



# 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's Health System Risk Management and related services. If you have any questions, please email Ajay Aggarwal at [Ajay.Aggarwal@awac.com](mailto:Ajay.Aggarwal@awac.com).

## News

### **Infection Prevention Lapses during COVID-19 Surges Leave Hospitals Vulnerable to Outbreaks**

Hospitals might be vulnerable to outbreaks of multidrug-resistant organism (MDRO) infections while managing surges of patients with coronavirus (COVID-19), says the December 4, 2020, *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report* from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

**[Read the full summary.](#)**

### **COVID-19 Toolkit Can Help Answer Vaccine Questions from Postacute, Long-Term Care Staff, Patients**

The Society for Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Medicine has published a toolkit to help long-term care operators address questions from staff members, residents, and their families about coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccines and getting vaccinated, a December 9, 2020, statement from the organization says.

**[Read the full summary.](#)**

### **Study: With Adequate PPE, Healthcare Workers Are More at Risk for COVID-19 in the Community Than at Work**

When supplied with adequate personal protective equipment (PPE), healthcare workers are more likely to be exposed to SARS-CoV-2 (severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2) in the community than at work, a December 9, 2020, study in *Open Forum Infectious Diseases* says.

**[Read the full summary.](#)**

### **States Implement Stricter Testing, Develop Guidance to Combat COVID-19 Surge, Staffing Shortages**

Throughout the United States, states have taken special actions and developed guidance in response to coronavirus (COVID-19)-related staffing shortages and patient surges.

**[Read the full summary.](#)**

### **Could the Socioeconomic Disadvantages Rural Mothers Face Be the Top Driver of Higher Infant Mortality Rates?**

Higher infant mortality rates in rural compared with nonrural counties may be primarily due to rural mothers' greater socioeconomic disadvantages, rather than to limited healthcare access or the prevalence of individual health behaviors (e.g., tobacco use), report the authors of a study in the November 2020 issue of *Pediatrics*.

**[Read the full summary.](#)**

### **Staffing and Experience Issues Could Impede Vaccine Rollout at LTC Facilities**

A recent survey of long-term care (LTC) pharmacists and consultant pharmacists cites numerous issues that could affect the effectiveness of the rollout of the coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccine at LTC facilities.

**[Read the full summary.](#)**