



## On the Radar

Issue 313

6 March 2017

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### On the Radar

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### Journal articles

*Eight years of decreased methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus health care-associated infections associated with a Veterans Affairs prevention initiative*

Evans ME, Kralovic SM, Simbartl LA, Jain R, Roselle GA

American Journal of Infection Control. 2017;45(1):13-6.

DOI	<a href="http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ajic.2016.08.010">http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ajic.2016.08.010</a>
Notes	A number of interventions have become quite well-known due to their (initial) impact. This paper updates and extends the story on how an initiative in the US Veterans Affairs health system has had a sustained impact on rates of methicillin-resistant <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> (MRSA) infection. This study used monthly data from 127 acute care facilities, 22 spinal cord injury units (SCIUs), and 133 long-term-care facilities (LTCFs) covering 23,153,240 intensive care unit (ICU) and non-ICU, and 1,794,234 SCIU patient-days from October 2007-September 2015, and 22,262,605 LTCF resident-days from July 2009-September 2015. Monthly health care-associated infections (HAI) rates fell 87.0% in intensive care units (ICUs) and 80.1% in non-ICUs while MRSA HAI rates fell 80.9% in spinal cord injury units and 49.4% in long-term care.

For information on the Commission's work on healthcare associated infection, see <https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/our-work/healthcare-associated-infection/>

*Identifying patient-centred recommendations for improving patient safety in General Practices in England: a qualitative content analysis of free-text responses using the Patient Reported Experiences and Outcomes of Safety in Primary Care (PREOS-PC) questionnaire*

Ricci-Cabello I, Saletti-Cuesta L, Slight SP, Valderas JM

Health Expectations. 2017 [epub].

DOI	<a href="http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/hex.12537">http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/hex.12537</a>
Notes	<p>Paper reporting on a survey of English general practice patients that sought to explore patients' experiences and perceptions of patient safety. The authors report that two main themes emerged:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. experiences of safety problems – and</li> <li>2. good practices and recommendations to improve patient safety in primary care.</li> </ol> <p>They noted that the “most frequently reported experiences of safety problems were related to <b>appointments, coordination</b> between providers, <b>tests, medication</b> and <b>diagnosis</b>. Patients' responses to these problems included increased <b>patient activation</b> (eg speaking up about concerns with their health care) and <b>avoidance of unnecessary health care</b>. Recommendations for safer health care included improvements in <b>patient-centred communication, continuity of care, timely appointments, technical quality</b> of care, active <b>monitoring, teamwork, health records</b> and <b>practice environment</b>.”</p>

For information on the Commission's work on patient and consumer centred care, see

<https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/our-work/patient-and-consumer-centred-care/>

*From Board to Bedside: How the Application of Financial Structures to Safety and Quality Can Drive Accountability in a Large Health Care System*

Austin JM, Demski R, Callender T, Lee KHK, Hoffman A, Allen L, et al

Joint Commission Journal on Quality and Patient Safety. 2017 [epub].

DOI	<a href="http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jcjq.2017.01.001">http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jcjq.2017.01.001</a>
Notes	<p>Paper describing the structures established at Johns Hopkins Medicine that aim to ensure the prioritisation of improving quality, safety, and value. A reporting and oversight framework based on four components of <b>governance, accountability, reporting</b> of consolidated quality performance statements, and <b>auditing</b>. Governance from a dedicated Patient Safety and Quality Board Committee. Accountability of leaders to that Board Committee and with shared accountability between the board and clinical leadership.</p> <p>The consolidated quality performance statement to ensure transparency around goals and priorities and inform leadership and the Board Committee.</p> <p>Internal audits into the efficiency and effectiveness of processes for data collection, validation, and storage, as to ensure the accuracy and completeness of quality measure reporting.</p>

*International Journal for Quality in Health Care* online first articles

URL	<a href="https://academic.oup.com/intqhc/advance-access?papetoc">https://academic.oup.com/intqhc/advance-access?papetoc</a>
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"> <li>• <b>Improving the quality of radiological examinations:</b> effectiveness of an internal participatory approach (Francisco Manuel Batista Mamede; Zenewton André da Silva Gama; Pedro Jesus Saturno-Hernández)</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Measuring patient experience: a systematic review to evaluate psychometric properties of <b>patient reported experience measures (PREMs)</b> for emergency care service provision (Leanne Male; Adam Noble; Jessica Atkinson; Tony Marson)</li> </ul>
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## Reports

*Recommendations to OECD Ministers of Health from the High Level Reflection Group on the Future of Health Statistics: Strengthening the international comparison of health system performance through patient-reported indicators*  
OECD

Paris: OECD; 2017. p. 89.

URL	<a href="https://www.oecd.org/els/health-systems/Recommendations-from-high-level-reflection-group-on-the-future-of-health-statistics.pdf">https://www.oecd.org/els/health-systems/Recommendations-from-high-level-reflection-group-on-the-future-of-health-statistics.pdf</a>
Notes	In some versions of last week's issue of <i>On the Radar</i> , the URL for this report was incorrect.

For information on the Commission's work on PROMS, see

<https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/our-work/information-strategy/indicators/patient-reported-outcome-measures/>

## Online resources

*Medical Devices Safety Update*

<http://www.tga.gov.au/publication-issue/medical-devices-safety-update-volume-5-number-2-march-2017>

Volume 5, Number 2, March 2017

The Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has released the latest edition of its medical device safety bulletin. Topics covered in this issue include:

- Documentation vital if **recalls** not complete – health facilities may have justifiable reasons for not following advice given by a medical device sponsor during a product recall, but it is important to document the risk assessment leading up to the decision.
- Practice points: **Topical creams** as devices – some topical creams are classed as medical devices, while others are classed as medicines.
- New committee takes over from **Advisory Committee on the Safety of Medical Devices** – functions of the Advisory Committee on the Safety of Medical Devices (ACSMD) have been incorporated into the Advisory Committee on Medical Devices
- What to report? Please **report adverse events**, as well as **near misses**

[UK] *NICE Guidelines and Quality Standards*

<http://www.nice.org.uk>

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

- Quality Standard QS144 **Care of dying adults in the last days of life**  
<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/qs144>
- Quality Standard QS145 **Vaccine uptake in under 19s**  
<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/qs145>
- NICE Guideline NG65 **Spondyloarthritis in over 16s: diagnosis and management**  
<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng65>
- Quality Standard QS105 **Intrapartum care** <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/qs105>

[UK] National Institute for Health Research

<https://discover.dc.nihr.ac.uk/portal/home>

The UK's National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Dissemination Centre has released the latest 'Signals' research summaries. This latest release includes:

- Postal invitations, even with added incentives, don't improve NHS **health check attendance**
- Breastfeeding reduces crying during **baby immunisation**
- **Collaborative care** can be moderately effective at treating **depression** regardless of physical health status
- **Rotavirus vaccine** estimated to have saved the NHS £12.5 million a year
- **Antenatal corticosteroids** reduce breathing problems in **late preterm babies**
- Enhanced patient education improves **bowel preparation** before **colonoscopy**
- **Corticosteroids** given early reduce risk of heart problems in children with **Kawasaki disease**
- **Parent-focused therapy** has some long-term benefits for children with **autism**
- **Ultrasound** could help diagnose **giant cell arteritis**
- Information delivered by **telemedicine** can improve **diabetes control**.

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