Hijden)

BMJ Quality & Safety online first articles

URL	https://qualitysafety.bmj.com/content/early/recent
Notes	<p><i>BMJ Quality & Safety</i> has published a number of 'online first' articles, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Empowering patients and reducing inequities: is there potential in sharing clinical notes? (Charlotte Blease, Leonor Fernandez, Sigall K Bell, Tom Delbanco, Catherine DesRoches)• Fall prevention implementation strategies in use at 60 United States hospitals: a descriptive study (Kea Turner, Vincent Staggs, Catima Potter, Emily Cramer, Ronald Shorr, Lorraine C Mion)

International Journal for Quality in Health Care online first articles

URL	https://academic.oup.com/intqhc/advance-articles
Notes	<p><i>International Journal for Quality in Health Care</i> has published a number of 'online first' articles, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Using Safety-II and resilient healthcare principles to learn from Never Events (Janet E Anderson, Alison J Watt)• A case-controlled study of relatives' complaints concerning patients who died in hospital: The role of treatment escalation/limitation planning (D Robin Taylor, Janet Bouttell, Jonathan N Campbell, Calvin J Lightbody)• It's time to step it up. Why safety investigations in healthcare should look more to safety science (Siri Wüig, Jeffrey Braithwaite, Robyn Clay-Williams)• Regional variation in hospital care at the end-of-life of Dutch patients with lung cancer exists and is not correlated with primary and long-term care (Yvonne de Man, Stef Groenewoud, Mariska G Oosterveld-Vlug, Linda Brom, Bregje D Onwuteaka-Philipsen, Gert P Westert, Femke Atsma)

Online resources

[UK] *NICE Guidelines and Quality Standards*

<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance>

The UK's National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) has published new (or updated) guidelines and quality standards. The latest reviews or updates are:

- NICE Guideline NG156 **Abdominal aortic aneurysm: diagnosis and management**
<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng156>

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