

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.

News

Human Errors in Surgical Settings Often Stem from Lack of Recognition; Simulation May Provide an Answer

Cognitive error was the most common reason for human performance deficiencies behind surgical adverse events, suggesting that many dangers to patient safety initially go unrecognized, according to a July 31, 2019, original investigation in *JAMA Network Open*.

[Read the full summary.](#)

RCA in Real Time: Nurse-Led Initiative Results in Reductions of Hypoglycemia among Critically Ill

A sustained reduction in hypoglycemia among critically ill patients was credited to a nurse-led initiative to investigate the root causes of hypoglycemic episodes at a Connecticut hospital, says an August 1, 2019, article from the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses.

[Read the full summary.](#)

Rate of Harm Events Dropped by Nearly 75% in Ten Years since Hospital Launched Improvement Initiatives

Combining project management discipline, rigorous surveillance, and focused interventions with support from system-level multidisciplinary teams can lead to "dramatic" reductions in harm events, according to a study in the July 2019 issue of *The Joint Commission Journal on Quality and Safety*.

[Read the full summary.](#)

Injury Surveillance Systems Should Expand Coding to Better Capture Data on Fall-Related Injuries

Injury surveillance data capturing falls-related injuries in older adults should be expanded from the existing method of using just falls-related external-cause-of-injury codes (E-codes) to also use algorithms that include International Classification of Diseases (ICD-9)-coded-injuries, according to an August 21, 2019, study in *JAMA Network Open*.

[Read the full summary.](#)

Is Your Hospital Investing in Single-Patient Rooms to Improve Infection Control?

As infection control becomes further prioritized, hospitals will need to invest in creating more single-patient rooms, says the author of an August 19, 2019, commentary in *JAMA Internal Medicine*.

[Read the full summary.](#)

Experts to FDA: Ensure Duodenoscopes Can Be Properly Sterilized or Pull Them from the Market

Medical experts are urging the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to either make sure duodenoscopes can be properly sterilized or remove them from the market, according to an August 6, 2019, article in the *New York Times*.

[Read the full summary.](#)

As Active Shooting Unfolded, Philadelphia Hospital Kept Its ED Open

As an active shooting unfolded down the street, a Philadelphia safety-net hospital that was already treating three police-officer victims kept its emergency department (ED) open, according to an August 15, 2019, article in the *Philadelphia Inquirer*.

[Read the full summary.](#)

New York Times Explores How Secret Shoppers Can Improve Person-Centered Care

Nearly a week after a mass shooting at an El Paso Walmart left 22 dead, doctors are still treating patients in the area's only trauma center, according to an August 9, 2019, article in the *New York Times*.

[Read the full summary](#)