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Issue # 86

SCHA QUALITY and PATIENT SAFETY UPDATE

<http://everypatient.net/communication>

Top Story

HAI Prevention and Public Health: A Whole New World

On September 1, 2010, APIC Palmetto, DHEC, and SCHA are offering a HIDA training program geared toward infection preventionists responsible for healthcare associated infection prevention, control, surveillance and public reporting. This program will begin at 8:15 AM with registration.

DHEC requires acute care hospitals to send at least one infection prevention staff member to attend the NHSN training on September 1, 2010. The Hospital Infections Disclosure Act (HIDA) requires DHEC and the Advisory Committee to "evaluate on a regular basis the quality and accuracy of hospital information reported under this article and the data collection, analysis, and dissemination methodologies." Hospital validation site visits have identified the need for additional training on surveillance case definitions and internal validation procedures to ensure that data reports are complete and accurate.

Please direct any questions to [Dixie Roberts](#) or [Connie Steed](#). To view the brochure, [click here](#).

South Carolina News and Events

2010 TAP Conference, September 16 – 17, 2010

As many of you know, this coming year we decided to highlight our partnership to improve the quality and patient safety of our patients across South Carolina. We have made great strides over the past three years and have a lot to be proud of. The EPC team will present several storyboards featuring various projects including Stop BSI, GSI: SC and SC Mission: Lifeline. As we provide this opportunity for your leadership to see the collective quality improvement work going on across South Carolina, we hope that they will return home and ask you about your work and collaboration and report first hand to their Board the work you are engaged in to improve the quality and patient safety at your hospital and collectively across our state.

The Every Patient Counts team strongly encourages each hospital to submit your accomplishments to the IHI's national conference, December 5-8, 2010. More information can be found by [clicking here](#)

AHA News Now Highlights

FDA Approves 2010-2011 Seasonal Flu Vaccines

The Food and Drug Administration has approved the seasonal flu vaccines for 2010-2011, which will protect against the 2009 H1N1 virus and two other strains expected to cause the most illness. The vaccines and their manufacturers are: Afluria, CSL Ltd.; Agriflu, Novartis Vaccines and Diagnostics; Fluarix, GlaxoSmithKline Biologicals; FluLaval, ID Biomedical Corp.; FluMist, MedImmune Vaccines Inc.; Fluvirin, Novartis Vaccines and Diagnostics Ltd.; and Fluzone and Fluzone High-Dose, Sanofi Pasteur Inc. In February, the Centers for

Disease Control and Prevention's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices [recommended](#) annual flu vaccination for all people aged 6 months and older. "In addition to the important role that healthcare providers play in recommending influenza vaccination for their patients, influenza vaccination of healthcare personnel is important to protect themselves, their patients, their family and the community from influenza," said Karen Midthun, M.D., acting director of FDA's Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research.

MRSA Infections on Decline

Methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* infections decreased dramatically in hospitals and the community between 2005 and 2008, according to a [study](#) of nine metropolitan areas reported in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*. Hospital-onset MRSA decreased 9.4% per year, including an 11.2% decline in MRSA bloodstream infections, while community-onset infections decreased 5.7%. "Taken together with data from more than 600 intensive care units nationwide, these findings suggest that there is a real decrease in MRSA infection rates among patients in U.S. hospitals," the authors state. To eliminate preventable healthcare-associated MRSA, the study calls for further efforts to increase adherence to existing recommendations and address MRSA transmission and prevention beyond inpatient settings.

Joint Commission Seeks Feedback on 2010 Universal Protocol

The Joint Commission invites hospitals and other accredited organizations to complete an [online survey](#) on changes implemented in January to its universal protocol for preventing wrong site, procedure or person surgery. The Commission seeks feedback on whether organizations were able to implement the changes to the [protocol](#) and their effect on patient care and internal processes. No additional changes to the protocol are planned in the near future. The survey is open through Sept. 10 and takes an estimated 10 minutes to complete.

Joint Commission Seeks Input on NPSG.07.05.01

The Joint Commission's Division of Standards and Survey Methods is asking hospitals to complete a brief survey about implementing National Patient Safety Goal 07.05.01 for surgical site infections. NPSG.07.05.01 took effect in January with a one-year phase-in period. The Joint Commission notes that there are "several different methods" for implementing the NPSG and is asking hospitals to describe their efforts as part of the survey. The results, which will be kept confidential and will not impact a hospital's accreditation status, will be used to compile a free NPSG implementation guide that will be made available to hospitals. The survey, accessible from The Joint Commission's [website](#), is open through Sept. 5.

Joint Commission Issues 'Roadmap' to Addressing Certain Patient Needs

The Joint Commission has issued a "roadmap" to help hospitals advance effective communication, cultural competence, and patient- and family-centered care. The [document](#) includes a checklist hospitals can use to catalog their efforts along the continuum of care, as well as practice examples and appendices on relevant Joint Commission standards and other laws and regulations. It encourages hospitals to use the guide "as a foundation for creating processes, policies and programs that are best suited for their organizations," noting that there is no "one size fits all" approach to these issues.

Joint Commission Publishes New Guide for Advancing Patient-Centered Care, Included are Recommendations to Comply with New Standards

A free monograph has just been released by The Joint Commission, entitled "Advancing Effective Communication, Cultural Competence, and Patient-and Family-Centered Care: A Roadmap for Hospitals," provides recommendations to inspire hospitals to address unique patient needs and comply with new standards for patient-centered communication. [Click here](#) for more information.

AHA Webcast to Focus on ACO's, with Special Guest Mark Shields, MD, of Advocate Healthcare, August 24, 2010

Be sure to tune in Tuesday, August 24 at 4 p.m. ET, for a special AHA *Town Hall Interactive* Webcast focusing on one of the most hotly discussed emerging models for care: accountable care organizations, or ACO's. AHA President and CEO Rich Umbdenstock and Senior Vice President for Public Policy Analysis and Development Linda Fishman will be joined by Mark Shields M.D., M.B.A., senior medical director, Advocate Physician Partners, and vice president of medical management, Advocate Healthcare in Illinois. Dr. Shields will discuss the Advocate experience designing a structure of hospital-physician integration, an essential component for an accountable care organization.

If you registered for the AHA's health reform webcasts, there is no need to register again. You need to register only once to attend all webcasts. A reminder and a link to enter each session will be e-mailed the day of the Town Hall meeting.

If you have not yet registered, [click here](#) to do so. Questions about the Town Hall or its contents? Call 1-800-424-4301.

Other National News and Events

TMIT Webinar: Catheter-Associated Urinary Tract Infection: No One Owns It... We ALL Pay for It!, August 19, 2010, 1:00 PM to 2:00 PM

Nearly 2 million patients experience a healthcare-associated infection (HAI) each year. Thirty to forty percent of these infections are catheter-associated urinary tract infections (CAUTIs), making these infections the most frequent HAI. Eighty percent of the CAUTIs are attributable to indwelling urethral catheters. Major insurance payers no longer reimburse acute care hospitals for CAUTIs when they occur during the patient stay. CAUTIs are associated with increased morbidity and mortality, hospital cost, and length of stay. Infection prevention measures can substantially reduce the harm to patients. During this webinar we will discuss the bladder bundle of care to prevent CAUTIs in your organization.

For more information on this TMIT National Research Test Bed webinar, [click here](#).

Calendar of Events

August 24, 2010 ► *SC ASHRM: Minimizing Liability Exposures in Ambulatory Surgery and SC ASHRM Business Meeting*, Co-sponsored by SC ASHRM will be held at SCHA William L. Yates Conference Center Columbia, SC. For more information please contact Kreeves@scha.org or [click here](#) to view the attached brochure/website.

September 1, 2010 ► *HAI Prevention and Public Health: A Whole New World*, DHEC requires acute care hospitals to send at least one infection prevention staff member to attend the NHSN training on September 1, 2010. Please direct any questions to [Dixie Roberts](#) or [Connie Steed](#). To view the brochure, [click here](#).

September 25, 2010 ► *USMC Ultimate Challenge Mud Run* gets "cleaned up" at the GSI:SC cleaning station. To get involved in these events contact Geah Pressgrove at geah@postnobills.com.

October 29 – 30, 2010 ► *17th Annual Pitts Lectureship, "From Laboratory to Bedside: Ethical Issues in Clinical and Translational Research,"* will be held at the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC) in Charleston. [Click here](#) to learn more and register.

December 5-8, 2010 ► *22nd Annual National Forum on Quality Improvement in Healthcare* will be held Orlando, FL. To register for the National Forum, please [click here](#).

December 10, 2010 ► *SC ASHRM and SC-AHQ Joint Program: The National Quality Forum's 34 Safe Practices for Better Healthcare*. The featured speaker is Sue Dill Calloway, RN, JD. This conference will be held at the SCHA William L. Yates Conference Center in Columbia, SC. Please contact Karen Reeves at kreeves@scha.org for more information.

March 16-17, 2011 ► *4th Annual Patient Safety Symposium*. Please save the date for next year's Symposium which will be held in Columbia, SC. For more information contact Mary Stargel at mstargel@scha.org.

Please contact The SCHA Quality and Patient Safety Team if you have questions regarding this newsletter (803.744.3523) or to schedule a Site Visit with our team, please complete the attached [form](#).