

# Patient Safety, Risk, and Quality Update

From Allied World and ECRI Institute

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The following news and guidance were recently made available without login from ECRI Institute's *Healthcare Risk Control* and related services. If you have any questions, please email Ajay Aggarwal at [Ajay.Aggarwal@awac.com](mailto:Ajay.Aggarwal@awac.com).

## News

### **Global "Green" Report Lays Out Healthcare's Impact on Climate and How Healthcare Can Mitigate Environmental Risks**

The global healthcare sector would be the fifth largest greenhouse gas emitter on the planet if it were a country, says the September 2019 report *Health Care's Climate Footprint from Health Care Without Harm*, an international nongovernmental organization.

[Read the full summary.](#)

### **How Do Climate Change and Healthcare Interact? *NEJM* Educates in Interactive Article**

Risk managers can read about what drives climate change, how climate change stresses healthcare systems and creates patient safety risks, and how health professionals can address this crucial issue in an interactive article published August 22, 2019, in the *New England Journal of Medicine*.

[Read the full summary.](#)

### **How Can Volunteer Patient Advocates Improve Patient Safety?**

The benefits of hiring unpaid patient advocates, which include increasing the number of advocates to help reach a greater number of people and eliminating any possible conflict of interest, is the focus of a September 3, 2019, blog post in *thebmjopinion*.

[Read the full summary.](#)

### **"Wake-Up Call": Patient Safety Remains a Worldwide Issue**

One in 300 patients worldwide will die from a preventable medical accident, which should serve as a patient safety "wake-up call," says a September 14, 2019, *Lancet* article citing recent World Health Organization statistics.

[Read the full summary.](#)

### **Long-Term Care Facilities Represent "Weak Link" in Fight against Antibiotic Resistance, Says *New York Times***

Drug-resistant organisms, such as the fungus *Candida auris*, thrive in nursing facilities and can then move to hospitals and endanger the public, according to a September 13, 2019, article in the *New York Times*.

[Read the full summary.](#)

### **Looking for Advice on How to Talk to Reluctant Parents about Childhood Immunizations?**

Advice for discussing childhood immunizations with reluctant parents is the focus of an August 27, 2019, question and answer from [vitalsmarts.com](#). Among other tips, the author advises clinicians to remember that "you can't win an argument" and instead facilitate conversations.

[Read the full summary.](#)

### **Five Tips for Avoiding EHR-Related Lawsuits**

In electronic health record (EHR)-related lawsuits, failure of technology or the electronic system accounted for 12% of claims, failure or lack of an EHR alarm for 7%, and fragmented records for 6%, the most common claims in an August 2019 study from the Doctors Company, a malpractice insurer.

[Read the full summary.](#)