On the Radar

Issue 411
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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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Books

Medications for Opioid Use Disorder Save Lives
National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, Medicine
Leshner AI, Mancher M, editors

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<th><a href="https://www.nap.edu/catalog/25310/medications-for-opioid-use-disorder-save-lives">https://www.nap.edu/catalog/25310/medications-for-opioid-use-disorder-save-lives</a></th>
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The (US) National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine have published this consensus study report that examines the evidence base on medication assisted treatment (MAT) for opioid use disorder (OUD). According to the website, ‘OUD is a life-threatening condition associated with a 20-fold greater risk of early death due to overdose, infectious diseases, trauma, and suicide. Mortality related to OUD continues to escalate as this public health crisis gathers momentum across the country, with opioid overdoses killing more than 47,000 people in 2017 in the United States. Efforts to date have made no real headway in stemming this crisis, in large part because tools that already exist—like evidence-based medications—are not being deployed to maximum impact.’
**Reports**

*Antimicrobial Resistance: Tackling the Burden in the European Union*

**Briefing note for EU/EEA countries**

OECD and European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control


|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

The OECD and the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) produced this Briefing Note on antimicrobial resistance (AMR) in the European Union and the European Economic Area for a recent EU Health Ministerial Meeting. The Briefing Note presents key estimates of the health and economic impact of AMR and effective strategies to address this major public health threat.

Among the key messages are:

- If no effective action is put in place, AMR to second-line antibiotics will be 72% higher in 2030 compared to 2005 in the EU/EEA. In the same period, AMR to last-line treatments will more than double.
- Each year, AMR is responsible for about 33 000 deaths and costs about 1.1 billion Euros to the health care systems of EU/EEA countries.
- Promoting better hygiene in health care services, ending the over-prescription of antibiotics, rapid testing for patients to determine whether they have bacterial or viral infections, delayed antibiotic prescriptions and mass media campaigns, are all effective and cost-effective interventions to tackle AMR.
- Investing in these policies would save thousands of lives and money in the long run. Many interventions to promote prudent use of antibiotics and enhance hygiene in hospitals only cost 0.15 to 1.3 Euros per capita per year in many EU/EEA countries.
- Investing 1.5 Euros per capita per year in a comprehensive package of mixed public health interventions would avoid about 27 000 deaths per year in EU/EEA countries.
- In addition to saving lives, such a public health package could pay for itself within just one year and end up saving about 1.4 billion Euros1 per year in EU/EEA countries.


**Journal articles**

*Victoria’s voluntary assisted dying law: clinical implementation as the next challenge*

White BP, Willmott L, Close E


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This article describes the Victorian Voluntary Assisted Dying Act 2017 which comes into effect in June 2019. The authors note the challenges in translating the law into clinical practice, given the high number of safeguards and tightly prescribed procedural steps and reporting requirements to the new VAD Review Board. While an implementation task force has been appointed and work is underway, many of the details of implementation still need to be worked out.
Clinical practice guidelines for perinatal bereavement care — An overview
Boyle FM, Horey D, Middleton PF, Flenady V
Women and Birth. 2019 [epub].
DOI https://doi.org/10.1016/j.wombi.2019.01.008

Notes
Article providing an overview of the updated Perinatal Society of Australia and New Zealand/Stillbirth Centre of Research Excellence guideline for perinatal bereavement care. The Guideline for Respectful and Supportive Perinatal Bereavement Care aims to provide clear guidance for maternity health care providers and their services to support the provision of care that meets the needs of bereaved parents. The guidelines available from https://www.stillbirthcre.org.au/resources/clinical-practice-guidelines/ include:

• Clinical Practice Guideline for Care Around Stillbirth and Neonatal Death
• Clinical Practice Guideline for the Care of Women with Decreased Fetal Movements
• Detection and Management of Women with Fetal Growth Restriction in Singleton Pregnancies
• Clinical Practice Guideline for Respectful and Supportive Perinatal Bereavement Care.

Automated classification of primary care patient safety incident report content and severity using supervised machine learning (ML) approaches
Health Informatics Journal. 2019 [epub].
DOI https://doi.org/10.1177/1460458219833102

Notes
Following some recent items on machine learning and artificial intelligence in health care comes this paper on a study of “supervised” machine learning being used to categorise patient safety incidents in primary care. This British study tested the capability of three different machine learning approaches by having each assess a sample of 31,333 patient safety incident reports. This sample had previously been ‘expert-categorised by clinicians’ thus allowing for the assessment of the capability of three approaches. This study suggests that such machine learning methods ‘could provide a valuable screening tool’, but are not (yet?) accurate enough.

Electronic patient identification for sample labeling reduces wrong blood in tube errors
DOI http://doi.org/10.1111/trf.15102

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Patient (mis)identification is apparently one of the most basic errors – and a (surprisingly?) prevalent one in its various forms. This study describes the impact of implementing electronic identification/barcode labelling on the rate of wrong blood in tube (WBIT) errors. The authors report that use of barcoding improved the accuracy of labels on blood samples and thus reduced the risk of ABO-mismatched blood transfusions. The authors conclude that ‘using electronic patient identification at the time of pretransfusion sample collection was associated with approximately fivefold fewer WBIT errors compared with using manual patient identification. WBIT rates were high among mislabeled (rejected) samples, confirming that rejecting samples with even minor labeling errors helps mitigate the risk of ABO-incompatible transfusions.’

For information on the Commission’s work on the National Patient Blood Management Collaborative, see https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/national-priorities/pbm-collaborative/

For information on the Commission’s work on patient identification, see https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/our-work/patient-identification/
A new issue of *BMJ Quality and Safety* has been published. Many of the papers in this issue have been referred to in previous editions of *On the Radar* (when they were released online). Articles in this issue of *BMJ Quality and Safety* include:

- Editorial: Remembering individual perspectives and needs in differentiated HIV care strategies (Sheree R Schwartz, Stefan Baral)
- Editorial: Frailty and mortality: ‘Same-same but Different’ (Sei J Lee)
- Patients’ perspectives on how to decrease the burden of treatment: a qualitative study of HIV care in sub-Saharan Africa (Viet-Thi Tran, Eugene Messou, Mariam Mama Djima, Philippe Ravaud, Didier K Ekouevi)
- Minor flow disruptions, traffic-related factors and their effect on major flow disruptions in the operating room (Anjali Joseph, Amin Khoshkenar, Kevin M Taaffe, Ken Catchpole, Herminia Machry, Sara Bayramzadeh)
- External validation of the Hospital Frailty Risk Score and comparison with the Hospital-patient One-year Mortality Risk Score to predict outcomes in elderly hospitalised patients: a retrospective cohort study (Finlay McAlister, Carl van Walraven)
- Recognising the importance of informal communication events in improving collaborative care (Sarah Burm, Kaitlyn Boese, Lisa Faden, Sandy Deluca, Noureen Huda, Kathy Hibbert, Mark Goldszmidt)
- Provider interruptions and patient perceptions of care: an observational study in the emergency department (Anna Schneider, M Wehler, M Weigl)
- Using objective clinical data to track progress on preventing and treating sepsis: CDC’s new ‘Adult Sepsis Event’ surveillance strategy (Chanu Rhee, Raymund Barretto Dantes, Lauren Epstein, Michael Klompas)
- Evaluation of an electronic health record structured discharge summary to provide real time adverse event reporting in thoracic surgery (Andrew J Graham, Wrechelle Ocampo, Danielle A Southern, Anthony Falvi, Dina Sotiropoulos, Bruce Wang, K Lonergan, B Vito, W A Ghali, S D P McFadden)
- Measuring the teamwork performance of teams in crisis situations: a systematic review of assessment tools and their measurement properties (Sylvain Boet, Nicole Etherington, Sarah Larrigan, Li Yin, Hira Khan, Katrina Sullivan, James J Jung, Teodor P Grantcharov)
- The problem with composite indicators (Matthew Barelay, Mary Dixon-Woods, Georgios Lyratzopoulos)
A new issue of the *International Journal for Quality in Health Care* has been published. Many of the papers in this issue have been referred to in previous editions of *On the Radar* (when they were released online). Articles in this issue of the *International Journal for Quality in Health Care* include:

- **Editorial:** *New challenges for patient safety* (Peter Lachman)
- Quality of *diabetes care in cancer*: a systematic review (Robert I Griffiths; Nancy L Keating; Clare R Bankhead)
- Wide variation and patterns of physicians’ responses to *drug–drug interaction alerts* (Insook Cho; Yura Lee; Jae-Ho Lee; David W Bates)
- Do *cost containment policies* save money and influence physicians’ *prescribing behavior*? Lessons from South Korea’s drug policy for diabetes medication (Shin-On Kang; Seung Ju Kim; Sohee Park; Sung-In Jang; Eun-Cheol Park)
- *Trans-disciplinary advanced allied health practitioners* for acute hospital inpatients: a feasibility study (Dina Watterson; Kerrie Walter; Lisa O’Brien; Desiree Terrill; Kathleen Philip; Indi Swan; Lisa Somerville)
- Aggregate analysis of *sentinel events* as a strategic tool in safety management can contribute to the improvement of healthcare safety (Angelo B Hooker; Anouk Etman; Matthijs Westra; Wouter J Van der kam)
- Characteristics and outcomes of *emergency interhospital transfers* from subacute to acute care for *clinical deterioration* (Julie Considine; Maryann Street; Tracey Bucknall; Helen Rawson; Anastasia F Hutchison; Trisha Dunning; Mari Botti; Maxine M Duke; M Mohebbi; A M Hutchinson)
- Not feeling ready to go home: a qualitative analysis of *chronically ill patients’ perceptions on care transitions* (Kim J Verhaegh; Patricia Jepma; Suzanne E Geerlings; Sophia E de Rooij; Bianca M Buurman)
- Implementation of *medication-related indicators of potentially preventable hospitalizations* in a national chronic disease management program for older patients with multimorbidity (Gillian E Caughey; Jodie B Hillen; Stephanie Bacon; Nicholas Bullock; Virginia Bullock; L Kalisch Ellett)
- Improving the timeliness and accuracy of *injury severity data in road traffic accidents* in an emerging economy setting (Carlos Lam; Chang-I Chen; Chia-Chang Chuang; Chia-Chieh Wu; Shih-Hsiang Yu; K-K Chang; W-T Chiu)
- Involving *young people in health promotion, research and policy-making*: practical recommendations (Magaly Aceves-Martins; Àixa Y Aleman-Diaz; Montse Giralt; Rosa Solà)
- Coping with *more people with more illness*. Part 1: the nature of the challenge and the implications for safety and quality (René Amalberti; Charles Vincent; Wendy Nicklin; Jeffrey Braithwaite)
- Coping with *more people with more illness*. Part 2: new generation of standards for enabling healthcare system transformation and sustainability (Jeffrey Braithwaite; Charles Vincent; Wendy Nicklin; René Amalberti)
A new issue of the *American Journal of Medical Quality* has been published. Articles in this issue of the *American Journal of Medical Quality* include:

- Multiyear Performance Trends Analysis of Primary Care Practices Demonstrating **Patient-Centered Medical Home Transformation**: An Observation of Quality Improvement Indicators among Outpatient Clinics (Vincent Pereira, Meghan Hufstader Gabriel, and Lynn Unruh)

- Performance on **Electronic Clinical Quality Measures** in the Comprehensive Primary Care Initiative (Christiane T LaBonte, Perry Payne, William Rollow, Mark W Smith, Abdul Nissar, P Holtz, and L L Sessums)

- Improving **Heart Failure Readmission Costs and Outcomes** With a Hospital-to-Home Readmission Intervention Program (Kenneth Bilchick, Travis Moss, Timothy Welch, Wayne Levy, George Stukenborg, Bryan T Lawlor, Juanita Reigle, S Craig Thomas, Carolyn Brady, James D Bergin, Jamie L W Kennedy, Mohammed Abuannadi, Kenneth Scully, and Sula Mazimba)

- Observations on the **Medicare Value-Based Ranking of Hospitals** During Fiscal Years 2015 and 2016 (R Scott Jones, Adriana G Ramirez, George J Stukenborg, Margaret C Tracci, and Florence E Turrentine)

- Implementation of an **Evidence-Based Care Program** Within a Multihospital Health Care System (Rebecca M Guth, Audrey A Herring, and Liana R Merz)

- Adopting **RCA2**: The Interrater Reliability of Safety Assessment Codes (Timothy L Switaj, Brian M Cummings, Merranda S Logan, and E A Mort)

- An Initiative to Decrease **Time to Antibiotics** for Patients With Fever and Neutropenia (Beth L Emerson, Stephanie Prozora, Alby Jacob, Kristen Clark, Deborah Kotrady, Lauren Edwards, Rebecca Ciaburri, and Antonio Riera)

- Differences in **Safety Climate Perception** by Health Care Worker, Work Schedule, and Workplace Characteristics (Sharon R Silver and J M Boiano)

- Incorporation of **Quality and Safety Principles in Maintenance of Certification**: A Qualitative Analysis of American Board of Medical Specialties Member Boards (Joshua J Davis, David W Price, Walter Kraft, and Meghan B Lane-Fall)

- Provider-Focused Intervention to Promote Comprehensive Screening for **Adolescent Idiopathic Scoliosis** by Primary Care Pediatricians (Maria Carmen G Diaz, T Wysocki, J H Crutchfield Jr, J P Franciosi, and I N Werk)

- Can **Medical Students Lead Effective Quality Improvement Initiatives**? A Systematic Review (Meelad Sayma, Dina Saleh, Keenan Saleh, Andrew Gaukroger, Theodore Howard, Christian Hesford, Hywel Rhys Williams, Lady-Namera Ejaimike, Yasmin Zolfaghari, and Ashley Ong)

- Commentary: **Optimizing Leadership Roles** of the Medical Executive Committee Within 200 Community Hospitals (M Shafeeq Ahmed, and Peter J Pronovost)

- Commentary: The Ethics of **Success in Bundled Payments**: Respect, Beneficence, and Social Justice Concerns (Casey Jo Humbyrd, Lorraine Hutzler, and Matthew DeCamp)

- **Improving COPD Care** at the University of North Carolina Internal Medicine Outpatient Clinic (Camilla S Powierza, Nelson Vick, Brenna K McManus, and Amy W Shaheen)
A new issue of the *Milbank Quarterly* has been published. Articles in this issue of the *Milbank Quarterly* include:

- **Hate and the Health of Populations** (J M Shultz, T L Zakrison, S Galea)
- “The Defense of the Indefensible”: The Uses and Abuses of Words in Contemporary Public Health Policy (David Rosner)
- **Living, Aging, and Dying in Healthy and Just Societies**: Life Lessons From My Father (Lawrence O Gostin)
- The Medicalization of Population Health: Who Will Stay Upstream? (Paula M Lantz)
- From Fraternities to DNA: The Challenge Genetic Prediction Poses to Insurance Markets (Dalton Conley)
- The Responsibility to Advocate—and to Advocate Responsibly (H Pollack)
- The Economic Value of Education for Longer Lives and Reduced Disability (Patrick M Kreuger, Ilham A Dehry, Virginia W Chang)
- Public Meets Private: Conversations Between Coca-Cola and the CDC (Nason Maani Hessari, Gary Ruskin, Martin McKee, David Stuckler)
- Access by Design, Benefits if Convenient: A Closer Look at the Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Framework’s Standard Material Transfer Agreements (Michelle Rourke)
- Service Delivery Models to Maximize Quality of Life for Older People at the End of Life: A Rapid Review (Catherine J Evans, Lucy Ison, Clare Ellis-Smith, Caroline Nicholson, Alessia Costa, Adejoke O Oluyase, Eve Namisango, Anna E Bone, Lisa Jane Brighton, Deokhee Yi, Sarah Combes, Sabrina Bajwah, Wei Gao, R Harding, P Ong, I J Higginson, M Maddocks)
- What Words Convey: The Potential for Patient Narratives to Inform Quality Improvement (Rachel Grob, Mark Schlesinger, Lacey Rose Barre, Naomi Bardach, Tara Lagu, Dale Shaller, Andrew M. Parker, Steven C Martino, Melissa L Finucane, Jennifer L Cerully, Alina Palimaru)
- Learning From History About Reducing Infant Mortality: Contrasting the Centrality of Structural Interventions to Early 20th-Century Successes in the United States to Their Neglect in Current Global Initiatives (Amiya Bhatia, Nancy Krieger, S V Subramanian)
- Health Care Complaints and Adverse Events as a Means of User Involvement for Quality and Safety Improvement (Soren Birkeland)
A new issue of *Healthcare Quarterly* has been published, with a Special Focus on Building Effective Primary Care Systems. Articles in this issue of *Healthcare Quarterly* include:

- **Reproductive Health** in Women with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities in Ontario: Implications for Policy and Practice (Hilary K Brown, Virginie Cobigo, Yona Lunsky and Simone Vigod)
- **Access to Palliative Care** in Canada (Alicia Costante, Christina Lawand and Clare Cheng)
- **Accreditation**: A Quality Improvement Strategy for the Community-Based Family Practice (Grace Moe, Kristy (Hao) Wang and S Kousonsavath)
- Achievement of Accreditation by Community-Based Family Practice – Workload and Cost Analysis (Grace Moe, Allan Bailey, Kristy (Hao) Wang, Keith McNicol and Soudarat Kousonsavath)
- Experimenting with Governance: Alberta’s Strategic Clinical Networks (Deborah E White, N Virk, M Jackson, H T Stelfox, T Wasylak and W Ghali)
- Twenty Years Later: Do We Have an Agreed-Upon Definition of Health Quality Management? (Michael Heenan)
- Time of Transfer of Admitted Patients from the ED: A Contributor to ED Boarding in High-Volume Community Hospitals (Leila Salehi, Prashant Phalpher, Rahim Valani, Andrew Wan, Jaclyn Herman and Mathew Mercuri)
- Embedding Psychiatric Risk Flags Within an Electronic Health Record: Initial Findings and Lessons Learned (Jane Paterson, John Fernandes, Kimberly Hunter, Sheldon Hubert and Gillian Strudwick)

**BMJ Quality and Safety** online first articles

**Notes**

*BMJ Quality and Safety* has published a number of ‘online first’ articles, including:

- Variation in use and outcomes related to midline catheters: results from a multicentre pilot study (Vineet Chopra, Scott Kaatz, Lakshmi Swaminathan, Tanya Boldenow, Ashley Snyder, Rachel Burris, Steve J Bernstein, S Flanders)
- Evolving quality improvement support strategies to improve Plan–Do–Study–Act cycle fidelity: a retrospective mixed-methods study (Chris McNicholas, Laura Lennox, Thomas Woodcock, Derek Bell, Julie E Reed)
- Editorial: Measuring outcomes in quality improvement education: success is in the eye of the beholder (Jennifer S Myers, Brian M Wong)
- Bending the cost curve: time series analysis of a value transformation programme at an academic medical centre (Steven C Chatfield, Frank M Volpicelli, Nicole M Adler, Kunhee Lucy Kim, Simon A Jones, Fritz Francois, Paresh C Shah, Robert A Press, Leora I Horwitz)
The Pennsylvania Patient Safety Authority has published their latest Pennsylvania Patient Safety Advisory. Topics in this issue include:


- **Drug Shortages**: Shortchanging Quality and Safe Patient Care – The struggle by healthcare providers to manage drug shortages has led to negative downstream effects on patients, including instances of unsafe or compromised practice and potentially harmful medication errors.

- **Exploring Vulnerability to Patient Safety Events along the Age Continuum** – Attention to the event types and patterns of vulnerability that predominate in specific age cohorts may help facilities prioritize interventions.

- **Incidence of Concurrent Surgery** in Pennsylvania

- Celebrate the **2019 I AM Patient Safety Winners** – The Pennsylvania Patient Safety Authority’s annual I AM Patient Safety contest promotes individuals and groups within Pennsylvania’s healthcare facilities who have demonstrated an exceptional commitment to patient safety.

- **Are Humans the Problem in Patient Safety?** – Encouraging humans to be adaptable improves their skill at navigating complexity, solving problems, and ultimately, improving patient safety.

- **Safety Stories**: **Missing the Mark** – highlights a hazard that exists if the individual drawing up medication does not recognize that a syringe is incorrectly marked.

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**Online resources**

[UK] Management of labour  
https://www.dc.nihr.ac.uk/highlights/Management-of-Labour/  

The UK’s National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) has produced this ‘Highlights’ web page focusing on key research evidence, looking at some important aspects of the management of labour including:

- induction of labour
- waterbirth
- interpretation of the fetal heart rate
- pain management
- position during the second stage of labour with or without an epidural.
The appropriate treatment option for men with prostate cancer is not always apparent. This online tool has been designed to help predict an individual’s prognosis following a prostate cancer diagnosis. This tool could help prevent unnecessary treatment and related side effects. PREDICT Prostate use information including PSA test results, cancer grade and stage, proportion of biopsies with cancerous cells, and details about the patient and provides a 10–15 year survival estimate. The tool also estimates how the patient’s chance of survival differs depending on whether he opts for monitoring or treatment, providing context of the likelihood of success of treatment and risk of side effects.

The Predict Breast Cancer tool is already available at [https://breast.predict.nhs.uk/](https://breast.predict.nhs.uk/)

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