

# 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](mailto: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.](#)