

Patient Safety, Risk, and Quality Update

From Allied World and ECRI

June 2021

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.

News

Medication Errors in Children Studied in the UK after Fatal Overdosing

Weight-based medication dosing in children is being studied in the United Kingdom following an unintentional 10-fold overdose in a four-year-old child. An article published April 22, 2021, in the *Pharmaceutical Journal* discusses some of this research.

[Read the full summary.](#)

Study Identifies Patients Most Likely to Receive Inappropriate Prescriptions

Men with multiple prescriptions who have had a prior diagnosis of heart failure and an increased number of ambulatory visits are more likely to be prescribed potentially inappropriate medications, according to a study published March 6, 2021, in *BMC Geriatrics*.

[Read the full summary.](#)

Testing Wastewater of Individual Facilities Could Detect SARS-CoV-2 Infections Early, Study Says

Testing the wastewater of individual facilities could be an efficient way to detect new infections of SARS-CoV-2 early, says an April 15, 2021, study in *Applied and Environmental Microbiology*.

[Read the full summary.](#)

Sepsis Management Bundle Shows Little Improvement in Patient Outcomes, Study Shows

Since the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) began requiring hospitals to report adherence to a sepsis management bundle in 2015, changes were noted in process measures but not in hospital mortality or the percentage of patients discharged to home, according to a study published April 20, 2021, in the *Annals of Internal Medicine*.

[Read the full summary.](#)

Healthcare Supply Chain "Fragile and Constrained" in the Wake of COVID-19

Supplies of many types of personal protective equipment (PPE) have rebounded, compared to the demand surges of 2020, according to a March 2021 analysis from a healthcare purchasing group, published April 1.

[Read the full summary.](#)

Study Suggests Pfizer Vaccine Effective at Preventing Spread of COVID-19 in Nursing Homes

The Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine is associated with fewer new COVID-19 cases and deaths among nursing home residents and staff, according to a May 6, 2021, study published in the *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society*.

[Read the full summary.](#)

Can Deliberate Cognitive Processing Improve Handoffs?

Deliberate cognitive processing during handoffs may lead to physicians better understanding patient's problems, which could potentially improve patient safety, says a study in the April 2021 issue of *The Joint Commission Journal on Quality and Patient Safety*.

[Read the full summary.](#)