



On the Radar

Issue 463
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On the Radar is a summary of some of the recent publications in the areas of safety and quality in health care. Inclusion in this document is not an endorsement or recommendation of any publication or provider. Access to particular documents may depend on whether they are Open Access or not, and/or your individual or institutional access to subscription sites/services. Material that may require subscription is included as it is considered relevant.

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On the Radar

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COVID-19 resources

<https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/coronavirus-covid-19>

The Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care has developed a number of resources to assist healthcare organisations, facilities and clinicians. These and other material on COVID-19 are available at <https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/coronavirus-covid-19>. The latest additions include:

- ***Break the chain of infection: Stopping COVID-19*** poster
<https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/publications-and-resources/resource-library/break-chain-poster-a3>
- ***COVID-19: Elective surgery and infection prevention and control precautions***
<https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/publications-and-resources/resource-library/covid-19-elective-surgery-and-infection-prevention-and-control-precautions>
- ***Infection prevention and control Covid-19 PPE*** poster
<https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/publications-and-resources/resource-library/infection-prevention-and-control-covid-19-personal-protective-equipment>
- ***Special precautions for Covid-19 designated zones*** poster
<https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/publications-and-resources/resource-library/special-precautions-covid-19-designated-zones>

- **COVID-19 Medicines management: Position statements on medicine-related issues**, <https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/publications-and-resources/resource-library/covid-19-medicines-management-position-statements-medicine-related-issues>
- **Potential medicines to treat COVID-19** <https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/publications-and-resources/resource-library/potential-medicines-treat-covid-19>

Reports

Addressing racism to improve healthcare outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people: a case study in kidney care

Deeble Institute Perspectives Brief No. 9

Bourke C, Truong M, Jones Y, Hunyor J, Lawton P

Canberra: Australian Healthcare and Hospitals Association; 2020. p. 15.

URL	https://ahha.asn.au/health-policy-perspective-briefs https://ahha.asn.au/sites/default/files/docs/policy-issue/deeble_perspectives_brief_no.9_-_addressing_racism_to_improve_healthcare_outcomes.pdf
Notes	This Perspectives Brief from the Australian Healthcare and Hospitals Association's Deeble Institute examines the issue of racism and how it affects health care. The brief looks at the particular instance of kidney care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Indigenous Australians have a far greater incidence of end stage kidney disease than non-Indigenous Australians. However, the rates of home-based dialysis and renal transplantation are significantly lower. The brief identifies four key intersecting domains in which efforts can help improve the equity of kidney care. These include cultural safety , reducing institutional racism , the National Safety and Quality Health Service Standards , and race discrimination law that can guide and support improvements to the provision of kidney care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients by non-Indigenous health professionals and healthcare organisations.

Integration of General Practice Pharmacists into primary healthcare settings for chronic disease management

Deeble Institute Issues Brief No. 35

Shaw C

Canberra: Australian Healthcare and Hospitals Association; 2020. p. 29.

URL	https://ahha.asn.au/publication/health-policy-issue-briefs/deeble-issues-brief-no-35-integration-general-practice
Notes	Also from the Australian Healthcare and Hospitals Association's Deeble Institute is this Issues Brief looks at the potential for pharmacists working within General Practice to enhance chronic disease management. General Practice pharmacists (GPPs) are defined here as 'pharmacists who are integrated into primary healthcare teams to deliver clinical services to both patients and practitioners, including medication reviews, medication safety initiatives and education'. The brief notes that while uptake and evidence of their impact in Australia is limited, there is international evidence that 'GPP integration into primary care improves quality use of medications, reduces preventable hospitalisations, improves health outcomes and chronic disease control, enhances patients' experience of their care and is widely accepted by general practitioners'. The brief examines a number of examples of GPP in Australia and offers a number of recommendations to encourage the GPP model of care in Australia.

Journal articles

The three numbers you need to know about healthcare: the 60-30-10 Challenge

Braithwaite J, Glasziou P, Westbrook J

BMC Medicine. 2020;18(1):102.

DOI	https://doi.org/10.1186/s12916-020-01563-4
Notes	<p>This paper may be considered by some as being (deliberately) provocative in questioning the value and quality or performance of health care. Drawing together on various threads that look at performance of care through compliance with guidelines, calculations of waste and value (some more contentious than others) and of harm, the authors summarise these into three figures: 60-30-10. Based on the literature of the past three decades, the authors assert that 'performance has flatlined' and that '60% of care on average is in line with evidence- or consensus-based guidelines, 30% is some form of waste or of low value, and 10% is harm.'</p> <p>The authors proposed solution to this failure is the development of a 'learning health system'. This in itself is not a new idea; it has been put forward by many that having a health system that collects and analyses data and reflects on the analyses to produce care that is patient-centred, effective and of value is clearly desirable. It is the operationalising of this approach that is the challenge. To draw together all the data sources – administrative data, billing information, clinical sources, quality registries, etc. – in an effective, ethical, secure manner that provides timely meaningful outputs for health systems, funders, services, facilities, units, clinicians and consumers.</p>

Trends in unplanned readmissions over 15 years: a regional Australian perspective

Westley-Wise V, Lago L, Mullan J, Facci F, Zingel R, Eagar K

Australian Health Review. 2020;44(2):241-247.

DOI	https://doi.org/10.1071/AH18072
Notes	<p>Unplanned readmissions are a concern as they can indicate issues with the quality of care in addition to being a potentially reducible source of patients, thereby helping address volume and throughput concerns. This paper looks at the trends in unplanned readmissions to hospitals in an Australian region, the Illawarra, over a 15-year period. The study assessed rates of unplanned all-cause readmissions within 30 days ('early') and 1–6 months ('late') following discharge, including examining the rates over time and between patient groups. The authors found that 'Age-adjusted early readmission rates declined over the 15 years by an average of 1.3% per annum, whereas late readmission rates increased by an average of 0.6% per annum. Together, there was an overall decline in readmission rates.' It is observed that 'The decline in readmissions since 2010–11 suggests that the region has achieved improvements in discharge planning and in continuity between hospitals and community-based care.'</p>

International Journal for Quality in Health

Volume 32 Issue 2, March 2020

URL	https://academic.oup.com/intqhc/issue/32/2
Notes	<p>A new issue of the <i>International Journal for Quality in Health</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 the <i>International Journal for Quality in Health</i> include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An innovative quality improvement approach for rapid improvement of infection prevention and control at health facilities in Sierra Leone (Ilka Rondinelli, Gillian Dougherty, Caitlin A Madevu-Matson, Mame Toure,

	<p>Adewale Akinjeji, Irene Ogongo, Amy Kolwaite, Jamine Weiss, Brigitte Gleason, Meghan Marie Lyman, Hassan Benya, Miriam Rabkin)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary health care patient satisfaction: Explanatory factors and geographic characteristics (Pedro L Ferreira, Vitor Raposo, Aida I Tavares) • Prediction of medical expenditures of diagnosed diabetics and the assessment of its related factors using a random forest model, MEPS 2000–2015 (Jing Wang, Leiyu Shi) • Do performance indicators predict regulator ratings of healthcare providers? Cross-sectional study of acute hospitals in England (Thomas Allen, Kieran Walshe, Nathan Proudlove, Matt Sutton) • Exploring the association between diabetes and breast cancer morbidity: considerations for quality care improvements among Latinas (Kimlin Tam Ashing, Lily Lai, Eva Meyers, Mayra Serrano, Marshalee George) • Rural–urban differences in home-based care willingness among older adults: A cross-sectional study in Shandong, China (Yu Xia, Lingzhong Xu, Long Sun, Jiajia Li, Wenzhe Qin, Jiao Zhang, Yali Wang, Xiang Jing, Lu Lu, Yaozu Li, Anan Jiao) • Trends and socio-economic inequality in public perceptions of healthcare delivery in South Africa (Frederik Booysen, Tanja Gordon) • Using parent-reported experience measures as quality improvement tools in paediatric cardiothoracic services: making it happen (Jo Wray, GERALYN Oldham) • Quality healthcare in extreme adversity: Developing a framework for action (Sheila Leatherman, Linda Tawfik, Dilshad Jaff, Grace Jaworski, Matthew Neilson, Mondher Letaief, Shamsuzzoha Babar Syed) • Are we using the right tools to manage variation, errors and omissions? (Dinesh K Arya)
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The Journal for Healthcare Quality

Vol. 42, No. 3, May/June 2020

URL	https://journals.lww.com/jhqonline/toc/2020/06000
Notes	<p>A new issue of <i>The Journal for Healthcare Quality</i> has been published. Articles in this issue of <i>The Journal for Healthcare Quality</i> include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Falls in Veterans Healthcare Administration Hospitals: Prevalence and Trends (Yinong Young-Xu, Christina Soncrant, Julia Neily, Shoshana Boar, Tatjana Bulat, Peter D Mills) • To Admit or Not to Admit: Emergency Department Discharges After Request for Medicine Admission (Nazima Allaudeen, Julia S Breckenridge, Anita A Vashi) • Predictors of Hospital-Acquired <i>Clostridioides difficile</i> Infection: A Systematic Review (Neeraj Puro, Reena Joseph, Ferhat D Zengul, Kenneth J Cochran, Bernard C Camins, Midge Ray) • A Predictive Risk Model for Infection-Related Hospitalization Among Home Healthcare Patients (Jingjing Shang, David Russell, Dawn Dowding, Margaret V McDonald, Christopher Murtaugh, Jianfang Liu, Elaine L Larson, Sridevi Sridharan, Carlin Brickner) • Implementation of Evidence-Based Recommendations for Preventive Services in the Veterans Health Administration (Quyen A Ngo-Metzger, Iris R Mabry-Hernandez, Jane Kim, Prajakta Adsul, Laura B Higginbotham, Lori Hoffman-Hogg, Mark W Smith, Julia Doherty)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ED-PACT Tool Initiative: Communicating Veterans' Care Needs After Emergency Department Visits (Kristina M Cordasco, Hemen N Saifu, Hyun-Sung Song, Jonie J Hsiao, Mana Khafaf, Brian Doyle, Lisa V Rubenstein, Joya G Chrystal, Purnima Bharath, David A Ganz) • Using Lean Six Sigma to Improve Pneumococcal Vaccination Rates in a Veterans Affairs Rheumatology Clinic (Jaime Wilson, Melissa Swee, Hilary Mosher, Jill Scott-Cawiezell, Lori Levins, Krista Fort, Bharat Kumar) • Relationship of Direct-to-Consumer Advertising to Efficiency of Care, Quality of Care, and Health Outcomes (Anna A Filipova) • Contrasting Perspectives of Practice Leaders and Practice Facilitators May Be Common in Quality Improvement Initiatives (Megan McHugh, Tiffany Brown, Theresa L Walunas, David T Liss, Stephen D Persell)
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Healthcare Quarterly

Volume 23, Special Issue, May 2020

URL	https://www.longwoods.com/publications/healthcare-quarterly/26171/1/vol.-23-special-issue-physicians-and-digital-transformation
Notes	<p>A new issue of <i>Healthcare Quarterly</i> has been published. This is a special issue with a theme of ‘Physicians and Digital Transformation’ Articles in this issue of <i>Healthcare Quarterly</i> include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Editorial: Physician Experience at the Leading Edge of the Digital Healthcare Transformation (Michael Gardam) • Leveraging Digital Infrastructure for Data Analysis: An Example in Bariatric Surgery (John Hagen, Lazar Klein, Ethan Miller and Shirley Solomon) • Physician Experience with Electronic Order Sets (David Fishbein, Meghana Samant, Nasrin Safavi, Susan Tory, Ethan Miller and Shirley Solomon) • The Impact of a Real-Time Locating System within the Perioperative Environment on Physicians and Patients’ Families (Martin Heller, Joseph Koval, Ethan Miller and Shirley Solomon) • Smartphone Technology: Impact on Interprofessional Working Relations between Doctors and Nurses (Sanjay Manocha, Jamie Spiegelman, Ethan Miller and Shirley Solomon) • A Narrative Study on the Impact of Information and Communication Technology on the Relationship between Patients and Medical Learners (Ethan Miller, Vanessa Burkoski, Jennifer Yoon and Shirley Solomon) • Exploring Generational Differences in Physicians’ Perspectives on the Proliferation of Technology within the Medical Field: A Narrative Study (Tasleem Nimjee, Ethan Miller and Shirley Solomon)

Health Affairs

Volume 39, No. 5, May 2020

URL	https://www.healthaffairs.org/toc/hlthaff/39/5
Notes	<p>A new issue of <i>Health Affairs</i> has been published with the themes of ‘Substance use, surprise billing and more’. Articles in this issue of <i>Health Affairs</i> include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For LGBTQ Patients, High-Quality Care In A Welcoming Environment (David Tuller) • Self-Help Groups And Medication Use In Opioid Addiction Treatment: A National Analysis (Hefei Wen, Benjamin G Druss, and Brendan Saloner)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impact Of Long-Term Buprenorphine Treatment On Adverse Health Care Outcomes In Medicaid (Hillary Samples, Arthur Robin Williams, Stephen Crystal, and Mark Olfson) • State Policies That Treat Prenatal Substance Use As Child Abuse Or Neglect Fail To Achieve Their Intended Goals (Danielle N Atkins, and Christine Piette Durrance) • Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome In The United States, 2004–16 (Ashley A Leech, William O Cooper, Elizabeth McNeer, T A Scott, and S W Patrick) • Neighborhood Racial And Economic Polarization, Hospital Of Delivery, And Severe Maternal Morbidity (Teresa Janevic, Jennifer Zeitlin, Natalia Egorova, Paul L Hebert, Amy Balbierz, and Elizabeth A Howell) • Most Patients Undergoing Ground And Air Ambulance Transportation Receive Sizable Out-Of-Network Bills (Karan R Chhabra, Keegan McGuire, Kyle H Sheetz, John W Scott, Ushapoorna Nuliyalu, and Andrew M Ryan) • Prevalence And Characteristics Of Surprise Out-Of-Network Bills From Professionals In Ambulatory Surgery Centers (Erin L Duffy, Loren Adler, Paul B Ginsburg, and Erin Trish) • Wide State-Level Variation In Commercial Health Care Prices Suggests Uneven Impact Of Price Regulation (Michael E Chernew, Andrew L Hicks, and Shivani A Shah) • Physician Prices And The Cost And Quality Of Care For Commercially Insured Patients (Mark A. Unruh, Yongkang Zhang, Hye-Young Jung, Manyao Zhang, Jing Li, Eloise O'Donnell, Fabrizio Toscano, and L P Casalino) • Switching Between Medicare Advantage And Traditional Medicare Before And After The Onset Of Functional Disability (Claire K Ankuda, Katherine A Ornstein, Kenneth E Covinsky, E Bollens-Lund, D E Meier, and A S Kelley) • The Impact Of Medicare's Mental Health Cost-Sharing Parity On Use Of Mental Health Care Services (Benjamin Lê Cook, Michael Flores, Samuel H Zuvekas, Joseph P Newhouse, John Hsu, Rajan Sonik, E Lee, and V Fung) • Medicare's Care Management Codes Might Not Support Primary Care As Expected (Sumit D Agarwal, Michael L Barnett, J Souza, and B E Landon) • Home Health And Postacute Care Use In Medicare Advantage And Traditional Medicare (Laura Skopec, Peter J Huckfeldt, Douglas Wissoker, Joshua Aarons, Judith Dey, Iara Oliveira, and Stephen Zuckerman) • Provider Integrated Medicare Advantage Plans Are Associated With Differences In Patterns Of Inpatient Care (David J Meyers, Vincent Mor, and Momotazur Rahman) • Assessing The Effectiveness Of Peer Comparisons As A Way To Improve Health Care Quality (Amol S Navathe, Kevin G Volpp, Amelia M Bond, Kristin A Linn, Kristen L Caldarella, Andrea B Troxel, Jingsan Zhu, Lin Yang, Shireen E Matloubieh, Elizabeth E Drye, Susannah M Bernheim, Emily Oshima Lee, Mark Mugiishi, K T Endo, J Yoshimoto, and E J Emanuel) • Improving The Accuracy Of Hospital Quality Ratings By Focusing On The Association Between Volume And Outcome (Laurent G Glance, Caroline P Thirukumaran, Yue Li, Shan Gao, and Andrew W Dick) • Health Insurance Surcharges For Tobacco Use Declined Among Small Employers In 2018 (Jaskaran Bains, Michael F Pesko, Johanna Catherine Maclean, and Benjamin Lê Cook)
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Iowa's Medicaid Healthy Behaviors Program Associated With Reduced Hospital-Based Care But Higher Spending, 2012–17 (Brad Wright, Youn Soo Jung, Natoshia M. Akelson, Elizabeth T Momany, and Peter Damiano) • Implementation Matters: Lessons From Iowa Medicaid's Healthy Behaviors Program (Natoshia M Askelson, Brad Wright, Patrick J Brady, Youn Soo Jung, Elizabeth T Momany, Brooke McInroy, and Peter Damiano) • The Case Against Labor-Tax-Financed Social Health Insurance For Low- And Low-Middle-Income Countries (Abdo S Yazbeck, William D Savedoff, William C Hsiao, Joe Kutzin, Agnès Soucat, Ajay Tandon, Adam Wagstaff, and Winnie Chi-Man Yip) • Held Against Our Wills: Reimagining Involuntary Commitment (Abraham M Nussbaum)
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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"> • Effects of CPOE-based medication ordering on outcomes: an overview of systematic reviews (Joanna Abraham, Spyros Kitsiou, Alicia Meng, Shirley Burton, Haleh Vatani, Thomas Kannampallil) • Editorial: Making communication and resolution programmes mission critical in healthcare organisations (Thomas H Gallagher, Richard C Boothman, Leilani Schweitzer, Evan M Benjamin)

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"> • Advancing quality in the 2020s: systematically and interdisciplinarily (Yi-Hsin Elsa Hsu, Ya-Ting Yang)

Online resources

COVID-19 Critical Intelligence Unit

<https://www.aci.health.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/critical-intelligence-unit>

The Agency for Clinical Innovation (ACI) in New South Wales has developed this page summarising rapid, evidence-based advice during the COVID-19 pandemic. Its operations focus on systems intelligence, clinical intelligence and evidence integration. The content includes a daily evidence digest and evidence checks on a discrete topic or question relating to the current COVID-19 pandemic.

Recent evidence checks date include:

- Immunosuppression and COVID-19
- Intubation in the emergency department during COVID-19
- Rehabilitation needs of post-acute COVID-19 patients
- Diabetes care during COVID-19
- Testing before surgery.

[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 NG173 **COVID-19** rapid guideline: antibiotics for **pneumonia** in adults in hospital
<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng173>
- NICE Guideline NG174 **COVID-19** rapid guideline: children and young people who are **immunocompromised** <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng174>
- NICE Guideline NG175 **COVID-19** rapid guideline: **acute kidney injury** in hospital
<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng175>

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