

Patient Safety, Risk, and Quality Update

From Allied World and ECRI

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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

Study on Advanced Heart Failure Clinical Decision-Making Uncovers Racial and Gender Bias

Researchers found evidence of both gender and racial bias in a national study of clinicians' decision-making processes for heart transplantation allocation and advanced heart failure therapies, according to a July 21, 2020, study in *JAMA Network Open*.

[Read the full summary.](#)

Healthy Black Children More Than Three Times as Likely to Die after Surgery as White Children

Healthy Black children with no underlying serious conditions are 3.5 times as likely to die after surgery as white children, according to a study published in the July 2020 issue of *Pediatrics*.

[Read the full summary.](#)

"We Risk Our Lives to Save Yours": Lack of PPE and Healthcare Worker Deaths

"Grief and fear gripping workers and their families" reflect the more than 4,100 coronavirus (COVID-19)-related complaints to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) since March, says a June 30, 2020, Kaiser Health News article.

[Read the full summary.](#)

Intrahospital Transitions of Care: New Findings

Intrahospital transfer errors, such as delays and transfers to the wrong departments, are associated with delirium, longer hospital stays, and increased morbidity and mortality, according to a systematic review in the July/August 2020 issue of the *Journal for Healthcare Quality*.

[Read the full summary.](#)

CDC: Testing and Infection Control Reduced COVID-19 Transmission in Skilled Nursing Facilities

Lessons learned from past events, as well as resources related to treating victims of tear gas, pepper spray, and rubber bullets, are included in a June 6, 2020, ASPR TRACIE technical assistance request.

[Read the full summary.](#)

A Healthcare Organization Tells How It Returned to Surgeries and Procedures during COVID-19

Focusing efforts on operations, medical staff, and community is key to restarting inpatient and outpatient surgeries and procedures and attaining pre-pandemic levels of patient care, according to a Texas healthcare organization discussed in a July 2, 2020, article in *NEJM Catalyst*.

[Read the full summary.](#)

Some Lawyers Vow Not to Sue over COVID-19 Care

Reasoning that "standard of care" is unclear, some plaintiff attorneys have vowed that they will not take lawsuits related to coronavirus (COVID-19) care, according to a July 1, 2020, article from Relias Media.

[Read the full summary.](#)

Pediatric COVID-19 Patients Less Likely to Need ICU Admission, But Require Longer Stays When They Do

While rare, severe coronavirus (COVID-19) infection requiring hospitalization and mechanical ventilation does occur among children and adolescents, according to a June 25, 2020, study in *The Lancet Child & Adolescent Health*.

[Read the full summary.](#)