

AHRQ Publications Catalog



Spring/Summer 2009



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The Agency was established by Congress in December 1989 as the successor to the National Center for Health Services Research and Health Care Technology Assessment. On December 6, 1999, under Public Law 106-129, the Agency for Health Care Policy and Research (AHCPR) was reauthorized and renamed the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ). The law authorizes AHRQ to continue its research on the cost, quality, and outcomes of health care, and expands its role to improve patient safety and address medical errors. AHRQ funds research on key health care delivery and medical effectiveness issues through grants and contracts. Its in-house researchers and health care professionals conduct analyses on a range of policy issues and evaluate the risks and effects of specific health care technologies.

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Agency Information

AHRQ Annual Highlights 2008. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, November 2008, 36 pp. Presents key findings from AHRQ's 2008 research portfolio and highlights the advances made in moving from research to practice. (AHRQ 08(09)-0072)

AHRQ Update. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, *Health Services Research*, 40(3):June 2005, xiii-xv. Updates an earlier journal article on the evolutionary leap for evidence-based health care at AHRQ. Discusses Section 1013 of the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement and Modernization Act of 2003, with its focus on effectiveness and improved health outcomes. (AHRQ 05-R061)

Children's Health

Access to Care and Utilization Among Children—Estimating the Effects of Public and Private Coverage. T. Selden, J. Hudson, *Medical Care*, 44(5):May 2006, I-19-I-26. Examines the relationship between health insurance coverage and children's access to and utilization of medical care. Also examines indicators for ambulatory visits, well-child visits, dental visits, emergency room use, and inpatient hospital stays. (AHRQ 06-R039)

Advancing the Current Recommended Panel of Conditions for Newborn Screening: Committee Report. N. Green, P. Rinaldo, A. Brower, et al., *Genetics in Medicine*, 9(11):November 2007, 792-796. Describes a new process for the nomination and review of conditions to the recommended universal newborn screening panel and calls for nominations. (AHRQ 08-R030)

Annual Report on Health Care for Children and Youth in the United States: Focus on Injury-Related Emergency Department Utilization and Expenditures. P. Owens, M. Zodet, T. Berdahl, et al., *Ambulatory Pediatrics*, 8(4):July-August 2008, 219-240. Examines State differences in children's use of injury-related emergency department (ED) care across 14 States, benchmarking aggregate State estimates against national expenditure estimates for outpatient injury-related ED care. (AHRQ 08-R082)

Burden of Illness for Children and Where We Stand in Measuring the Quality of this Health Care. M. Miller, P. Gergen, M. Honour, et al., *Ambulatory Pediatrics*, 5(5):September-October 2005, 268-278. Lists high-priority conditions for children based on different vantage points for defining burden relative to both inpatient and outpatient care for children. (AHRQ 06-R004)

Compliance with Well-Child Visit Recommendations: Evidence from the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey, 2000-2002. T. Selden, *Pediatrics*, 118(6):December 2006, e1766-1778. Examines

national compliance rates with recommendations for well-child visits using visit-level data for the period 2000-2002 from the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey. (AHRQ 07-R019)

The Correlation of Youth Physical Activity with State Policies. J. Cawley, C. Meyerhoefer, D. Newhouse, *Contemporary Economic Policy*, 25(4):October 2007, 506-517. Estimates the correlation of student physical activity with a variety of State policies and the role of State policies in preventing childhood obesity through physical education and availability of parks and recreation. (AHRQ 08-R025)

Diarrhea- and Rotavirus-Associated Hospitalizations Among Children Less Than 5 Years of Age: United States, 1997 and 2000. M. Malek, A. Curns, R. Holman, et al., *Pediatrics*, 117(6):June 2006, 1887-1892. Estimates the number and rate of diarrhea- and rotavirus-associated hospitalizations among U.S. children less than 5 years of age in 1997 and 2000 using the Kids' Inpatient Database, a sample of 10 percent of the uncomplicated births and 80 percent of other pediatric discharges. (AHRQ 07-R004)

A Discrete Choice Decomposition Analysis of Racial and Ethnic Differences in Children's Health Insurance Coverage. Y. Pylypchuk, T. Selden, *Journal of Health Economics*, 27:July 2008, 1109-1128. Presents a multivariate decomposition analysis of racial and ethnic differences in children's health insurance

using the 2004-2005 Medical Expenditure Panel Survey. (AHRQ 08-R068)

Do SCHIP Enrollees Stay Insured? K. VanLandeghem, C. Brach. *CHIRI Issue Brief No. 7*, May 2008, 6 pp. Summarizes findings from a Child Health Insurance Research Initiative (CHIRI) project that studied patterns of insurance coverage for low-income children enrolled in the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) in Kansas and New York. (AHRQ 08-0057)

Explaining Racial and Ethnic Differences in Children's Use of Stimulant Medications. J. Hudson, E. Miller, J. Kirby, *Medical Care*, 45(11): November 2007, 1068-1075. Documents and explains racial/ethnic differences in the use of stimulant drugs among U.S. children. (AHRQ 08-R044)

Health Care for Children and Youth in the United States: Annual Report on Patterns of Coverage, Utilization, Quality, and Expenditures by a County Level of Urban Influence. F. Chevarley, P. Owens, M. Zodet, et al., *Ambulatory Pediatrics*, 6(5):September-October 2006, 241-264. Examines child and hospital demographics and children's health care coverage, use, expenditures, and quality by a county-level measure of urban influence. (AHRQ 06-R079)

Impact of Primary Care Case Management (PCCM) Implementation on Medicaid and SCHIP. K. VanLandeghem, C. Brach. *CHIRI Issue Brief No. 8*, March 2009, 6 pp. Summarizes findings from a Child Health Insurance Research Initiative

(CHIRI™) study of the impact of implementing primary care case management (PCCM) systems in Alabama and Georgia. PCCM systems aim to increase use of well-child and primary care in physicians' offices while decreasing use of specialists and emergency departments. (AHRQ 09-0020)

Infectious Disease Hospitalizations Among Infants in the United States. K. Yorita, R. Holman, J. Sejvar, et al., *Pediatrics*, 121:February 2008, 244-252. Describes the burden and epidemiologic features of infectious disease hospitalizations among infants younger than 1 year in the United States. (AHRQ 08-R049)

Long-Term Followup After Diagnosis Resulting from Newborn Screening: Statement of the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services' Advisory Committee on Heritable Disorders and Genetic Diseases in Newborns and Children. A. Kemper, C. Boyle, J. Aceves, et al., *Genetics in Medicine*, 10(4):April 2008, 259-261. Identifies key features of followup and describes the four components central to achieving long-term followup of children identified through newborn screening as having heritable disorders. (AHRQ 09-R006)

Management Tools for Medicaid and State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP). W. Welch, B. Rudolph, L. Blewett, et al., *Journal of Ambulatory Care Management*, 29(4): October-December 2006, 272-282. Describes the state of the art in analytic tools to manage

Medicaid and the State Children's Health Insurance Program. (AHRQ 06-R081)

Max's Magical Delivery. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and Discovery Communications, September 2004. A DVD for kids and parents to help fight childhood obesity, sponsored by AHRQ, CDC, and Discovery Communications. (AHRQ 04-0088-DVD)

Measuring Children's Health Care Quality. L. Simpson, D. Dougherty, D. Krause, et al., *American Journal of Medical Quality*, 22(2):March/April 2007, 80-84. Examines the current status of activities to measure and improve child health care quality and to select priority areas for future work. Discusses the need for consensus development in children's health care quality, as well as increased public and private investment in activities to improve quality of care for children. (AHRQ 07-R051)

National Estimates of Antidepressant Medication Use Among U.S. Children, 1997-2002. B. Vitiello, S. Zuvekas, G. Norquist, *Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry*, 45(3):March 2006, 217-219. Analyzes data from the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey between 1996 and 2002 to determine whether pediatric use of antidepressants continued to rise at a national level during the period 1997-2002. (AHRQ 06-R037)

Necrotising Enterocolitis Hospitalisations Among Neonates in the United States. R. Holman, B. Stoll, A. Curns, et al., *Paediatric and Perinatal Epidemiology*, 20:2006, 498-506. Estimates the rate and epidemiology of necrotising enterocolitis—the most common cause of gastrointestinal surgical emergencies among newborns—among infants younger than 1 month hospitalized in the United States. (AHRQ 07-R027)

Not Your Father's PE: Obesity, Exercise, and the Role of Schools. J. Cawley, C. Meyerhoefer, D. Newhouse, *Education Next*, 4:Fall 2006, 61-66. Examines physical education (PE) requirements in schools and the contribution of PE to weight loss and the risk of obesity, as well as what happens when States require students to spend more time in the school gym or on the athletic fields. (AHRQ 07-R020)

Prior Health Care Experiences of Adolescents Who Enroll in SCHIP. J. Klein, E. Shenkman, C. Brach, et al., *Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved*, 17(4):November 2006, 789-807. Presents the results of a survey of new adolescent enrollees in the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) in New York and Florida. Participants provided information about their health status, health care use, access, and unmet needs prior to SCHIP enrollment. (AHRQ 07-R032)

Recent Trends in Stimulant Medication Use Among U.S. Children. S. Zuvekas, B. Vitiello, G. Norquist, *American Journal of Psychiatry*, 163(4):April 2006, 579-585. Compares trends in stimulant use among U.S. children during the periods 1987-1996 and 1997-2002. (AHRQ 06-R063)

Rural Areas and Children's Health Care Coverage, Use, Expenditures, and Quality: Policy Implications. D. Dougherty, L. Simpson, M. McCormick, *Ambulatory Pediatrics*, 6(5):September-October 2006, 265-267. Discusses the specific challenges rural children may face in receiving health care and suggests opportunities for policy development to promote improvements in the care of children in rural areas of this country. (AHRQ 06-R080)

SCHIP Enrollees with Special Health Care Needs and Access to Care. K. VanLandeghem, J. Boney, C. Brach, et al., *CHIRI Issue Brief No. 5*, July 2006, 6 pp. Summarizes case studies of five States with a separate State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) to determine whether children with special health care needs experienced problems in accessing health care services in SCHIP programs with limits and/or exclusions in coverage design. (AHRQ 06-0051)

Smoking in the Home and Children's Health. S. Hill, L. Liang, *Tobacco Control*, 17:February 2008, 32-37. Estimates for young children the annual excess health service use, expenditures, and disability bed days for respiratory conditions associated with exposure to

smoking in the home in the United States. (AHRQ 08-R050)

Trends in Intussusception Hospitalizations Among U.S. Infants, 1993-2004: Implications for Monitoring the Safety of the New Rotavirus Vaccination Program. J. Tate, L. Simonsen, C. Viboud, et al., *Pediatrics*, 121(5):May 2008, e1125-e1132. Assesses intussusception hospitalization trends among U.S. infants for 1993-2004, provides estimates of hospitalization rates for intussusception for 2002-2004, and assesses variations in background rates by age, race/ethnicity, and surgical management. (AHRQ 08-R071)

Who Enrolls in Oregon's Premium Assistance Program and How Do They Fare? K. VanLandeghem, C. Brach, J. Bonney, et al., *CHIRI™ Issue Brief No. 6*, February 2007, 6 pp. Compares characteristics and health care experiences of enrollees in two Oregon programs that provide health care for low-income children—the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) and the Family Health Insurance Assistance Program (FHIAP), Oregon's premium assistance program. (AHRQ 07-0022)

Clinical Practice Guidelines

A Clinical Practice Guideline for Treating Tobacco Use and Dependence: 2008 Update. M. Fiore, C. Jaen, T. Baker, et al., *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*, 35(2):August 2008, online. Summarizes the 2008 update of the U.S. Public Health

Service guideline for treating tobacco use and dependence and provides an evidence-based blueprint for clinicians and health care systems to use in treating this chronic disease. (AHRQ 09-R003)

Guidelines for Guidelines: We've Come a Long Way.

C. Clancy, J. Slutsky, *Chest*, 132:September 2007, 746-747. Discusses the process of clinical practice guideline development and the role of guidelines in evidence-based clinical decisionmaking. (AHRQ 08-R042)

Immigrants and the Use of Preventive Care in the United States.

Y. Pylypchuk, J. Hudson, *Health Economics*, 2008, online. Compares immigrants' use of preventive care with that of native born Americans, accounting for insurance, lack of insurance,

length of time in the United States, and language spoken. (AHRQ 09-R025)

National Guideline Clearinghouse (NGC).

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, August 2004. CD-ROM tutorial provides information on accessing and using the NGC, a publicly available database of evidence-based clinical practice guidelines and related documents. (AHRQ 04-M041-CD)

Cardiac Rehabilitation

Agency for Health Care Policy and Research, October 1995. A series of booklets discusses a comprehensive approach to cardiac rehabilitation that includes exercise training to improve exercise tolerance and stamina; and education, counseling, and behavioral

interventions to assist patients in achieving and maintaining optimal health.

Cardiac Rehabilitation as Secondary Prevention. Quick Reference Guide for Clinicians.

24 pp. (AHCPR 96-0673)

Cardiac Rehabilitation.

Clinical Practice Guideline Number 17. 202 pp. (AHCPR 96-0672)

Recovering from Heart Problems Through Cardiac Rehabilitation. Patient Guide.

13 pp. (AHCPR 96-0674) **Spanish language booklet** (AHCPR 96-0675)

Pressure Ulcer Treatment

Agency for Health Care Policy and Research, December 1994. A series of booklets offers a comprehensive program for treating adults with pressure

Treating Tobacco Use and Dependence

Clinical Practice Guideline: 2008 Update.

Public Health Service, May 2008. Contains strategies and recommendations to assist clinicians; tobacco dependence treatment specialists; and health care administrators, insurers, and purchasers in delivering and supporting effective cessation treatments for tobacco use and dependence. Reveals considerable progress in tobacco research since the 2000 release. (AHRQ 08-0050-1)

Quick-Reference Guide for Clinicians. Revised April 2009. Summarizes the guideline strategies and recommendations for providing appropriate treatment for tobacco dependence. (AHRQ 08(09)-0050-6)

Help for Smokers and Other Tobacco Users, Consumer Guide. Revised May 2008. Tobacco cessation guide that contains easy-to-read educational and motivational messages to help people quit smoking. (AHRQ 08-0050-2A; AHRQ 08-0050-2B, Spanish)

Helping Smokers Quit: A Guide for Clinicians.

Revised May 2008. Compact, pocket-sized guide that provides an easily accessible reference for clinicians in the practice setting. (AHRQ 08-0050-3)

Quitting Helps You Heal Faster, Hospital Card.

Card offers tips to help hospital patients quit smoking. (English/Spanish, AHRQ 03-0044)

You Can Quit Smoking, Pocket Card.

Presents key steps to quit smoking. (AHRQ 02-0047, AHRQ 03-0006, Spanish)

You Can Quit Smoking: Support and Advice from Your Clinician, Tearsheet pad.

Revised October 2008. A personalized quit plan for smokers. (AHRQ 08(09)-0092A, AHRQ 08(09)-0092B, Spanish)

You Can Quit Smoking: Support and Advice from Your Prenatal Care Provider, Tearsheet Pad.

Revised October 2008. Support and advice on quitting for pregnant women who smoke. (AHRQ 08(09)-0091-A, AHRQ 08(09)-0091-B, Spanish)



ulcers, with a focus on patient assessment, tissue load management, ulcer care, management of bacterial colonization and infection, operative repair in selected patients, and education and quality improvement. The guides for clinicians and consumers also include information on assessing the patient's nutritional status and selecting irrigation devices, cleansing solutions, and support surfaces.

Pressure Ulcer Treatment. Quick Reference Guide for Clinicians. 27 pp. (AHCPR 95-0653)

Treating Pressure Sores. Consumer Guide. 25 pp. (AHCPR 95-0654) **Spanish language booklet** (AHCPR 95-0655)

Treatment of Pressure Ulcers. Clinical Practice Guideline Number 15. 154 pp. (AHCPR 95-0652)

Pressure Ulcers in Adults

Agency for Health Care Policy and Research, May 1992. A series of booklets describes pressure ulcers, sites, risk of formation, prevention, and care.

Pressure Ulcers in Adults: Prediction and Prevention. Clinical Practice Guideline Number 3. 63 pp. (AHCPR 92-0047)

Pressure Ulcers in Adults: Prediction and Prevention. Quick Reference Guide for Clinicians. 15 pp. (AHCPR 92-0050)

Preventing Pressure Ulcers. A Patient's Guide. 11 pp. (AHCPR 92-0048) **Spanish language booklet** (AHCPR 93-0014)

Clinical Preventive Services

Employer Coverage of Clinical Preventive Services in the United States (from Evidence-Based Practice to Practice-Based Evidence). M. Bondi, J. Harris, D. Atkins, et al., *American Journal of Health Promotion*, 20(3): January/February 2006, 214-222. Reports on a national survey of employers and provides current data on clinical preventive services coverage by health plan type and employer size. Also compares preventive service rankings with coverage data to explore whether coverage appropriately reflects the potential impact and value of different clinical preventive services. (AHRQ 06-R032)

Immigrants and the Use of Preventive Care in the United States. Y. Pylypchuk, J. Hudson, *Health Economics*, 2008, online. Compares immigrants' use of preventive care with that of native born Americans, accounting for insurance, lack of insurance, length of time in the United States, and language spoken. (AHRQ 09-R025)

Screening for Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease Using Spirometry: Summary of the Evidence for the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force. K. Lin, B. Watkins, T. Johnson, et al., *Annals of Internal Medicine*, 148(7):April 2008, 535-543. Summarizes the evidence for the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force on using spirometry to screen for COPD, the fourth leading cause of death in the United States. (AHRQ 08-R058)

USPSTF Recommendations for STI Screening. D. Meyers, T. Wolff, K. Gregory, et al., *American Family Physician*, 77(6):March 15, 2008, 819-824. Provides an overview of the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force recommendation statements issued since 2000 on screening for sexually transmitted infections. (AHRQ 08-R056)

Prevention Dissemination and Implementation (Put Prevention Into Practice)

Put Prevention Into Practice is an AHRQ program to improve the delivery of appropriate clinical preventive services with tools and resources to support health care organizations and engage the entire health care delivery system.

Electronic Preventive Services Selector (ePSS)

The Electronic Preventive Services Selector (ePSS) is a quick hands-on tool to help primary care clinicians identify the screening, counseling, and preventive medication services that are appropriate for their patients. The ePSS is available both as a PDA application and a Web-based tool. It is based on current recommendations of the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force and can be searched by specific patient characteristics, such as age, sex, and selected behavioral risk factors.

Available at: www.epss.ahrq.gov.

Checklists for Consumers

Men: Stay Healthy at Any Age. Your Checklist for Health.

December 2006. Explains the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force's recommendations for ensuring men's health and preventing disease in an eight-panel brochure. Describes 10 screening tests (when and how often they should be conducted); provides spaces for recording test dates; discusses preventive medicines; and offers tips for staying healthy. (AHRQ 07-IP006A; first 100 copies free; additional package of 25, \$2.50) **Spanish language brochure** (AHRQ 07-IP006-B)

Men: Stay Healthy at 50+—Checklists for Your Health. May 2008. Explains the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force's recommendations for ensuring health and preventing diseases in men aged 50 and over. Describes screening tests, including when and how often they should be conducted; provides spaces for recording test dates; discusses preventive medicines; and offers tips for staying healthy. (AHRQ 08-IP002-A; first 100 copies free; additional package of 25 copies, \$2.50) **Spanish language flyer** (AHRQ 08-IP002-B)

Women: Stay Healthy at Any Age. Your Checklist for Health.

December 2006. Explains the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force's recommendations for ensuring women's health and preventing disease in an eight-panel brochure. Describes 12 screening tests (when and how often they should be conducted); provides spaces for recording test dates; discusses preventive medicines; and offers tips for staying healthy.

Staying Healthy – Getting High-Quality Health Care

Questions Are the Answer

Be Prepared for Medical Appointments: Build Your Question List. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, May 2007, three-fold brochure. Presents a list of potential questions to be asked during a medical appointment. Users can pick and choose from the list, which is divided into nine topic areas: medications, tests, diagnoses, treatment for an illness or condition, surgery, and considerations when choosing health insurance, a clinician, a hospital, or long-term care. (AHRQ 07-0039-A) **Spanish language booklet** (AHRQ 07-0039-B)

Do You Know the Right Questions to Ask? Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, February 2007, two-sided card. Presents a list of 10 simple questions to help consumers take a more active role in their own health care. English/Spanish (AHRQ 07-M014)

Questions Are the Answer. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, May 2007, poster. Presents the same 10 questions as the two-sided card, but in poster format with illustrations and a phone number to call for more information. (AHRQ 07-M031-A) **Spanish language poster** (AHRQ 07-M031-B)

Real Men Wear Gowns. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality and The Advertising Council, 2008, public service campaign and Web site. Aims to raise awareness among middle-aged men about the importance of preventive medical testing. Web site includes information on recommended ages for preventing testing and lists of appropriate tests; a quiz that assesses knowledge about preventive health care; tips for talking with the doctor; a glossary of health terms; and links to online resources for more information. Available at www.ahrq.gov/realmen.

Superheroes. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality and The Advertising Council, 2008, public service campaign and Web site. Encourages Latinos to be heroes for their families by getting the preventive health care they need. Spanish-language Web site features tips on ways to stay healthy and communicate with the doctor, recommendations on preventive testing, help in understanding prescriptions, a quiz, and a glossary of medical terms, as well as links to other resources for health information. Available at www.ahrq.gov/superheroes.

(AHRQ 07-IP005-A; first 100 copies free; additional package of 25, \$2.50) **Spanish language brochure** (AHRQ 07-IP005-B)

Women: Stay Healthy at 50+—Checklists for Your Health. May 2008. Explains the U.S. Preventive Services

Task Force's recommendations for ensuring health and preventing diseases in women aged 50 and over. Describes screening tests, including when and how often they should be conducted; provides spaces for recording test dates; discusses preventive medicines; and

offers tips for staying healthy. (AHRQ 08-IP001-A; first 100 copies free; additional package of 25 copies, \$2.50) **Spanish language flyer** (AHRQ 08-IP001-B)

Posters

Adult Preventive Care Timeline. June 2006. (APPIP 06-IP0001); (single copies free; \$2 each additional poster; first 25 copies free for organizations)

A Timeline for Staying Healthy at 50+. May 2008. Poster, 17x22 inches. (AHRQ 08-IP003-A; single copies free; \$2 each additional poster; first 25 copies free for organizations) **Spanish language poster** (AHRQ 08-IP003-B)

U.S. Preventive Services Task Force

The U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) is an independent panel of experts in primary care and prevention that systematically reviews the evidence of effectiveness and develops recommendations for clinical preventive services.

The Guide to Clinical Preventive Services 2008. September 2007, 249 pp. Pocket-sized guide is a compilation of abridged USPSTF recommendations released from 2001 to March 2008 that can be used as an evidence-based tool at the point of patient care. (AHRQ 08-05122; single copies free)

For more information about the Task Force, including links to online publications and other resources, go to www.ahrq.gov/clinic/prevenix.htm

Consumer Information and Education

Crossing the Language Chasm. C. Brach, I. Fraser, K. Paez, *Health Affairs*, 24(2): 2005, 424-434. Reviews the evidence on the link between linguistic competence and health care quality and the impact of particular language-assistance strategies. (AHRQ 05-R038)

Guide to Health Care Quality. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, September 2005, 16 pp. Provides tips to help consumers be active in making decisions about health care. Also discusses other tools for assessing health care quality, including report cards, consumer ratings, and accreditation reports. (AHRQ 05-0088)

Having Surgery? What You Need to Know. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, October 2005, 12 pp. Helps patients and their families understand more about non-emergency surgery, and whether it has to be done right away, or can be done later. Encourages patients to ask questions. (AHRQ 05(06)-0074-A) **Spanish language booklet** (AHRQ 05(06)-0074-B)

Next Steps After Your Diagnosis: Finding Information and Support. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, July 2005, 22 pp. Helps patients who have been diagnosed with an illness find information and resources, and deal with the physical and emotional aspects

of their diagnosis. (AHRQ 05-0049) **Spanish language booklet** (AHRQ 06-0003)

Next Steps After Your Diagnosis: Ten Important Questions to Ask Your Doctor After a Diagnosis. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, August 2005. Pocket-sized card accompanies booklet. (AHRQ 05-0049-1) **Spanish language card** (AHRQ 06-0003-1)

Questions and Answers About Health Insurance: A Consumer Guide. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, August 2007, 30 pp. Uses a question and answer format to describe the different kinds of health insurance plans currently available. Includes a glossary of health insurance terms and a list of resources for more information. (AHRQ 07-0043) **Spanish language booklet** (07(08)-0043-1)

Surgery Choices for Women with Early-Stage Breast Cancer. National Cancer Institute and Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, August 2004, 24 pp. Provides information to help women with early-stage breast cancer choose which type of breast surgery to have. (PHS 04-M053) **Spanish language booklet** (AHRQ 05-0031) **Bilingual bookmark**, October 2005 (AHRQ 05(06)-M058)

What You Need to Know About Episiotomy. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, December 2005, two-sided card. Discusses the need to talk to your doctor before delivery about whether to have an episiotomy during child birth. (AHRQ 06-0005)

Your Guide to Coumadin®/Warfarin Therapy. Agency for Healthcare Research and

Quality, August 2008, 16 pp. Discusses ways for patients to care for themselves while taking Coumadin® (generic name warfarin), a blood-thinning medication. Includes information on who should and should not take the medication, how to take it, necessary blood tests, possible side effects, use of other medications, and more. (AHRQ 08-0028-A) **Spanish language booklet** (AHRQ 08-0028-B)

Your Guide to Preventing and Treating Blood Clots. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, August 2008, 12 pp. A consumer guide on preventing and treating blood clots, including causes, symptoms, treatment options, and side effects of blood thinners. (AHRQ 08-0058-A) **Spanish language booklet** (08-0058-B)

Your Medicine: Play It Safe. The National Council on Patient Information and Education and Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, February 2003, 12 pp. Instructs patients about how to partner with health care professionals to ensure they take the right medicines correctly. Explains four ways to “play it safe;” and provides a tear-off, wallet-size form for recording medicines and supplements, and emergency contact and other medical information. (AHRQ 03-0019; up to 10 copies free) **Spanish language booklet** (AHRQ 03-0028) Includes insert on **Women and Medicines: What You Need to Know**, April 2005, English/Spanish (AHRQ 03(05)-0019-A)

See pp. 4-6 for other materials for consumers.

Data Development and Use

Disparities Between Two Common Data Sources on Hospital Nurse Staffing. H. Jiang, C. Stocks, C. Wong, *Journal of Nursing Scholarship*, 38(2):Second Quarter 2006, 187-193. Compares nurse staffing data based on the American Hospital Association Annual Survey of Hospitals with those derived from the hospitals’ annual financial reports sponsored by California Office for Statewide Health Planning and development. (AHRQ 06-R055)

Potential Benefits and Problems with Computerized Prescriber Order Entry: Analysis of a Voluntary Medication Error-Reporting Database. C. Zhan, R. Hicks, C. Blanchette, *American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy*, 63:February 15,

2006, 353-358. Assesses the potential benefits and problems associated with computerized prescriber order entry using a voluntary medication error-reporting system, Medmarx, sponsored by the U.S. Pharmacopeia. Explores the potential value and proper use of voluntary error reporting in patient safety research. (AHRQ 06-R056)

Resource Guide to AHRQ Child and Youth Health and Health Care Services Data. Agency for Health Care Research and Quality, February 2008, 106 pp. Provides summary information and guidance on accessing and using the child health data sets and measurement tools available through AHRQ, including the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey, the Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project, and the Consumer Assessment of Health Providers and Systems Benchmarking Database. (AHRQ 07(08)-0088). **CD-ROM** (AHRQ 07(08)-0088-1)



MEPSnet. This interactive on-line service presents data from the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey (MEPS). MEPSnet

(http://www.meps.ahrq.gov/mepsweb/data_stats/meps_query.jsp) gives easy access to statistics on insurance coverage and health care use, expenses, and sources of payment for the U.S. noninstitutionalized population using household-reported data. MEPSnet also provides access to national statistics and trends on job-related health insurance using establishment-reported data.

Statistical Briefs. MEPS statistical briefs provide easy-to-read, concise graphical summaries of MEPS data. They can be downloaded from the MEPS Web site at http://www.meps.ahrq.gov/mepsweb/data_stats/publications.jsp.

Dental Health

Coping with Toothache Pain: A Qualitative Study of Low-Income Persons and Minorities. L. Cohen, S. Harris, A. Bonito, et al., *Journal of Public Health Dentistry*, 67(1):Winter 2007, 28-35. Examines the behavioral impact of toothache pain as well as self-care strategies for pain relief among minority and low-income individuals. (AHRQ 07-R072)

The Dental Care of U.S. Children: Access, Use, and Referrals by Nondentist Providers, 2003. M. Chu, L. Sweis, A. Guay, et al., *Journal of the American Dental Association*, 138(10):October 2007, 1324-1331. Examines the role of nondentist practitioners in referring child patients for dental care by analyzing data from the 2003 Medical Expenditure Panel Survey. (AHRQ 08-R036)

Dental Care Use: Does Dental Insurance Truly Make a Difference in the U.S. R. Manski, P. Cooper, *Community Dental Health*, 24:December 2007, 205-212. Uses Medical Expenditure Panel Survey data to isolate the independent effect of health insurance on the likelihood of a dental visit. (AHRQ 08-R076)

Dental Use, Expenses, Dental Coverage, and Changes, 1996 and 2004. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, *MEPS Chartbook No. 17*, October 2007, 136 pp. Presents data from the 1996 and 2004 Medical Expenditure Panel Survey on dental use and dental coverage for the U.S. community population. (AHRQ 08-0002)

The Supply of Dentists and Access to Care in Rural Kansas. R. Andrew, R. Manski, *Journal of Rural Health*, 23(3):Summer 2007, 198-206. Examines the relationships between rural residence, dental supply, and access to dental care. Discusses the use of a conceptual framework to examine observed variations in access to and use of dental care and oral health in rural versus nonrural areas. (AHRQ 07-R073)

Vision and Oral Health Needs of Individuals with Intellectual Disability. P. Owens, B. Kerker, E. Zigler, et al., *Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities Research Reviews*, 12:2006, 28-40. Explores what is known about the prevalence of vision problems and oral health conditions among individuals with intellectual disability, presents a rationale for the increased prevalence of these conditions in the context of service utilization, and examines the limitations of the available research. (AHRQ 06-R035)

Visits to Non-Dentist Health Care Providers for Dental Problems. L. Cohen, R. Manski, *Health Services Research*, 38(8):September 2006, 556-564. Using data from the Household Component of the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey, examines the role that non-dentist health care providers play in providing access to oral health care services. (AHRQ 07-R007)

Effective Health Care

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality's Effective Health Care Program: Creating a Dynamic System for Discovering and Reporting What Works in Health Care. J. Slutsky, C. Clancy, *American Journal of Medical Quality*, 20(6):November/December 2005, 358-360. Discusses AHRQ's Effective Health Care Program, created by Congress to develop evidence about the effectiveness and comparative effectiveness of different treatments and clinical approaches to significant health problems and to communicate findings to a wide variety of audiences, including consumers. (AHRQ 06-R022)

The Challenge of Comparative Effectiveness: Getting the Right Information to the Right People at the Right Time. M. Coopey, M. James, W. Lawrence, C. Clancy, *Journal of Nursing Care Quality*, 23(1):January/March 2008, 1-5. Discusses the meaning of effectiveness in health care and describes how prior investments in outcomes research were used as a foundation for AHRQ's Effective Health Care program. (AHRQ 08-R031)

Effective Health Care Program Booklet. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, January 2006. Booklet discusses the Effective Health Care Program, which focus on a core set of priority health conditions. Describes the process of synthesizing, generating, and translating knowledge on the selected topics. (AHRQ 06-EHC002)

Effective Health Care Program Kit. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, June 2006 (updated monthly). Includes fact sheets, background information, and report summaries from the Effective Health Care Program. (AHRQ 06-EHC004)

Infrastructure to Monitor Utilization and Outcomes of Gene-Based Applications: An Assessment. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, May 2008, 90 pp. Presents the results of an assessment of existing databases in the U.S. health care system for monitoring the use and outcomes of gene-based applications, including tests and related interventions. Offers recommendations for establishing practical systems to assess use and outcomes of gene-based therapies. (AHRQ 08-EHC012)

A Progress Report on AHRQ's Effective Health Care Program: Commentary. C. Clancy, J. Slutsky, *Health Services Research*, 42(5):October 2007, xi-xix. Provides an update on the progress of AHRQ's Effective Health Care Program, describes the interest that the program has garnered recently, and discusses some observations about the program since its inception in 2003. (AHRQ 08-R006)

User's Guide to Registries Evaluating Patient Outcomes. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, April 2007, 219 pp. Serves as a guide to the design, implementation, analysis, interpretation, and evaluation of the quality of a registry for understanding patient outcomes. **Report** (AHRQ 07-EHC001-1) **Summary** (AHRQ 07-EHC001-2)

Clinician and Patient Guides

ACEIs or ARBs for Adults with Hypertension: Clinician's Guide. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, October 2007, 2 pp. Summarizes evidence comparing the effectiveness and safety of angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors and angiotensin II receptor antagonists when used by adults with essential hypertension. (AHRQ 08-EHC003-3)

Antidepressant Medicines: A Guide for Adults with Depression. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, August 2007, 9 pp. Booklet provides information to help adult patients work with their doctors to choose medicines for depression. Describes the various medications used to treat adults with depression, possible side effects, and cost of the drugs. (AHRQ 07(08)-EHC007-2A)

Choosing Antidepressants for Adults: Clinician's Guide. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, August 2007, 4 pp. Summarizes clinical research comparing the effectiveness and safety of commonly used antidepressants for adults with major depression. (AHRQ 07-EHC007-3)

Choosing Medications for Adults with Rheumatoid Arthritis: Clinician's Guide. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, April 2008, 4 pp. Summarizes evidence comparing the effectiveness and safety of disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs and

corticosteroids used for rheumatoid arthritis. (AHRQ 08-EHC004-3)

Choosing Non-Opioid Analgesics for Osteoarthritis: Clinician's Guide. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, revised March 2009, 4 pp. Summarizes clinical evidence on the effectiveness and safety of non-opioid analgesics for osteoarthritis based on a systematic review of 351 research publications. (AHRQ 06(07)-EHC009-3)

Choosing Pain Medicine for Osteoarthritis: A Guide for Consumers. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, January 2007, 9 pp. Booklet describes the different kinds of pain relievers that are available to treat osteoarthritis and presents information about the trade-offs between pain relief, potential side-effects, and medication cost. (AHRQ 06(07)-EHC009-2A) **Spanish language booklet** (AHRQ 06(08)-EHC009-2B)

Comparing Oral Medications for Adults with Type 2 Diabetes: Clinician's Guide. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, December 2007, 4 pp. Summarizes evidence from both observational studies and controlled trials that compared the effectiveness and safety of oral hypoglycemic medications. (AHRQ 07(08)-EHC010-3)

Comparing Two Kinds of Blood Pressure Pills: ACEIs and ARBs: A Guide for Adults. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, October 2007, 6 pp. Booklet describes two kinds of pills used to treat high blood pressure, ACE inhibitors (ACEIs) and ARBs and presents information to

help patients talk about these drugs with their doctors. (AHRQ 08-EHC003-2A)

Fracture Prevention Treatments for Postmenopausal Women with Osteoporosis: Clinician's Guide. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, June 2008, 4 pp. Summarizes the effectiveness and safety of various treatments for preventing fractures among postmenopausal women with osteoporosis, including bisphosphonates, selective estrogen receptor modulators (SERMs), hormonal medications, calcium, and vitamin D. (AHRQ 08-EHC008-3)

Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease (GERD). Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, December 2005, 1 p. Provides information for patients who have more severe GERD and are being treated by a doctor or other health care provider. (AHRQ 06-EHC003-A). **Spanish language booklet** (AHRQ 06-EHC003-B)

Management of Atherosclerotic Renal Artery Stenosis: Clinician's Guide. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, March 2007, 2-sided sheet. Summarizes clinical evidence from 56 studies on the effectiveness and safety of angioplasty and medical therapy for treating atherosclerotic renal artery stenosis. (AHRQ 07-EHC004-3)

Osteoporosis Treatments that Help Prevent Broken Bones: A Guide for Women After Menopause. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, June 2008, 13 pp. Booklet presents information about different kinds of

treatments for preventing broken bones due to osteoporosis, including how well the treatments work and the side effects and costs of medications. (AHRQ 08-EHC008-2A)

Pills for Type 2 Diabetes: A Guide for Adults. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, December 2007, 13 pp. Booklet describes the various medications used to treat type 2 diabetes—including how they work, possible side effects, and cost—and presents information to help patients talk about these drugs with their doctors. (AHRQ 07(08)-EHC010-2A). **Spanish language booklet** (AHRQ 07(08)-EHC010-2B)

Renal Artery Stenosis Treatments: A Guide for Consumers. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, June 2007, 8 pp. Provides information to assist patients in talking with their clinicians about treatments for renal artery stenosis and discusses problems that may be caused by the condition. (AHRQ 07-EHC004-2A)

Rheumatoid Arthritis Medicines: A Guide for Adults. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, April 2008, 9 pp. Booklet presents information to help patients work with their doctors or nurses to find a medicine for rheumatoid arthritis that is right for them. Explains the benefits, risks, and costs of RA drugs. (AHRQ 08-EHC004-2A)

Treating Prostate Cancer: A Guide for Men with Localized Prostate Cancer. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, July 2008, 6 pp. Presents information to help men with

localized prostate cancer work with their doctors to choose among four common prostate cancer treatments—watchful waiting, prostate surgery, radiation, and hormone treatment—and provides information about the side effects associated with each treatment. (AHRQ 08-EHC010-2A)

Treatments for Clinically Localized Prostate Cancer: Clinician's Guide. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, July 2008, 4 pp. Summarizes clinical evidence comparing the effectiveness and safety of treatments for clinically localized prostate cancer, including expectant management and three active treatments (radical prostatectomy, radiation therapy, and hormonal therapy). (AHRQ 08-EHC010-3)

Comparative Effectiveness Reviews

Comparative Effectiveness and Safety of Analgesics for Osteoarthritis. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, *Executive Summary No. 4*, September 2006, 12 pp.

Comparative Effectiveness Reviews.

These final reports are systematic appraisals of existing scientific evidence regarding treatments for high-priority health conditions. They identify gaps in existing scientific evidence and support new research. The full reports and summaries are available at www.effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/reports/final.cfm.

Summarizes the available evidence comparing the benefits and harms of analgesics in the treatment of osteoarthritis. (AHRQ 06-EHC009-1)

Comparative Effectiveness and Safety of Oral Diabetes Medications for Adults with Type 2 Diabetes. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, *Executive Summary No. 8*, July 2007, 16 pp. Summarizes the available evidence on the safety and effectiveness of oral diabetes medications used by adults with type 2 diabetes. (AHRQ 07-EHC010-1)

Comparative Effectiveness of Angiotensin-Converting Enzyme Inhibitors (ACEIs) and Angiotensin II Receptor Antagonists (ARBs) for Treating Essential Hypertension. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, *Executive Summary No. 10*, November 2007, 5 pp. Summarizes the evidence on the comparative long-term benefits and harms of ACEIs vs. ARBs, focusing on their use for treating essential hypertension in adults. (AHRQ 08-EHC003-1)

Comparative Effectiveness of Drug Therapy for Rheumatoid Arthritis and Psoriatic Arthritis in Adults. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, *Executive Summary No. 11*, November 2007, 11 pp. Summarizes the evidence on the comparative efficacy, effectiveness, and harms of corticosteroids and synthetic and biologic disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs in the treatment of patients with rheumatoid arthritis or psoriatic arthritis. (AHRQ 08-EHC004-1)

Comparative Effectiveness of Epoetin and Darbepoetin for Managing Anemia in Patients Undergoing Cancer Treatment. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, *Executive Summary No. 3*, May 2006. Focuses on use of epoetin and darbepoetin to manage anemia in patients undergoing cancer treatment with chemotherapy and/or radiation. (AHRQ 06-EHC008-1)

Comparative Effectiveness of Management Strategies for Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, *Executive Summary No. 1*, December 2005, 6 pp. Examines alternatives for managing the chronic symptoms of uncomplicated gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD) in patients who may require long-term treatment. (AHRQ 06-EHC003-1)

Comparative Effectiveness of Management Strategies for Renal Artery Stenosis. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, *Executive Summary No. 5*, October 2006, 12 pp. Summarizes the evidence evaluating the effect and safety of angioplasty with stent placements and medical therapies in the treatment of atherosclerotic renal artery stenosis, particularly after long-term followup. (AHRQ 06-EHC004-1).

Comparative Effectiveness of Management Strategies for Renal Artery Stenosis: 2007 Update. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, *Executive Summary No. 5, Update*, November 2007. Evaluates the same questions, using the same eligibility criteria, as the previous review to update the

literature search through April 23, 2007. (AHRQ 07(08)-EHC004-1U).

Comparative Effectiveness of Percutaneous Coronary Interventions and Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting for Coronary Artery Disease. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, *Executive Summary No. 9*, October 2007, 16 pp. Evaluates the evidence for the comparative effectiveness of percutaneous coronary interventions and coronary artery bypass graft surgery in patients with certain types of coronary artery disease. (AHRQ 08-EHC002-1)

Comparative Effectiveness of Second-Generation Antidepressants in the Pharmacologic Treatment of Adult Depression. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, *Executive Summary No. 7*, January 2007, 16 pp. summarizes the available evidence on the comparative efficacy, effectiveness, and harms of 12 second-generation antidepressants in treating adult patients with depression. (AHRQ 07-EHC007-1)

Comparative Effectiveness of Therapies for Clinically Localized Prostate Cancer. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, *Executive Summary No. 13*, February 2008, 20 pp. Summarizes the evidence comparing the benefits and harms of treatments for clinically localized prostate cancer, including watchful waiting, surgery to remove the prostate gland, external beam radiotherapy, interstitial radiotherapy, freezing the prostate, and androgen deprivation therapy. (AHRQ 08-EHC010-1)

Comparative Effectiveness of Treatments to Prevent Fractures in Men and Women with Low Bone Density or Osteoporosis. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, *Executive Summary No. 12*, December 2007, 6 pp. Summarizes the available evidence comparing the efficacy and safety of agents used to prevent or treat low bone density, including osteoporosis. (AHRQ 08-EHC008-1)

Comparative Effectiveness, Safety, and Indicators of Insulin Analogues in Premixed Formulations for Adults with Type 2 Diabetes. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, *Executive Summary No. 14*, September 2008, 13 pp. Summarizes the available evidence on the comparative effectiveness and safety of all premixed insulin analogues that are approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and available in the United States. (AHRQ 08-EHC017-1)

Effectiveness of Noninvasive Diagnostic Tests for Breast Abnormalities. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, *Executive Summary No. 2*, February 2006. Summarizes available data on the performance of noninvasive diagnostic tests in the evaluation of women presenting with breast abnormalities that suggest the possibility of breast cancer. (AHRQ 06-EHC005-1)

Efficacy and Comparative Effectiveness of Off-Label Use of Atypical Antipsychotics. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, *Executive Summary No. 6*, January 2007, 8 pp.

Reviews the scientific evidence on the safety and effectiveness of atypical antipsychotics for the following conditions: dementia and severe geriatric agitation, depression, obsessive-compulsive disorder, posttraumatic stress disorder, and personality disorders, as well as the management of Tourette's syndrome and autism in children. (AHRQ 07-EHC003-1) **Summary for Clinicians and Policymakers**, July 2007, 4 pp. (AHRQ 07-EHC003-2)

Elderly/Long-Term Care

Computerized Physician Order Entry with Clinical Decision Support in Long-Term Care Facilities: Costs and Benefits to Stakeholders. S. Subramanian, S. Hoover, B. Gilman, et al., *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society* 55:2007, 1451-1457. Describes the costs and benefits of computerized physician order entry with clinical decision support for the various stakeholders involved in long-term care. These include nurses, physicians, the pharmacy, the laboratory, the payer, nursing home residents, and the long-term care facility. (AHRQ 08-R004)

Developing a Research Agenda for Assisted Living. R. Kane, K. Wilson, W. Spector, *Gerontologist*, 47(Special Issue III):2007, 141-154. Describes an approach to identifying knowledge gaps, research questions, and methodological issues for assisted living research. (AHRQ 08-R034)

The Development of a CAHPS® Instrument for Nursing Home Residents (NHCAHPS). J. Sangl, J. Buchanan, C. Cosenza, et al., *Journal of Aging & Social Policy*, 19(2):2007, 63-82. Describes the development and testing of a survey instrument to measure residents' experiences with quality of care and quality of life in nursing homes and discusses lessons learned during the process. (AHRQ 07-R064)

Do Trends in the Reporting of Quality Measures on the Nursing Home Compare Web Site Differ by Nursing Home Characteristics? J. Zinn, W. Spector, L. Hsieh, et al., *The Gerontologist*, 45(6):December 2005, 720-730. Examines the relationship between the first set of quality measures published by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services on the Nursing Home Compare Web site and five nursing home structural characteristics: ownership, chain affiliation, size, occupancy, and hospital-based versus freestanding status. (AHRQ 06-R019)

Effect on Health Outcomes of a Community-Based Medication Therapy Management Program for Seniors with Limited Incomes. S. Smith, D. Catellier, E. Conlisk, et al., *American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy*, 63:February 15, 2006, 372-376. Evaluates the effects of a novel, comprehensive, community-based program that integrates medication therapy management services by pharmacists with prescription drug assistance for seniors with limited incomes. (AHRQ 06-R036)

Home Health Care Agency Staffing Patterns Before and After the Balanced Budget Act of 1997, by Rural and Urban Location. W. McAuley, W. Spector, J. Van Nostrand, *Journal of Rural Health*, 24(1): Winter 2008, 12-23. Examines the staffing characteristics of stable Medicare-certified home health agencies across rural and urban counties from 1996-2002. (AHRQ 08-R059)

Illness Severity and Propensity to Travel Along the Urban-Rural Continuum. J. Basu, L. Mobley, *Health & Place*, Corrected Proof, Available online May 12, 2006. Examines whether the relationship between severity of illness and the propensity to travel greater distance relative to the norm is uniform across the urban-rural continuum of geography or over time. Focuses on the elderly in New York State who have been admitted to a hospital for ambulatory care sensitive conditions. (AHRQ 06-R077)

Nursing Homes' Response to the Nursing Home Compare Report Card. D. Mukamel, W. Spector, J. Zinn, et al., *Journal of Gerontology*, 62B(4):2007, S218-S225. Examines the initial reactions of nursing homes to publication of the Nursing Home Compare report card by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services and evaluates the impact of the report card on quality improvement activities. (AHRQ 07-R080)

OBRA 1987 and the Quality of Nursing Home Care. V. Kumar, E. Norton, W. Encinosa, *International Journal of Health Care Finance Economics*, 6:2006, 49-81. Presents a general theory of how government regulation of quality of care

may affect different market segments, particularly the nursing home market. (AHRQ 06-R069)

Observed Association Between Antidepressant Use and Pneumonia Risk Was Confounded by Comorbidity Measures. S. Hennessy, W. Bilker, C. Leonard, et al., *Journal of Clinical Epidemiology*, 60:2007, 911-918. Examines the association between antidepressant use by elderly individuals and their subsequent risk of hospitalization for pneumonia. (AHRQ 08-R011)

On-Time Quality Improvement for Long-Term Care. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality and the California Healthcare Foundation. The goal of this initiative is to turn daily documentation into useful information that enhances clinical care planning in long-term care facilities. A key objective is the reduction of in-house pressure ulcer rates. *Case Studies*, May 2007, 3 pp. Summarizes three case studies from this initiative: implementation of digital pen technology, importance of daily care documentation, and use of handheld computers. (AHRQ 07-0058-3)

Frequently Asked Questions, May 2007, 2 pp. Uses a question-and-answer format to describe the On-Time Quality Improvement for Long-Term Care initiative and how facilities can participate. (AHRQ 07-0058-2)

Pressure Ulcer Plan Is Working. S. Hudak, S. Sharkey, M. Engleman, et al., *Provider*, 34(5):May 2008, 34-39. Describes a new pressure ulcer reduction program—On-Time Quality Improvement for Long Term Care (On-Time)—

intended to close the gap between staff knowledge and practice. Discusses response of certified nurse assistants to the On-Time program and presents results of a preliminary evaluation showing improvements in pressure ulcer prevention. (AHRQ 08-R084)

Publication of Quality Report Cards and Trends in Reported Quality Measures in Nursing Homes. D. Mukamel, D. Weimer, W. Spector, et al., *Health Services Research*, 43(4):August 2008, 1244-1262. Uses survey data for 701 nursing homes to examine changes in outcome-based quality measures, comparing the periods before and after publication of the first Nursing Home Compare Web-based report card in November 2002. (AHRQ 09-R014)

Reducing Hospitalizations from Long-Term Care Settings. R. Konetzka, W. Spector, M. Limcangco, *Medical Care Research and Review*, 65(1):February 2008, 40-66. Reviews the evidence from 55 peer-reviewed articles on interventions that potentially reduce hospitalizations from formal long-term care settings. (AHRQ 08-R020)

Risk Factors Associated with the Occurrence of Fractures in U.S. Nursing Homes: Resident and Facility Characteristics and Prescription Medications. W. Spector, T. Shaffer, D. Potter, et al., *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society*, 55:2007, 327-333. Uses data from the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey to examine the effects of resident and facility characteristics and the use of certain prescribed medicines

on the occurrence of fractures among nursing home residents. (AHRQ 07-R047)

Stage 2 Pressure Ulcer Healing in Nursing Homes. N. Bergstrom, R. Smout, S. Horn, et al., *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society*, 56(7):July 2008, 1252-1258. Identifies resident and wound characteristics associated with Stage 2 pressure ulcer healing time in nursing home residents. (AHRQ 09-R001)

Strategic Orientation and Nursing Home Response to Public Reporting of Quality and Measures: An Application of the Miles and Snow Typology. J. Zinn, W. Spector, D. Weimer, et al., *Health Services Research*, 43(2):April 2008, 598-615. Examines whether differences in strategic orientation of nursing homes as identified by the Miles and Snow typology are associated with differences in their response to the publication of quality measures on the Nursing Home Compare Web site. (AHRQ 08-R070)

Evidence-Based Medicine

Closing the Quality Gap: Antibiotic Prescribing Behavior. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, *Technical Review 9*, January 2006, 158 pp. The fourth publication in this multi-volume series provides a critical analysis of quality improvement strategies to reduce inappropriate antibiotic prescribing, targeting both prescribing of antibiotics for non-bacterial illnesses and prescribing of broad-spectrum antibiotics when narrow-spectrum agents are indicated. (AHRQ 04(06)-0051-4)

Closing the Quality Gap: Asthma Care Strategies. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, *Technical Review 9*, January 2007, 199 pp. The fifth publication in this multi-volume series presents an evaluation of the evidence that quality improvement strategies can improve the processes and outcomes of outpatient care for children and adults with asthma. (AHRQ 04(07)-0051-5)

Closing the Quality Gap: Care Coordination. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, *Technical Review 9*, June 2007, 158 pp. The seventh publication in this multi-volume series defines care coordination interventions and discusses how they are influenced by factors in the health care setting and how

they relate to patient outcomes and health care costs. (AHRQ 04(07)-0051-7)

Closing the Quality Gap: Prevention of Healthcare-Associated Infections. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, *Technical Review 9*, January 2007, 107 pp. The sixth publication in this multi-volume series examines the effects of quality improvement strategies on promoting adherence to interventions for prevention of selected infections (surgical site infections, central-line associated bloodstream infections, ventilator-associated pneumonia, and catheter-associated urinary tract infections) and on the rates of such infections. (AHRQ 04(07)-0051-6)

Consumer-Oriented Strategies for Improving Health Benefit Design: An Overview. Agency for

Nutritional Research Series. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality and Office of Dietary Supplements. A series of technical reviews that explore the challenges involved in conducting nutrition-related reviews and integrating the reviews into nutrition applications.

Advancing the Role of Systematic Reviews in Nutrition Research and Applications, Volume 1. *Technical Review 17-1*, January 2009, 27 pp. Describes the steps for performing systematic reviews and highlights areas unique to the discipline of nutrition important to consider in data assessment. (AHRQ 09-0026-1)

Issues and Challenges in Conducting Systematic Reviews to Support Development of Nutrient Reference Values, Workshop Summary, Volume 2. *Technical Review 17-2*, January 2009, 45 pp. Using vitamin A as an example, discusses the utility of an unbiased systematic review of a defined question. (AHRQ 09-0026-2)

Reporting of Systematic Reviews of Micronutrients and Health: A Critical Appraisal, Volume 3. *Technical Review 17-3*. Discusses the reporting of nutrition variables and the importance of improved adherence to consensus methods and reporting standards. (AHRQ 09-0026-3)

Healthcare Research and Quality, *Technical Review 15*, July 2007, 47 pp. Discusses the likely effects of consumer-directed health plans, tiered networks, and expanded quality data collection and dissemination on the use and costs of health care. (AHRQ 07-0067)

Criteria for Distinguishing Effectiveness from Efficacy Trials in Systematic Reviews. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, *Technical Review 12*, April 2006, 19 pp. Proposes and tests seven hallmarks of study design to create a tool that can help researchers and those producing systematic reviews to distinguish more readily and more consistently between efficacy and effectiveness studies. (AHRQ 06-0046)

A Critical Analysis of Care Coordination Strategies for Children with Special Health Care Needs. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, *Technical Review 14*, June 2007, 35 pp. Examines the issue of care coordination for children with special health care needs, particularly those aspects of care coordination that are especially important to current practice and policy challenges. (AHRQ 07-0054)

Developing a Methodology for Establishing a Statement of Work for a Policy-Relevant Technical Analysis. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, *Technical Review 11*, January 2006, 35 pp. Describes a project initiated by the Duke Evidence-based Practice Center to contribute to the improvement of the evidence-based practice process, focusing on specific actions that could serve to improve process efficiency and stakeholder satisfaction. (AHRQ 06-0026)

Empirical Evaluation of the Association Between Methodological Shortcomings and Estimates of Adverse Events. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, *Technical Review 13*, October 2006, 31 pp. Assesses the association between perceived methodological shortcomings and estimates of serious complications from surgical and medical interventions. Compares estimates of harms from studies meeting eight pre-defined criteria designed to assess the quality of harms reporting to studies not meeting the criteria. (AHRQ 07-0003)

Evidence-Based Practice: AHRQ's Role in Generating and Disseminating Knowledge. M. Coopey, M. Nix, C. Clancy, *AORN Journal*, 86(5):November 2007, 857-860. Describes three of AHRQ's initiatives for promoting evidence-based practice—the Evidence-based Practice Centers program, the National Guideline Clearinghouse, and the National Quality Measures Clearinghouse—and discusses the role and contributions of nurses and nursing research in furthering evidence-based practice. (AHRQ 08-R023)

The Risk of Aprotinin: A Conflict of Evidence. A. Sedrakyan, D. Atkins, T. Treasure, *The Lancet*, 367:April 29, 2006, 1376-1377. Discusses the difference between evidence from the randomized trials and a multivariable-adjusted cohort study of use of aprotinin in high-risk patients. (AHRQ 06-R066)

Strategies to Support Quality-Based Purchasing: A Review of the Evidence. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, *Technical Review 10*, July 2004, 73 pp. Presents a conceptual model of how incentives influence provider behavior, summarizes results from randomized controlled trials about the effectiveness of quality-based purchasing strategies, describes ongoing research, and presents results of simulations to determine whether outcomes reports are suitable for use in making quality-based purchasing decisions. (AHRQ 04-0057) **Summary.** July 2004 (AHRQ 04-P024)

Translating Research Into Evidence-Based Nursing Practice and Evaluating Effectiveness. M. Coopey, M. Nix, C. Clancy, *Journal of Nursing Care Quality*, 21(3):July-September 2006, 195-202. Provides an overview of nursing-relevant components of AHRQ's efforts to improve patient care through translating research into evidence-based nursing practice and evaluating the effectiveness of the implementation in terms of patient outcomes and safety. (AHRQ 06-R061)

Updating Systematic Reviews. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, *Technical Review 16*, September 2007, 71 pp. Discusses the extent to which systematic reviews require updating and the signals that indicate the need to update a systematic review, particularly a review that is directly relevant to clinical practice. (AHRQ 07-0087)

Will It Work Here? A Decisionmakers Guide to Adopting Innovations. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, September 2008, 116 pp. Helps decisionmakers determine whether an innovation would be a good fit for their health care organizations. (AHRQ 08-0051)

Evidence Reports/Technology Assessments

Cancer and Blood Disorders

Adnexal Mass, Management. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 130.*
Evidence Report. January 2006 (AHRQ 06-E004)

Breast Cancer Care in Women, Measuring Quality. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 105.*
Summary. September 2004 (AHRQ 04-E030-1)
Evidence Report. October 2004 (AHRQ 04-E030-2)

Cancer Care Quality Measures, Colorectal Cancer. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 138.*
Evidence Report. May 2006 (AHRQ 06-E002)

Cancer Care Quality Measures, Symptoms and End-of-Life. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 137.*
Evidence Report. May 2006 (AHRQ 06-E001)

Cancer Clinical Trials, Recruitment of Underrepresented Populations. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 122.*
Summary. June 2005 (AHRQ 05-E019-1)
Evidence Report. June 2005 (AHRQ 05-E019-2)

Cancer Control Interventions, Diffusion and Dissemination. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 79.*
Summary. May 2003 (AHRQ 03-E032)
Evidence Report. May 2003 (AHRQ 03-E033)

Collection and Use of Cancer Family History in Primary Care. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 159.*
Evidence Report. October 2007 (AHRQ 08-E001)

Family History of Breast, Ovarian, Prostate, and Colorectal Cancers. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 179.*
Evidence Report. March 2009 (AHRQ 09-E007)

Hereditary Nonpolyposis Colorectal Cancer: Diagnostic Strategies and Their Implications. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 150.*
Evidence Report. May 2007 (AHRQ 07-E008)

HER2 Testing to Manage Patients with Breast Cancer or Other Solid Tumors. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 172.*
Evidence Report. November 2008 (AHRQ 09-E001)

Hydroxyurea Treatment of Sickle Cell Disease. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 165.*
Evidence Report. February 2008 (AHRQ 08-E007)

Impact of Gene Expression Profiling Tests on Breast Cancer Outcomes. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 160.*
Evidence Report. January 2008 (AHRQ 08-E002)

Ovarian Cancer, Genomic Tests for Detection and Management. *Evidence Reports/Technology Assessment No. 145.*
Evidence Report. October 2006 (AHRQ 07-E001)

Small Cell Lung Cancer, Management. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 143.*
Evidence Report. July 2006 (AHRQ 06-E016)

Complementary and Alternative Care

Complementary and Alternative Medicine in Back Pain Utilization Report. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 177.*
Evidence Report. February 2009 (AHRQ 09-E006)

Meditation Practices for Health. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 155.*
Evidence Report. June 2007 (AHRQ 07-E010)

Dietary Supplements

B Vitamins and Berries and Age-Related Neurodegenerative Disorders. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 134.*
Evidence Report. April 2006 (AHRQ 06-E008)

Effectiveness and Safety of Vitamin D in Relation to Bone Health. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 158.*
Evidence Report. (AHRQ 07-E013)

Multivitamin/Mineral Supplements, Chronic Disease Prevention. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 139.*

Evidence Report. May 2006 (AHRQ 06-E012)

Omega-3 Fatty Acids, Effects in Type II Diabetes, Rheumatoid Arthritis, and Other Diseases.

Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 89.

Summary. March 2004 (AHRQ 04-E012-1)

Evidence Report. March 2004 (AHRQ 04-E012-2)

Omega-3 Fatty Acids, Effects on Arrhythmogenic Mechanisms in Culture

Studies. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 92.*

Summary. March 2004 (AHRQ 04-E011-1)

Evidence Report. March 2004 (AHRQ 04-E011-2)

Omega-3 Fatty Acids, Effects on Asthma.

Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 91.

Summary. March 2004 (AHRQ 04-E013-1)

Evidence Report. March 2004 (AHRQ 04-E013-2)

Omega-3 Fatty Acids, Effects on Cancer.

Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 113.

Summary. February 2005 (AHRQ 05-E010-1)

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Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 94.

Summary. March 2004 (AHRQ 04-E009-1)

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Omega-3 Fatty Acids, Effects on Cardiovascular Risk

Factors. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 93.*

Summary. March 2004 (AHRQ 04-E010-1)

Evidence Report. March 2004 (AHRQ 04-E010-2)

Omega-3 Fatty Acids, Effects on Child and Maternal

Health. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 118.*

Summary. August 2005 (AHRQ 05-E025-1)

Evidence Report. August 2005 (AHRQ 05-E025-2)

Omega-3 Fatty Acids, Effects on Cognitive Function.

Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 114.

Summary. February 2005 (AHRQ 05-E011-1)

Evidence Report. February 2005 (AHRQ 05-E011-2)

Omega-3 Fatty Acids, Effects on Eye Health.

Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 117.

Summary. July 2005 (AHRQ 05-E008-1)

Evidence Report. February 2005 (AHRQ 05-E008-2)

Omega-3 Fatty Acids, Effects on Mental Health.

Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 116.

Summary. July 2005 (AHRQ 05-E022-1)

Evidence Report. July 2005 (AHRQ 05-E022-2)

Omega-3 Fatty Acids, Effects on Organ Transplantation.

Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 115.

Summary. February 2005 (AHRQ 05-E012-1)

Evidence Report. February 2005 (AHRQ 05-E012-2)

Soy, Effects on Health

Outcomes. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 126.*

Summary. July 2005 (AHRQ 05-E024-1)

Evidence Report. July 2005 (AHRQ 05-E024-2)

Ear, Nose, and Throat Conditions

Sinusitis, Acute Bacterial—Update.

Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 124.

Summary. June 2005 (AHRQ 05-E020-1)

Evidence Report. June 2005 (AHRQ 05-E020-2)

Heart and Vascular Diseases

Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm, Endovascular and Open

Surgical Repairs. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 144.*

Evidence Report. August 2006 (AHRQ 06-E017)

Carbohydrate and Lipid Disorders and Relevant

Considerations in Persons with Spinal Cord Injury.

Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 163.

Evidence Report. January 2008 (AHRQ 08-E005)

Cardiac Resynchronization Therapy and Implantable

Defibrillators in Left Ventricular Systolic

Dysfunction. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 152.*

Evidence Report. June 2007 (AHRQ 07-E009)

Heart Failure, Cardiac Resynchronization Therapy.

Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 106.

Summary. November 2004 (AHRQ 05-E001-1)

Evidence Report. November 2004 (AHRQ 05-E001-2)

Heart Failure Diagnosis and Prognosis, Testing for BNP

and NT-proBNP. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 142.*

Evidence Report. September 2006 (AHRQ 06-E014)

Post-Myocardial Infarction Depression. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 123.*
Summary. May 2005 (AHRQ 05-E018-1)
Evidence Report. May 2005 (AHRQ 05-E018-2)

Infectious Diseases

Antiretroviral Drug Resistance in the Developing World. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 156.*
Evidence Report. July 2007 (AHRQ 07-E014)

Management of Chronic Hepatitis B. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 174.*
Evidence Report. October 2008 (AHRQ 09-E002)

Information Technology

Barriers and Drivers of Health Information Technology Use for the Elderly, Chronically Ill, and Underserved. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 175.*
Evidence Report. November 2008 (AHRQ 09-E004)

Health Information Technology, Costs and Benefits. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 132.*
Evidence Report. April 2006 (AHRQ 06-E006)

Telemedicine for the Medicare Population—Update. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 131.*
Evidence Report. February 2006 (AHRQ 06-E007)

Kidney Conditions

Prevention of Fecal and Urinary Incontinence in Adults. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 161.*
Evidence Report. December 2007 (AHRQ 08-E003)

Utility of Monitoring Mycophenolic Acid in Solid Organ Transplant Patients. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 164.*
Evidence Report. February 2008 (AHRQ 08-E006)

Lung Conditions

Asthma, Work-Related, Diagnosis and Management. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 129.*
Summary. October 2005 (AHRQ 06-E003-1)
Evidence Report. November 2005 (AHRQ 06-E003-2)

Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease, Spirometry. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 121.*
Summary. August 2005 (AHRQ 05-E017-1)
Evidence Report. September 2005 (AHRQ 05-E017-2)

Mental Health Conditions and Substance Abuse

Depression, CYP450 Testing for Adults Treated with SSRIs. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 146.*
Evidence Report. January 2007 (AHRQ 07-E002)

Eating Disorders, Management. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 135.*
Evidence Report. April 2006 (AHRQ 06-E010)

Integration of Mental Health/Substance Abuse and Primary Care. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 173.*
Evidence Report. December 2008 (AHRQ 09-E003)

Tobacco Use, Prevention, Cessation, and Control. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 140.*
Evidence Report. June 2006 (AHRQ 06-E015)

Metabolic, Nutritional, and Endocrine Conditions

Diabetes Education for Children with Type 1 Diabetes Mellitus and Their Families. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 166.*
Evidence Report. April 2008 (AHRQ 08-E011)

Diabetes Mellitus, Islet Transplantation in Patients. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 98.*
Summary. July 2004 (AHRQ 04-E017-1)
Evidence Report. August 2004 (AHRQ 04-E017-2)

Diabetes Mellitus, Use of Glycated Hemoglobin and Microalbuminuria. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 84.*
Summary. July 2003 (AHRQ 03-E048)
Evidence Report. October 2003 (AHRQ 04-E001)

Effectiveness of Weight Management Programs in Children and Adolescents. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 170.*
Evidence Report. September 2008. (AHRQ 08-E014)

Impaired Glucose Tolerance and Fasting Glucose, Diagnosis, Prognosis, and Therapy. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 128.*

Summary. August 2005 (AHRQ 05-E026-1)
Evidence Report. September 2005 (AHRQ 05-E026-2)

Obesity, Pharmacological and Surgical Treatment. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 103.*

Summary. July 2004 (AHRQ 04-E028-1)
Evidence Report. July 2004 (AHRQ 04-E028-2)

Methodology

Community-Based Participatory Research. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 99.*

Summary. August 2004 (AHRQ 04-E022-1)
Evidence Report. July 2004 (AHRQ 04-E022-2)

Musculoskeletal Disorders

Chronic Fatigue Syndrome, Defining and Managing. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 42.*

Summary. May 2004 (AHRQ 01-E061)
Evidence Report. May 2004 (AHRQ 02-E001)

Disability and Chronic Fatigue Syndrome, Systematic Literature Review. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 66.*

Summary. December 2002 (AHRQ 03-E006)
Evidence Report. December 2002 (AHRQ 03-E007)

Treatment of Primary and Secondary Osteoarthritis of the Knee. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 157.*

Evidence Report. July 2007 (AHRQ 07-E012)

Nerve and Brain Conditions

Dementia, Pharmacological Treatment. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 97.*
Summary. April 2004 (AHRQ 04-E018-1)

Evidence Report. April 2004 (AHRQ 04-E018-2)

Insomnia, Manifestations and Management. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 125.*

Summary. June 2005 (AHRQ 05-E021-1)
Evidence Report. June 2005 (AHRQ 05-E021-2)

Parkinson's Disease, Diagnosis and Treatment. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 57.*

Summary. May 2003 (AHRQ 03-E039)
Evidence Report. May 2003 (AHRQ 03-E040)

Spinal Cord Injury, Sexuality and Reproductive Health. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 109.*

Summary. December 2004 (AHRQ 05-E003-1)
Evidence Report. November 2004 (AHRQ 05-E003-2)

Stroke, Evaluation and Treatment. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 127.*

Summary. July 2005 (AHRQ 05-E023-1)
Evidence Report. July 2005 (AHRQ 05-E023-2)

Obstetric and Gynecologic Conditions

Bariatric Surgery in Women of Reproductive Age: Special Concerns for Pregnancy. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 169.*

Evidence Report. September 2008 (AHRQ 08-E013)

Breastfeeding and Maternal and Infant Health Outcomes in Developed Countries.

Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 153.
Evidence Report. April 2007 (AHRQ 07-E007)

Cesarean Delivery on Maternal Request. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 133.*
Evidence Report. March 2006 (AHRQ 06-E009)

Effectiveness of Assisted Reproductive Technology. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 167.*
Evidence Report. May 2008 (AHRQ 08-E012)

Episiotomy Use in Obstetrical Care. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 112.*

Summary. May 2005 (AHRQ 05-E009-1)
Evidence Report. May 2005 (AHRQ 05-E009-2)

Management of Uterine Fibroids: An Update of the Evidence. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 154.*

Evidence Report. July 2007 (AHRQ 07-E011)

Maternal and Neonatal Outcomes of Elective Induction of Labor. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 176.*

Evidence Report. December 2008 (AHRQ 09-E005)

Menopause-Related Symptoms, Management. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 120.*

Summary. March 2005 (AHRQ 05-E016-1)
Evidence Report. March 2005 (AHRQ 05-E016-2)

Outcomes of Maternal Weight Gain. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 168.*
Evidence Report. May 2008 (AHRQ 08-E009)

Perinatal Depression, Prevalence and Screening. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 119.*
Summary. February 2005 (AHRQ 05-E006-1)
Evidence Report. February 2005 (AHRQ 05-E006-2)

Therapeutic Management, Delivery, and Postpartum Risk Assessment and Screening in Gestational Diabetes. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 162.*
Evidence Report. February 2008 (AHRQ 08-E004)

Oral and Gastrointestinal Disorders

Celiac Disease. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 104.*
Summary. June 2004 (AHRQ 04-E029-1)
Evidence Report. July 2004 (AHRQ 04-E029-2)

Periodontitis, Scaling and Root Planing Therapy. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 88.*
Summary. January 2004 (AHRQ 04-E014-1)
Evidence Report. Vols. 1 & 2, March 2004 (AHRQ 04-E014-2)

Pediatric Conditions

Toilet Training. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 147.*
Evidence Report. December 2006 (AHRQ 07-E003)

Public Health Emergency Preparedness

Bioterrorism Preparedness, Pediatric Anthrax. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 141.*
Evidence Report. July 2006 (AHRQ 06-E013)

Quality Improvement and Patient Safety

Effectiveness of Continuing Medical Education. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 149.*
Evidence Report. February 2007 (AHRQ 07-E006)

End-of-Life Care and Outcomes. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 110.*
Summary. December 2004 (AHRQ 05-E004-1)
Evidence Report. December 2004 (AHRQ 05-E004-2)

Literacy and Health Outcomes. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 87.*
Summary. January 2004 (AHRQ 04-E007-1)
Evidence Report. January 2004 (AHRQ 04-E007-2)

Minority Healthcare Quality, Improvement Strategies. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 90.*
Summary. January 2004 (AHRQ 04-E008-1)
Evidence Report. June 2003 (AHRQ 04-E008-2)

Nurse Staffing and Quality of Patient Care. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 151.*
Evidence Report. March 2007 (AHRQ 07-E005)

Patient Safety, Effects of Working Conditions. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 74.*

Summary. March 2003 (AHRQ 03-E024)
Evidence Report. May 2003 (AHRQ 03-E031)

Periodic Health Evaluation, Value. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 136.*
Evidence Report. April 2006 (AHRQ 06-E011)

Violence Prevention in Adolescents. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 107.*
Summary. September 2004 (AHRQ 04-E032-1)
Evidence Report. October 2004 (AHRQ 04-E032-2)

Skin Conditions

Heparin To Treat Burn Injury. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 148.*
Evidence Report. December 2006 (AHRQ 07-E004)

Wound Healing, Laser Treatment and Vacuum-Assisted Closure. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 111.*
Summary. December 2004 (AHRQ 05-E005-1)
Evidence Report. December 2004 (AHRQ 05-E005-2)

A complete list of *Evidence Reports/Technology Assessments* is available on the AHRQ Web site at www.ahrq.gov/clinic/epcix.htm.

Health Care Costs and Utilization

Ambulatory Surgery in U.S. Hospitals, 2003. C. Russo, P. Owens, C. Steiner, et al., *HCUP Fact Book No. 9*, January 2007, 52 pp. Examines differences in utilization and cost of various surgical procedures performed in inpatient and hospital-based outpatient settings. Data are from 17 States in AHRQ's Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project (HCUP) State Inpatient Databases and State Ambulatory Surgery Databases. (AHRQ 07-0007)

Care of Adults with Mental Health and Substance Abuse Disorders in U.S. Community Hospitals, 2004. P. Owens, M. Myers, A. Elixhauser, et al., *HCUP Fact Book No. 10*, January 2007, 56 pp. Examines patient characteristics and resource use by people ages 18 and older who were treated for mental health and/or substance use conditions in general (as opposed to specialty) hospitals in 2004. Special topics including suicide-related stays and maternal stays complicated by mental health conditions are included. (AHRQ 07-0008)

Changes in Financial Burdens for Health Care: National Estimates for the Population Younger than 65 Years, 1996 to 2003. J. Banthin, D. Bernard, *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 296(22): December 13, 2006, 2712-2719. Provides estimates of the number and characteristics of individuals in the United States who were faced with very high financial burdens for health care at two points in time, 1996 and 2003. (AHRQ 07-R022)

The Changing Pattern of Hospital Care for Persons Living with HIV: 2000 Through 2004. F. Hellinger, *Journal of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndromes*, 45(2):June 2007, 239-246. Compares inpatient use and costs for people living with HIV in 2000 with inpatient use and costs in 2004. (AHRQ 07-R060)

Consumer Financial Incentives: A Decision Guide for Purchasers. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, November 2007, 39 pp. Provides a tool for exploring if and how consumer financial incentives might be used to improve community or market readiness for health care quality improvement. (AHRQ 07(08)-0059)

Cost of Hospitalization for Preterm and Low Birth Weight Infants in the United States. R. Russell, N. Green, C. Steiner, et al., *Pediatrics*, 120(1):July 2007, e1-e9. Presents estimates of national hospital costs for infant hospital admissions associated with preterm birth and/or low birthweight. (AHRQ 07-R066)

Costs and State-Specific Rates of Thoracic and Lumbar Vertebroplasty, 2001-2005. D. Gray, W. Hollingworth, N. Onwudiwe, et al., *Spine*, 33(17):2008, 1905-1912. Examines the volume, rates, and inflation-adjusted costs for vertebroplasty—a nonsurgical procedure to stabilize compressed vertebrae—among Medicare fee-for-service patients from 2001 to 2005. (AHRQ 09-R015)

The Distribution of Public Spending for Health Care in the United States, 2002. T. Selden, M. Sing, *Health Affairs*, July 29, 2008; online. Examines 2002 data from the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey aligned to the National Health Expenditure Accounts and augmented with simulated tax subsidies to determine public spending for health care in the United States in 2002 dollars. (AHRQ 08-R077)

Does Participation in the Food Stamp Program Increase the Prevalence of Obesity and Health Care Spending? C. Meyerhoefer, Y. Pylypchuk, *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, 90(2):May 2008, 287-305. Uses panel data techniques and information on State-level food stamp program characteristics to obtain unbiased estimates of the impact of food stamp program participation on weight status and health care expenditures of nonelderly adults. (AHRQ 08-R072)

The Effect of Tax Subsidies on High Health Care Expenditure Burdens in the United States. T. Selden, *International Journal of Health Care Finance and Economics*, 8:2008, 209-223. Presents evidence on the effects of tax subsidies on the health care expenditure burdens of families with high health care costs and shows the impact that tax subsidies have on both the prevalence and magnitude of high health care spending burdens among the nonelderly. (AHRQ 09-R010)

Financial Burden of Health Care, 2001-2004. J. Banthin, P. Cunningham, D. Bernard, *Health Affairs*, 27(1):January/February 2008, 188-195. Presents the results of an

analysis of MEPS data, which found that rising out-of-pocket expenses and stagnant incomes increased the financial burden of health care for families during the years 2001-2004, especially for the privately insured. (AHRQ 08-R032)

Health Care Expenditure Burdens Among Adults with Diabetes in 2001. D. Bernard, J. Banthin, W. Encinosa, *Medical Care*, 44(3):March 2006, 210-215. Examines financial burdens among adults with diabetes using nationally representative data.

Emphasizes the role of medications and diabetic supplies in contributing to high out-of-pocket burdens. (AHRQ 06-R052)

Health, Spending and the Effort to Improve Quality in OECD Countries: A Review of the Data. E. Kelley, *Journal of the Royal Society for the Promotion of Health*, 127(2):March 2007, 64-71. Summarizes what is known about a range of issues in health system performance, including spending and outcomes. Uses data on health, spending, risk factors, and quality of care from the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development to examine and compare health care quality at the international level. (AHRQ 08-R065)

Hospital Charges Attributable to a Primary Diagnosis of Infectious Diseases in Older Adults in the United States, 1998-2004. A. Curns, C. Steiner, J. Sejvar, et al., *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society*, 56:June 2008, 969-975. Describes total and average hospital charges associated with infectious disease hospitalization rates in adults aged 65 and older in the



H-CUP
HEALTHCARE COST AND UTILIZATION PROJECT

gives users easy access to national statistics as well as to selected State statistics about hospital stays. HCUPnet guides users step-by-step to obtain these statistics by using data from HCUP's Nationwide Inpatient Sample, Kids' Inpatient Database, and State Inpatient Databases for States that participate. Web-based

HCUPnet. This interactive online service from the Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project (HCUP)

HCUPnet is a user-friendly source for information on various aspects of care in U.S. hospitals, such as: the "National Bill" for total hospital charges for the most expensive conditions; "Instant Tables" that give statistics on the most common conditions and procedures; and trends (beginning 1993) in length of hospital stays, in-hospital deaths, charges, and other outcomes for all conditions and procedures. HCUPnet is free and publicly available at: <http://hcupnet.ahrq.gov>.

United States from 1998 through 2004. (AHRQ 08-R073)

Hospital Inpatient Costs for Adults with Multiple Chronic Conditions. B. Friedman, H. Jiang, A. Elixhauser, et al., *Medical Care Research and Review*, 63(3):June 2006, 327-346. Provides national estimates of the proportions of hospital inpatient cases and cost for adult, nonmaternal patients who have multiple chronic conditions. (AHRQ 06-R070)

Kids' Inpatient Database (KID). Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, May 2007, two-fold brochure. Provides information about the Kids' Inpatient Database, a hospital administrative dataset that is designed specifically to assess hospital care among newborns, children, and adolescents. Part of the Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project (HCUP), the KID is an affordable database for studying hospital use among children. (AHRQ 06(07)-0016-2)

MEPS: A Survey of Health Care Use and Spending. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, July

2007, 9 pp. Brochure describes the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey (MEPS), including the various survey components; the types of data collected; how the data can be used by researchers, policymakers, health care administrators, and others; and how to obtain MEPS data. Sample MEPS findings are presented. (AHRQ 07-0078)

Monitoring and Evaluating Medicaid Fee-for-Service Care Management Programs. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, November 2007, 43 pp and 2 pp insert. Guides users through the steps of program evaluation, from getting started to thinking about budget to executing the evaluation itself. Includes a two-page insert for program directors and policymakers. (AHRQ 08-0012)

National Trends in the Costs of Bariatric Surgery. W. Encinosa, D. Bernard, C. Steiner, *Bariatrics Today*, 3:2005, 10-12. Examines recent national trends in the hospital costs of bariatric surgery, answers the question of who is paying for bariatric surgery, and examines which

types of hospitals have low bariatric surgery costs. (AHRQ 06-R031)

Nationwide Inpatient Sample (NIS) Brochure. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, March 2006. Provides information about the Nationwide Inpatient Sample (NIS), a nationally representative sample of all short-term, non-Federal hospitals. Part of the Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project, the NIS is a reliable and affordable database for studying hospital data on important health care topics. (AHRQ 06-0016-1)

New Cardiovascular Drugs: Patterns of Use and Association with Non-Drug Health Expenditures. G. Miller, J. Moeller, R. Stafford, *Inquiry*, 42(4):Winter 2005/2006, 397-412. Using nationally representative data on health care expenditures, investigates the role of prescription drugs in treating cardiovascular conditions. (AHRQ 06-R027)

Overweight in Adolescents: Implications for Health Expenditures. A. Monheit, J. Vistnes, J. Rogowski, *Economics and Human Biology*, August 2008, e-pub ahead of print. Uses Medical Expenditure Panel Survey (MEPS) data to examine whether overweight adolescents incur greater health care expenditures than adolescents of normal weight. Estimates a two-part, generalized linear model of health spending. (AHRQ 09-R009)

Prescription Drugs and the Changing Concentration of Health Care Expenditures. S. Zuvekas, J. Cohen, *Health Affairs*, 26(1):January/February 2007, 249-257. Explores the impact of rapid growth in prescription drug spending on the shifting concentration of health care expenditures in the United States. (AHRQ 07-R031)

Procedures in U.S. Hospitals, 2003. C. Merrill, A. Elixhauser, *HCUP Fact Book No. 7*, May 2006, 50 pp. Summarizes information about hospital procedures from the Nationwide Inpatient Sample, an all-payer hospital database maintained by AHRQ. Describes facts such as which procedures are most common, who receives them, which are performed in “high-volume” hospitals, and who is billed for them. (AHRQ 06-0039)

Reconciling Medical Expenditure Estimates from the MEPS and NHEA, 2002. M. Sing, J. Banthin, T. Selden, et al., *Health Care Financing Review*, 28(1):Fall 2006, 25-40. Compares 2002 health care expenditure estimates from the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey and the National Health Expenditure Accounts and discusses their differences. (AHRQ 07-R033)

Relative Value in Healthcare: Cost-effectiveness of Interventions. J. Siegel, C. Clancy, *Journal of Nursing Care Quality*, 21(2):April-June 2006, 99-103. Discusses the role of nurses and nursing research in accurately estimating the cost-effectiveness of health care innovations. (AHRQ 06-R064)

Renewed Growth in Hospital Inpatient Cost Since 1998: Variation Across Metropolitan Areas and Leading Clinical Conditions. B. Friedman, H. Wong, C. Steiner, *The American Journal of Managed Care*, 12(3):March 2006, 157-166. Uses disaggregated data about metropolitan statistical areas and clinical conditions to describe the variation in cost increases and explore some of the hypothesized influences. (AHRQ 06-R062)

State Ambulatory Surgery Databases (SASD) Brochure. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, September 2007. Provides information about the State Ambulatory Surgery Databases (SASD), which capture ambulatory surgery encounters at hospital facilities (and some free-standing facilities) within each participating State. The SASD have been available since 1997 and are an integral component of the Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project (HCUP) family of databases. (AHRQ 06(07)-0016-4)

State Emergency Department Databases (SEDD) Brochure. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, September 2007. Provides information about the State Emergency Department Databases (SEDD), available annually since 1999. The SEDD capture emergency visits at hospital-affiliated emergency departments that do not result in hospital admission. To facilitate multi-State comparisons and analyses, data are translated into a uniform, user-friendly format. The SEDD are an integral component of the Healthcare Cost and Utilization

Project (HCUP) family of databases. (AHRQ 06(07)-0016-5)

State Inpatient Databases (SID) Brochure. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, September 2007. Provides information about the State Inpatient Databases (SID), an integral component of the Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project (HCUP) family of databases. Each participating State's SID includes patient discharge records from that State. The SID have been available annually since 1990 and are ideal for studying State-level inpatient health care issues. (AHRQ 06(07)-0016-3)

Trends in Medical Care Costs, Coverage, Use and Access: Research Findings from the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey. S. Cohen (ed.) *Medical Care*, Supplement, 44(5):May 2006. Features nine original articles that highlight recent research studies that demonstrate the utility of this unique national information resource to inform trends in medical care costs, coverage, use, and access. (OM 06-0074)

Trends in Prescription Drug Expenditures by Medicaid Enrollees. J. Banthin, G. Miller, *Medical Care*, 44(5):May 2006, I-27-I-35. Uses data from the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey, linked to a prescription drug therapeutic classification system, to examine trends between 1996/1997 and 2001/2002 in utilization and expenditures for the noninstitutionalized Medicaid population. Highlights differences within the

Medicaid population, including children, adults, disabled, and elderly. (AHRQ 06-R040)

The Utility of Probabilistic Models to Identify Individuals With Future High Medical Expenditures.

S. Cohen, T. Ezzati-Rice, W. Yu, *Journal of Economic and Social Measurement*, 30(2-3):2005, 135-144. Presents an evaluation tool to assess the utility of probabilistic models in terms of their capacity to successfully oversample policy-relevant population subgroups that are subject to transitions. (AHRQ 06-R033)

Will All Americans Become Overweight or Obese? Estimating the Progression and Cost of the U.S. Obesity Epidemic. Y. Wang, M. Beydoun, L. Liang, et al., *Obesity*, July 24, 2008, online. Projects future prevalence and body mass index distribution based on national survey data collected between the 1970s and 2004. (AHRQ 08-R078)

Health Care Markets/ Managed Care

Cost Shifting Under Managed Behavioral Health Care. S. Zuvekas, A. Rupp, G. Norquist, *Psychiatric Services*, 58(1):January 2007, 100-108. Examines whether a managed behavioral health care organization shifted mental health treatment costs from specialty care to primary care treatment or prescription drugs. (AHRQ 07-R036)

Do HMOs Reduce Preventable Hospitalizations for Medicare Beneficiaries? J. Basu, L. Mobley, *Medical Care Research and Review*, 64(5):October 2007, 544-567.

Uses 2001 hospital discharge abstracts for Medicare enrollees to assess the association of HMO enrollment with preventable hospitalizations among the elderly in four States: New York, Pennsylvania, Florida, and California. (AHRQ 08-R005)

Have State Caps on Malpractice Awards Increased the Supply of Physicians? W. Encinosa, F. Hellinger, *Health Affairs*, May 2005, 250-258. Uses county-level data from all 50 States from 1985 to 2000 to examine whether laws that cap payment for noneconomic damages in malpractice cases have increased the supply of physicians. (AHRQ 06-R001)

Health Care Markets: Concepts, Data, Measures, and Current Research Challenges. M. Hagan, W. Encinosa, *Inquiry*, 45:Spring 2008, 15-18. Presents an overview of five papers related to an agenda-setting conference sponsored by AHRQ to encourage assessments of the data used in measuring, analyzing, and discussing health care markets. (AHRQ 08-R081)

The Impact of State Laws Limiting Malpractice Damage Awards on Health Care Expenditures. F. Hellinger, W. Encinosa, *American Journal of Public Health*, August 2006, 1375-1381. Examines the impact of State tort reform laws that directly limit malpractice damage payments on health care expenditures. (AHRQ 06-R073)

The Impacts of Mental Health Parity and Managed Care in One Large Employer Group: A Reexamination.

S. Zuvekas, A. Rupp, G. Norquist, *Health Affairs*, 24(6):November/December 2005, 1668-1671. Reexamines a study published by S. Zuvekas and colleagues, which found that the number of people receiving mental health/substance abuse treatment increased by almost 50 percent after the introduction of mental health parity and a managed behavioral health care organization. (AHRQ 06-R016)

Responses of Israeli HMOs to Environmental Change Following the National Health Insurance Law: Opening the Black Box.

R. Gross, M. Harrison, *Health Policy*, 76:2006, 213-232. Highlights how the interaction among organizational history, managerial choice, and environmental constraints creates divergence in organizational responses to national policy initiatives. (AHRQ 06-R041)

The Shape of Demand: What Does it Tell Us About Direct-to-Consumer Marketing of Antidepressants? C.

Meyerhoefer, S. Zuvekas, *B.E. Journal of Economic Analysis & Policy* 8(2):online. Examines how direct-to-consumer advertising changes the shape of the demand curve for antidepressants. (AHRQ 08-R062)

Sustaining and Improving Hospital Performance: The Effects of Organizational and Market Forces.

H. Jiang, B. Friedman, J. Begun, *Health Care Management Review*, 31(3):July-September 2006,

188-196. Using data from hospitals in 10 States, examines the effects of organizational and market factors on the likelihood of becoming high-quality/low-cost providers during the period of 1997-2001. (AHRQ 06-R067)

Health Information Technology

The Adoption Gap: Health Information Technology in Small Physician Practices.

J. Lee, C. Cain, S. Young, et al., *Health Affairs*, 24(5):September/October 2005, 1364-1366. Focuses on understanding and overcoming barriers to adoption of health information technology in small practices. (AHRQ 06-R010)

Advancing Personalized Health Care Through Health Information Technology: An Update from the American Health Information Community's Personalized Health Care Workgroup.

J. Glaser, D. Henley, G. Downing, et al., *Journal of the American Medical Informatics Association*, 15(4):July/August 2008, 391-396. Discusses the findings of the Workgroup as to what is needed to promote standard reporting and incorporation of medical genetic/genomic tests and family history data in electronic health records. (AHRQ 08-R086)

Decisionmaker Briefs.

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. August 2008, 2 pp each. Describes outcomes and best practices from AHRQ-funded projects in various topic areas.

Bar-Coded Medication Administration. (AHRQ 08-0085)

Chronic Disease Management. (AHRQ 08-0084)

Computerized Provider Order Entry. (AHRQ 08-0093)

Telehealth. (AHRQ 08-0045)

Getting to "Smart" Health Care.

C. Clancy, *Health Affairs*, 25:November 2006, w589-592. Discusses the concept of comparative effectiveness and the role of health IT in providing timely information about the effectiveness of various health care services. (AHRQ 07-R025)

Introduction to the JGIM Special Issue on Health Information Technology.

C. Clancy, J. White, *Journal of General Internal Medicine*, 23(4):April 2008, 353-354. Provides an introduction to a special issue of the journal on the use of health IT to improve health care quality and safety. (AHRQ 08-R075)

Moving Closer to a Rapid-Learning Health Care System.

J. Slutsky, *Health Affairs*, 26(2):January 2007, w122-124. Discusses activities that are necessary for developing a rapid-learning health system—that is, a system in which we “learn while doing.” (AHRQ 07-R040)

Many other publications on health IT topics—including electronic health records, electronic prescribing, health IT in small and rural communities, health information exchange, and telehealth—can be found at www.healthit.ahrq.gov.

Health Insurance/ Access to Care

Access to Health Care: Does Neighborhood Residential Instability Matter? J. Kirby, T. Kaneda, *Journal of Health and Social Behavior*, 47:June 2006, 142-155. Focuses on the association between neighborhood residential instability and reduced access to health care. (AHRQ 06-R072)

The Accuracy of Reported Insurance Status in the MEPS. S. Hill, *Inquiry*, 44:Winter 2007/2008, 443-468. Uses four sources of validation data, including surveys of employers and providers, to assess the quality of respondents' reports of private insurance and uninsurance in the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey Household Component. (AHRQ 08-R051)

Changes in Hospital Readmissions for Diabetes-Related Conditions: Differences by Payer. H. Jiang, B. Friedman, R. Andrews, *Managed Care Interface*, 21(1):July 2008, 24-30. Examines changes in hospital readmissions for diabetes-related conditions in light of evidence showing improvements in the quality of diabetes care in the United States. Includes adult, nonmaternal patients covered by private, Medicare, or Medicaid insurance who were hospitalized for diabetes-related conditions in six States between 1999 and 2003. (AHRQ 09-R013)

Children's Eligibility and Coverage: A Look Ahead. J. Hudson, T. Selden, *Health Affairs*, 26(5):2007, w618-w629. Tracks changes in children's public insurance eligibility and coverage using data from the 1996-2005 Medical Expenditure Panel Survey. (AHRQ 07-R078)

Coverage for Mental Health Treatment: Do the Gaps Still Persist? S. Zuvekas, C. Meyerhoefer, *Journal of Mental Health Policy and Economics*, 9:2006, 123-131. Examines how effective mental health benefits, as measured by actual out-of-pocket expenses, compares to coverage for non-mental health treatment and how this has changed in recent years. (AHRQ 06-R058)

The Demand for Dependent Health Insurance: How Important Is the Cost of Family Coverage? A. Monheit, J. Vistnes, *Journal of Health Economics*, 24:2005, 1108-1131. Examines the role of out-of-pocket premiums and expanded Medicaid eligibility in households' demand for employment-based family coverage. (AHRQ 06-R024)

Diffusion of New Technology and Payment Policies: Coronary Stents. C. Shih, E. Berliner, *Health Affairs*, 27(6):November/December 2008, 1566-1576. Discusses the role of Medicare payment as a driver of medical technology diffusion and access to new technologies, using the case of coronary stents as an example. (AHRQ 09-R012)

Health Insurance Coverage During a 24-Month Period: A Comparison of Estimates from Two National Health Surveys. S. Cohen, D. Makuc, T. Ezzati-Rice, *Health Services and Outcomes Research Methodology*, 7:2007, 125-144. Compares national estimates of health insurance coverage over generally comparable 24-month time periods using two integrated Federal health-related surveys, the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey and the National Health Interview Survey. (AHRQ 08-R029)

Health Insurance Enrollment Decisions: Preferences for Coverage, Worker Sorting, and Insurance Take-Up. A. Monheit, J. Vistnes, *Inquiry*, 45:Summer 2008, 153-167. Examines decisions by single workers to seek out and enroll in employer-sponsored health insurance plans. (AHRQ 09-R008)

The Impact of Increased Tax Subsidies on the Insurance Coverage of Self-Employed Families: Evidence from the 1996-2004 Medical Expenditure Panel Survey. T. Selden, *Journal of Human Resources*, 44(1):Winter 2009, 115-139. Using data from the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey, shows effects of tax subsidies on the expansion of health insurance coverage among self-employed families during the period 1996-2004. (AHRQ 09-R023)

The Impact of SCHIP on Insurance Coverage of Children. J. Hudson, T. Selden, J. Banthin, *Inquiry*, 42:Fall 2005, 232-254. Uses data from the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey between 1996 and 2002 to investigate the impact of the State Children's Health Insurance Program on insurance coverage for children. Explores a range of alternative estimation strategies, including instrumental variables and difference-in-trends models. (AHRQ 06-R018)

The Impact of Survey Attrition on Health Insurance Coverage Estimates in a National Longitudinal Health Care Survey. S. Cohen, T. Ezzati-Rice, W. Yu, *Health Services and Outcomes Research Methodology*, 6:2006, 111-125. Summarizes the survey operations, informational materials, interviewer training and experience, and the refusal conversion techniques used in the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey to maintain respondent cooperation for five rounds of interviewing and to help minimize sample attrition. (AHRQ 07-R048)

Informed Participation in TennCare by People with Disabilities. S. Hill, J. Woolridge, *Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved*, 17:November 2006, 851-875. Uses survey results to examine informed health care choices by nonelderly people with diverse disabilities—including mental retardation, mental illness, visual and hearing impairments, and difficulty communicating—who were enrolled in TennCare,

Tennessee's Medicaid managed care program. The survey was fielded between October 1998 and March 1999. (AHRQ 07-R045)

Parity for Whom? Exemptions and the Extent of State Mental Health Parity Legislation. T. Buchmueller, P. Cooper, M. Jacobson, et al., *Health Affairs*, 26(4):2007, w483-w487. Summarizes the extent and scope of State parity legislation in terms of the number of insured private-sector employees covered. (AHRQ 07-R062)

Pathways to Coverage: The Changing Roles of Public and Private Sources. J. Vistnes, B. Schone, *Health Affairs*, 27(1):January/February 2008, 44-57. Analyzes the growing trend of families' obtaining health insurance in patchwork fashion from both public and private sources. Discusses the debate surrounding reauthorization of the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) and the role of the government in providing insurance. (AHRQ 08-R033)

Serving the Uninsured: Safety-Net Hospitals, 2003. R. Andrews, D. Stull, I. Fraser, et al., *HCUP Fact Book No. 8*, January 2007, 34 pp. Presents data on hospitals that treat a disproportionately large share of uninsured patients, including both financial status and structural and geographic characteristics of these "safety-net" hospitals as well as clinical characteristics of the patients they serve. (AHRQ 07-0006)

State Differences in Employer-Sponsored Health Insurance, 2003.

J. Branscome, B. Crimmel, *MEPS Chartbook No. 15*, May 2006, 25 pp. Presents State estimates from the 2003 Medical Expenditure Panel Survey Insurance Component. Examines workers' access to job-related health insurance and their enrollment rates, and examines State differences in the cost of that insurance, both to the employer offering coverage and to the worker taking coverage. (AHRQ 06-0030)

Tax Subsidies for Employment-Related Health Insurance: Estimates for 2006. T. Selden, B. Gray, *Health Affairs*, 25(6):November/December 2006, 1568-1579. Presents tax-subsidy projections from a new data resource constructed using a statistical linkage between the establishment and household components of the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey. Presents per worker tax-subsidy estimates and an analysis of insurance incidence by establishment characteristics. (AHRQ 07-R014)

Workers Who Decline Employment-Related Health Insurance. D. Bernard, T. Selden, *Medical Care*, Supplement, 44(5):May 2006, I-12-I-18. Examines health status, access to health care, utilization, and expenditures among families that declined health insurance coverage offered by employers using data from the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey for 2001 and 2002. (AHRQ 07-R012)

Health Services Research

Assessing and Understanding Measurement Equivalence in Health Outcome Measures: Issues for Further Quantitative and Qualitative Inquiry. C. McHorney, J. Fleishman, *Medical Care*, 44(11, Supplement 3):November 2006, S205-S210. Presents an epilogue to a special journal issue devoted to issues of measurement equivalence in diverse populations, particularly those characterized by disparities. (AHRQ 07-R018)

Completeness of Cause of Injury Coding in Healthcare Administrative Databases in the United States, 2001. J. Coben, C. Steiner, M. Barrett, et al., *Injury Prevention*, 12:2006, 199-201. Examines the completeness of external cause of injury coding (E-coding) within health care administrative databases in the United States and identifies factors that contribute to variations in E-code reporting across States. (AHRQ 07-R009)

Creating and Synthesizing Evidence with Decision Makers in Mind: Integrating Evidence from Clinical Trials and Other Study Designs. D. Atkins, *Medical Care*, 45:2007, S16-S22. Examines the limitations of randomized controlled trials (RCTs) in providing the information decisionmakers need to choose the best treatment for individual patients and explains how information from observational studies can supplement evidence from RCTs. (AHRQ 08-R012)

Enhancement of Claims Data to Improve Risk Adjustment of Hospital Mortality.

M. Pine, H. Jordan, A. Elixhauser, et al., *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 267(1):January 3, 2007, 71-76. Discusses the effect on risk-adjusted hospital mortality rates of adding “present” on admission codes and numerical laboratory data to administrative claims data. The goal is to distinguish between conditions that were present or not present on hospital admission. (AHRQ 07-R028)

Funding Opportunities in Knowledge Translation: Review of the AHRQ’s “Translating Research into Practice” Initiatives, Competing Funding Agencies, and Strategies for Success. M. Handrigan, J. Slutsky, *Academic Emergency Medicine*, 14:November 2007, 965-967. Provides a brief overview of AHRQ’s activities in knowledge translation. (AHRQ 08-R043)

Global Self-Rated Mental Health: Associations with Other Mental Health Measures and with Role Functioning. J. Fleishman, S. Zuvekas, *Medical Care*, 45(7):July 2007, 602-609. Examines the association of self-reported mental health with other validated measures of mental health and role functioning to clarify the interpretation and usefulness of self-reported mental health data. (AHRQ 07-R069)

Go Out or Stay In: The Effects of Zero Tolerance Laws on Alcohol Use and Drinking and Driving Patterns Among College Students. L. Liang, J. Huang, *Health Economics*, January 2008, online. Uses data from

the College Alcohol Surveys conducted by the Harvard School of Public Health to examine a number of pathways through which zero tolerance laws reduce drinking and driving among college students. (AHRQ 08-R053)

Health Limitations and Quality of Life Associated with Cancer and Other Chronic Diseases by Phase of Care. K. Yabroff, T. McNeel, W. Waldron, et al., *Medical Care*, 45(7):July 2007, 629-637. Presents estimates of health limitations and health-related quality of life associated with cancer and other chronic conditions in a nationally representative sample within a phase-of-care (i.e., immediately after diagnosis, continuing care, last year of life, etc.) framework. (AHRQ 07-R079)

Identifying, Categorizing, and Evaluating Health Care Efficiency Measures. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, April 2008, 78 pp. Analyzes various measures of health care efficiency, including criteria for evaluating measures, examples of how measures can be applied, and details on the various sources examined for this report. (AHRQ 08-0030)

Improving Depiction of Benefits and Harms: Analyses of Studies of Well-Known Therapeutics and Review of High-Impact Medical Journals. A. Sedrakyan, C. Shih, *Medical Care*, 45(10 Suppl 2):October 2007, S23-S28. Provides and discusses examples of how researchers present information about benefits and harms for well-known therapeutics when they publish their studies. (AHRQ 08-R013)

Increasing the Relevance of Research to Health Care Managers: Hospital CEO Imperatives for Improving Quality and Lowering Costs.

J. Alexander, L. Hearld, H. Jiang, et al., *Health Care Management Review*, 23(2):April-June 2007, 150-159. Examines how hospital leaders view key determinants of hospital quality and costs and the fundamental ways these leaders think about solutions to quality and cost issues in their organizations. (AHRQ 07-R077)

Interdisciplinary Research: The Role of Nursing Education.

H. Hubbard, *Journal of Professional Nursing*, 22(5):September/October 2006, 266-269. Explores the role of nursing faculty in doctoral nursing programs to inspire, support, and guide students into avenues of important clinical and health services research. (AHRQ 07-R006)

Intersections for Mutual Success in Nursing and Health Services Research.

C. Clancy, B. Sharp, H. Hubbard, *Nursing Outlook*, 53(6):November/December 2005, 263-265. Discusses issues of access to care/nursing workforce, health behavior, quality of care, cost/cost-effectiveness, and organization/delivery of care, and presents an agenda for nursing health services research. (AHRQ 06-R026)

On Modelling Response Propensity for Dwelling Unit (DU) Level Non-Response Adjustment in the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey (MEPS).

L. Wun, T. Ezzati-Rice, N. Diaz-Tena, et al., *Statistics in Medicine*, 26:2007, 1875-1884. Summarizes research on comparing

alternative approaches for modeling response propensity to compensate for dwelling unit (i.e., household level) non-response in the MEPS. (AHRQ 07-R050)

Organizational Climate: Implications for the Home Healthcare Workforce.

P. Stone, D. Pastor, M. Harrison, *Journal for Healthcare Quality*, 28(1):January/February 2006, 4-11. Examines how organizational climate has been defined and measured in health services research and identifies factors most important in home health care delivery. (AHRQ 06-R020)

Population-Based Trends in Volumes and Rates of Ambulatory Lumbar Spine Surgery.

D. Gray, R. Deyo, W. Kreuter, et al., *Spine*, 31(17):2006, 1957-1963. Examines the distribution of ambulatory lumbar spine surgery procedures being performed in the United States and estimates the impact on overall lumbar spine surgery rates. (AHRQ 07-R010)

So What? The Challenge of Doing “Need to Know” Versus “Would Like to Know” Research.

R. Hughes, C. Clancy, *Applied Nursing Research*, 20:2007, 210-213. Presents and discusses six considerations for prioritizing health research topics, including intended audience, information gaps, timing, sources of information, determinants of priority, and relevance. (AHRQ 08-R024)

Stochastic Frontier Analysis of Hospital Inefficiency: A Review of Empirical Issues and an Assessment of Robustness.

M. Rosko, R. Mutter, *Medical Care Research and Review*, November 28,

2007, e-pub. Presents the results of an analysis of 20 stochastic frontier analysis (SFA) studies of hospital inefficiency in the United States and compares the use of SFA with previously used methods in hospital studies to determine the robustness of SFA in estimating cost inefficiency. (AHRQ 08-R021)

Study Designs for Effectiveness and Translation Research: Identifying Trade-offs.

S. Mercer, B. DeVinney, L. Fine, et al, *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*, 33(2):2007, 139-154. Summarizes the presentations and conclusions of a May 2004 symposium during which attendees weighed the strengths, limitations, and trade-offs between alternate designs for studying the effectiveness and translation of complex, multilevel health interventions. (AHRQ 07-R071)

Understanding and Enhancing the Value of Hospital Discharge Data.

J. Schoenman, J. Sutton, A. Elixhauser, D. Love, *Medical Care Research and Review*, 64(4):August 2007, 449-468. Summarizes how hospital discharge data are used, identifies strengths and shortcomings, and presents suggestions for enhancing the usefulness of the data. (AHRQ 08-R002)

The Validity of ICD-9-CM Codes in Identifying Postoperative Deep Vein Thrombosis and Pulmonary Embolism.

C. Zhan, J. Battles, Y. Chiang, et al., *Joint Commission Journal on Quality and Patient Safety*, 22(6):June 2007, 326-331. Examines the usefulness and validity of using ICD-9-CM codes to identify and study

deep vein thrombosis and pulmonary embolism in postsurgical patients. (AHRQ 07-R074)

Minority Health

Access to Health Care for Nonmetro and Metro Latinos of Mexican Origin in the United States. T. Berdahl, J. Kirby, R. Stone, *Medical Care*, 45(7):July 2007, 647-654. Examines disparities in health care access between non-Latino whites and Latinos of Mexican origin and whether the disparities differ between metro and nonmetro areas. (AHRQ 07-R059)

Closing the Health Care Disparities Gap: Turning Evidence Into Action. C. Clancy, *Journal of Health Care Law & Policy*, 9(1):2006, 121-135. Discusses the role of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality in identifying health care disparities, monitoring progress toward eliminating disparities, and building disparities-related research capacity. (AHRQ 07-R039)

Community Variation: Disparities in Health Care Quality Between Asian and White Medicare Beneficiaries. E. Moy, L. Greenberg, A. Borsky, *Health Affairs*, 27(2):March/April 2008, 538-549. Examines the use by whites and Asians of selected cancer screening and diabetes services under the traditional Medicare program by socioeconomic status and among U.S. metropolitan statistical areas in which elderly Asians reside. (AHRQ 08-R064)

Effect of Dysthymia on Receipt of HAART by Minority HIV-Infected Women. B. Turner, J. Fleishman, *Journal of General Internal Medicine*, 21(12):December 2006, 1235-1241. Examines the effects of dysthymia and major depression on use of highly active antiretroviral therapy by white, black, and Hispanic women. (AHRQ 07-R021)

Eliminating Asthma Disparities Through Multistakeholder Partnerships. C. Clancy, J. Kiley, K. Weiss, *Chest*, 132(5):November 2007, 1422-1424. Discusses initiatives sponsored by AHRQ and the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute to address the burden of asthma and the persistent gap between whites and minorities in asthma prevalence, hospitalization, and mortality rates. (AHRQ 08-R045)

Exploring and Crossing the Disparity Divide in Cancer Mortality. M. Barton, *Annals of Internal Medicine*, 144(8):April 18, 2006, 614-616. Discusses the disproportionate burden of death due to cancer borne by special populations, focusing on breast cancer screening in black and Hispanic women. (AHRQ 06-R065)

Gaps in Data for American Indians and Alaska Natives in the National Healthcare Disparities Report. E. Moy, C. Smith, P. Johansson, et al., *Journal of the National Center*, 13(1):2006, 52-69. Uses data from the 2004 *National Healthcare Disparities Report* to identify and quantify gaps in health care data for American Indians and Alaska Natives. (AHRQ 06-R038)

Gender Differences Across Racial and Ethnic Groups in the Quality of Care for Acute Myocardial Infarction and Heart Failure Associated with Comorbidities. R. Correa-de-Araujo, B. Stevens, E. Moy, et al., *Women's Health Issues*, 16:2006, 44-55. Provides important insights on gender differences across racial and ethnic groups in a Medicare population in terms of the quality of care received for acute myocardial infarction and congestive heart failure in association with diabetes or hypertension/end-stage renal disease. (AHRQ 06-R042)

Gender Differences Across Racial and Ethnic Groups in the Quality of Care for Diabetes. R. Correa-de-Araujo, K. McDermott, E. Moy, *Women's Health Issues*, 16:2006, 58-65. Discusses gender differences across racial and ethnic groups in the quality of care for type 2 diabetes according to 10 measures defined by the 2005 National Healthcare Quality Report and National Healthcare Disparities Report. (AHRQ 06-R043)

Measuring Trends in Racial/Ethnic Health Care Disparities. B. Lê Cook, T. McGuire, S. Zuvekas, *Medical Care Research and Review*, 66(1):February 2009, 23-48. Uses data from the 1996-2005 Medical Expenditure Panel Survey to compare trends in disparities and assess the influence of changes in socioeconomic status among racial/ethnic minorities on disparity trends. (AHRQ 09-R019)

Preventable Hospitalization and Medicaid Managed Care: Does Race Matter?

J. Basu, B. Friedman, H. Burstin, *Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved*, 17(1):February 2006, 101-115. Examines the preventable hospitalization patterns of Medicaid patients by race/ethnicity to determine whether Medicaid managed care has been more effective in some subgroups than others. Uses logistic models for three States, comparing preventable hospitalizations with marker admissions. (AHRQ 06-R028)

Racial and Ethnic Differences in Health Insurance Coverage and Usual Source of Health Care, 2002. M. Roberts, *MEPS Chartbook No. 14*, March 2006, 30 pp. Compares health insurance status for racial and ethnic groups, including differences in job-related health insurance, and addresses differences in usual sources of care among racial and ethnic groups. (AHRQ 06-0004)

Racial and Ethnic Differences in Patient Assessments of Interactions with Providers: Disparities or Measurement Biases?

E. Dayton, C. Zhan, J. Sangl, et al., *American Journal of Medical Quality*, 21(2):March/April 2006, 109-114. Presents findings from the 2005 National Healthcare Disparities Report and explores possible explanation for racial/ethnic differences, including potential pitfalls in survey design that draw biased responses by race/ethnicity. Suggests strategies for refining future research on racial/ethnic disparities based on patient assessment of health care. (AHRQ 06-R049)

Racial/Ethnic and Gender Differences in Individual Workplace Injury Risk Trajectories: 1988-1998.

T. Berdahl, *American Journal of Public Health*, 98(12):December 2008, 2258-2263. Examines workplace injury risk over time (1988-1998) and across racial/ethnic and gender groups to observe patterns of change and to improve understanding of how occupational characteristics and job mobility influence such changes. (AHRQ 09-R020)

A Re-examination of Distance as a Proxy for Severity of Illness and the Implications for Differences in Utilization by

Race/Ethnicity. J. Basu, B. Friedman, Health Economics, 2006, published online. Uses hospital discharge data for New York residents to assess whether the relationship between distance traveled for care and severity of illness is uniform across racial/ethnic subgroups. (AHRQ 07-R029)

Self-Rated Mental Health and Racial/Ethnic Disparities in Mental Health Service Use.

S. Zuvekas, J. Fleishman, *Medical Care*, 46(9):September 2008, 915-923. Uses Medical Expenditure Panel Survey (MEPS) data to examine why minorities seek mental health services less frequently than whites. (AHRQ 09-R007)

Trends in Racial Disparities Among the Elderly for Selected Procedures.

J. Basu, L. Mobley, *Medical Care Research and Review*, May 2008, online. Examines trends over 1997-2001 in racial or ethnic disparities in the use of three costly, referral-sensitive procedures among the elderly: coronary artery bypass

grafting, angioplasty, and hip/joint replacement. (AHRQ 08-R074)

Outcomes and Effectiveness Research

Aprotinin Use in Thoracic Aortic Surgery: Safety and Outcomes.

A. Sedrakyan, A. Wu, G. Sedrakyan, et al., *Journal of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery*, 132(4):October 2006, 909-917. Presents the results of an evaluation of using the medication aprotinin in patients undergoing thoracic aortic surgery for aneurysm repair, penetrating ulcers, and other conditions. (AHRQ 07-R016)

Are Lumbar Spine Reoperation Rates Falling with Greater Use of Fusion Surgery and New Surgical Technology?

B. Martin, S. Mirza, B. Comstock, et al., *Spine*, 32:2007, 2119-2126. Uses population-based hospital discharge data from Washington State to examine the cumulative incidence of second lumbar spine operation following an initial lumbar operation for degenerative conditions. (AHRQ 08-R015)

Cardiac Device Implantation in the United States from 1997 through 2004: A

Population-Based Analysis. C. Zhan, W. Baine, A. Sedrakyan, et al., *Journal of General Internal Medicine*, 23(Suppl 1):January 2008, 13-19. Uses hospital administrative data to assess cardiac device implantations in the United States, selected perioperative outcomes, and associated patient and hospital characteristics. (AHRQ 08-R037)

Centers for Education & Research on Therapeutics (CERTs) Brochure. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, September 2006. Provides information about the Centers for Education & Research on Therapeutics, a national initiative to improve the safety and effectiveness of drugs, medical devices, and biological products such as vaccines. (AHRQ 06-M038)

CERTs Annual Report Year 6. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, April 2007, 40 pp. Highlights a number of CERTs research and educational projects completed over the past year, as well as several projects currently in progress. (AHRQ 07-0030)

A Comparison of Outcomes Resulting from Generalist vs. Specialist Care for a Single Discrete Medical Condition. G. Smetana, B. Landon, A. Bindman, et al., *Archives of Internal Medicine*, 167:2007, 10-20. Explores the influence of generalist vs. specialist care on outcomes for patients with a single discrete condition and discusses the methodologic shortcomings of current evidence. (AHRQ 07-R035)

The Evidence on the Effectiveness of Management for Malignant Pleural Effusion: A Systematic Review. C. Tan, A. Sedrakyan, J. Browne, et al., *European Journal of Cardio-thoracic Surgery*, 29:2006, 829-838. Systematically reviews the available evidence on pleurodesis for malignant effusion, focusing on the choice of the agents, route of delivery, and other strategies to improve outcomes. (AHRQ 06-R071)

Healthcare Utilization and Outcomes After Bariatric Surgery. W. Encinosa, D. Bernard, C. Cheng, et al., *Medical Care*, 44(8):August 2006, 706-712. Examines the safety outcomes and utilization of resources in the 6 months after bariatric surgery using a nationwide, population-based sample. (AHRQ 06-R068)

Health-Related Quality of Life After Mitral Valve Repairs and Replacements. A. Sedrakyan, V. Vaccarino, J. Elefteriades, et al., *Quality of Life Research*, 15:2006, 1153-1160. Examines whether changes in health-related quality of life following surgery are better for patients undergoing mitral valve repair compared with those who have mitral valve replacement and whether these outcomes should factor into clinical decisionmaking. (AHRQ 07-R015)

Health-Related Quality of Life Among Adults with Diabetes. S. Norris, *Current Diabetes Reports*, 5:2005, 124-130. Discusses the interrelationships among the physiologic and psychosocial effects of diabetes, the effects of treatment regimes, the social and cultural context in which diabetics live, and how these issues relate to quality of life. (AHRQ 06-R003)

Incidence and Short-Term Outcomes of Primary and Revision Hip Replacement in the United States. C. Zhan, R. Kaczmarek, N. Loyo-Berrios, et al., *Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery*, 89:2007, 526-533. Uses 2003 nationwide U.S. data to examine the incidences of primary total hip replacement, partial hip replacement, and revision hip replacement and assesses the

short-term patient outcomes and factors associated with the outcomes from these surgeries. (AHRQ 07-R053)

Practice Makes Perfect: A Volume-Outcome Study of Hospital Patients with HIV Disease. F. Hellinger, *Journal of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndromes*, 46(2):February 2008, 226-233. Examines the relation between two measures of volume (the number of HIV-positive patients treated in a hospital and the number treated by the attending physician) and the probability of HIV-positive patients dying in the hospital. (AHRQ 08-R052)

Recursive Partitioning-Based Preoperative Risk Stratification for Atrial Fibrillation After Coronary Artery Bypass Surgery. A. Sedrakyan, H. Zhang, T. Treasure, et al., *American Heart Journal*, 151(3):March 2006, 720-724. Identifies preoperative variables associated with the development of atrial fibrillation after coronary artery bypass graft surgery and stratifies patients into homogenous groups regarding risk of atrial fibrillation. (AHRQ 06-R053)

Reoperation Rates Following Lumbar Spine Surgery and the Influence of Spinal Fusion Procedures. B. Martin, S. Mirza, B. Comstock, et al., *Spine*, 32(3):February 2007, 382-387. Discusses the incidence of reoperation following lumbar surgery for degenerative disease and, for specific diagnoses, compares the frequency of reoperation following fusion with that following decompression alone. (AHRQ 07-R034)

Transformation of Health Care at the Front Line. P. Conway, C. Clancy, *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 301(7):February 2009, 763-765. Commentary discusses the design and effects of pay-for-performance programs on treatment options, patient outcomes, and health care costs, as well as an approach to align incentives with quality of care and value at the front line where clinicians and patients meet. (AHRQ 09-R026)

Patient Safety/Medical Errors

Accidental Iatrogenic Pneumothorax in Hospitalized Patients. C. Zhan, M. Smith, D. Stryer, *Medical Care*, 44(2):February 2006, 182-186. Assesses the risk for accidental iatrogenic pneumothorax in patients hospitalized with specific diagnoses who underwent specific procedures. (AHRQ 06-R029)

Advances in Patient Safety: From Research to Implementation. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality and U.S. Department of Defense, April 2005. Four-volume set on CD-ROM covers new patient safety findings, investigative approaches, process analyses, and practical tools for preventing medical errors and harm. **CD-ROM Volumes 1-4.** (AHRQ 05-0021-CD)

Advances in Patient Safety: New Directions and Alternative Approaches. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, August 2008. Four volume set comprises 115 articles that

present new patient safety findings, investigative approaches, process analyses, lessons learned, and practical tools for improving patient safety. Available in print (single copies of 4-volume set or individual volumes available free) and as a searchable CD-ROM. (AHRQ 08-0034) **CD-ROM Volumes 1-4.** (AHRQ 08-0034-CD)

Adverse Event Reporting Practices by U.S. Hospitals: Results of a National Survey. D. Farley, A. Haviland, S. Champagne, et al., *Quality and Safety in Health Care*, 17(6):December 2008, 416-423. Reports on the results of a national survey of 2,050 non-Federal U.S. hospitals that gathered baseline data on the characteristics of systems and processes the hospitals were using for adverse event reporting for use in assessing improvement in reporting. (AHRQ 09-R021)

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality's National Quality and Disparities Reports Emphasize Patient Safety. C. Clancy, D. McNeill, E. Moy, et al., *Journal of Patient Safety*, 2(2):June 2006, 70-71. Commentary reviews the implications of the National Quality and Disparities Reports for patient safety. Reports focus attention on patient safety and offer a set of measures that provide useful trend information and comparative data. (AHRQ 07-R013)

AHRQ WebM&M. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, March 2003, two-fold brochure. Describes a Web-based patient safety resource that incorporates a peer-reviewed journal. Site includes

descriptions of specific cases of medical errors and patient safety problems, commentaries, a users' forum, and links to other patient safety resources. (AHRQ 03-0014)

Becoming a High Reliability Organization: Operational Advice for Hospital Leaders. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, February 2008, 36 pp. Discusses five key high reliability concepts and tools that a growing number of hospitals are using to help achieve their safety, quality, and efficiency goals to improve patient safety and care. Key concepts include sensitivity to operations, reluctance to simplify, preoccupation with failure, deference to expertise, and resilience. (AHRQ 08-0022)

Care Transitions: A Threat and an Opportunity for Patient Safety. C. Clancy, *American Journal of Medical Quality*, 21(6):November/December 2006, 415-417. Discusses the pros and cons of using medical teams to reduce errors and ways to make safer patient handoffs from one care setting to another. (AHRQ 07-R026)

Communication Failure: Basic Components, Contributing Factors, and the Call for Structure. E. Dayton, K. Henriksen, *Joint Commission Journal on Quality and Patient Safety*, 33(1):January 2007, 34-47. Discusses the role of communication failures in medical errors and how more structured and explicitly designed forms of communication could reduce ambiguity and enhance clarity in health care settings. (AHRQ 07-R049)

Cost-Effective Enhancement of Claims Data to Improve Comparisons of Patient Safety.

H. Jordan, M. Pine, A. Elixhauser, et al., *Journal of Patient Safety*, 3(2):June 2007, 82-90. Describes AHRQ's Patient Safety Indicators and how they can be used in conjunction with clinical data as a tool to screen for medical errors. (AHRQ 07-R063)

Designing for Safety: Evidence-Based Design and Hospitals.

C. Clancy, *American Journal of Medical Quality*, 23(1):January/February 2008, 66-69. Discusses how evidence-based design principles can contribute to safer care for hospitalized patients. (AHRQ 08-R035)

DoD Medical Team Training Programs: An Independent Case Study Analysis.

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality and Department of Defense, May 2006, 57 pp. Describes results of an evaluation of three Department of Defense-sponsored medical team training programs. (AHRQ 06-0001) Companion to *Medical Teamwork and Patient Safety: The Evidence-Based Relation* (AHRQ 06-0053)

Evaluating the Patient Safety Indicators: How Well Do They Perform on Veterans Health Administration Data?

A. Rosen, P. Rivard, S. Zhao, et al., *Medical Care*, 43(9):September 2005, 873-884. Examines differences between observed and risk-adjusted Patient Safety Indicator (PSI) rates in the Veterans Health Administration (VA), compared to VA and non-VA PSI rates, and investigates the construct validity of the PSIs by examining correlations of

the PSIs with other outcomes of VA hospitals. (AHRQ 06-R012)

Evidence Shows Cost and Patient Safety Benefits of Emergency Pharmacists.

C. Clancy, *American Journal of Medical Quality*, 23(3):May/June 2008, 231-233. Discusses the role of emergency pharmacists in hospital emergency care settings, the effects on reducing adverse drug events, cost savings, and staff acceptance, as well as suggestions for implementing emergency pharmacist programs. (AHRQ 08-R080)

Forging a New Path to Medication Safety with Emergency Pharmacists.

C. Clancy, *Journal of Patient Safety*, 4(1):March 2008, 1-2. Invited commentary that discusses the emergence of the emergency pharmacist and two new initiatives to assist pharmacists and hospitals in getting support for and implementing emergency pharmacist programs. (AHRQ 08-R055)

Guide for Developing a Community-Based Patient Safety Advisory Council.

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, March 2008, 50 pp. Provides information and guidance that individuals and organizations can use to develop community-based advisory councils to bring about improvements in patient safety through education, collaboration, and consumer engagement. (AHRQ 08-0048)

Hospital Survey on Patient Safety Culture.

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, September 2004, 75 pp. Includes a review of the literature pertaining to safety issues, accidents, medical

errors, error reporting, and the safety climate of hospital environments. The final survey was pilot tested with more than 1,400 hospital employees across the United States, and includes information on sample group selection, data collection, and interpreting results. (AHRQ 04-0041)

Hospital Survey on Patient Safety Culture: 2009

Comparative Database Report. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, March 2009, 92 pp. Updates the 2008 report and includes results from 622 hospitals and nearly 200,000 hospital staff respondents, as well as a chapter on trending with results from hospitals that administered the survey multiple times. (AHRQ 09-0030)

Hospital Survey on Patient Safety Culture: 2008

Comparative Database Report. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, February 2008, 77 pp. Updates the 2007 report and includes more data, including results from a total of 519 hospitals and 160,176 hospital staff respondents who completed the survey. Also includes a new chapter on trending that presents results showing change over time for 98 hospitals that administered the survey and submitted data twice. (AHRQ 08-0039)

Hospital Survey on Patient Safety Culture: 2007

Comparative Database Report. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, April 2007, 102 pp. Presents statistics on the patient safety culture areas or composites assessed in the Hospital Survey on Patient Safety Culture and averages for breakouts of the data by hospital and respondent

characteristic. Allows hospitals to compare their data with data from other similar hospitals. (AHRQ 07-0025)

How Often Are Potential Patient Safety Events Present on Admission.

R. Houchens, A. Elixhauser, P. Romano, *Joint Commission Journal on Quality and Patient Safety*, 34(3):March 2008, 154-163. Evaluates the use of information on whether diagnoses are present at the time of hospital admission to assess the face validity of present-on-admission (POA) information in two States (California and New York), evaluates the relationship between POA information and the AHRQ Patient Safety Indicators (PSIs), and examines the extent to which the PSIs defined without POA information are valid measures of hospital-level quality of care. (AHRQ 08-R069)

How Useful Are Voluntary Medication Error Reports? The Case of Warfarin-Related Medication Errors.

C. Zhan, S. Smith, M. Keyes, et al., *Joint Commission Journal on Quality and Patient Safety*, 34(1):January 2008, 36-45. Analyzes warfarin medication errors reported by hospitals and clinics participating in a voluntary medication errors reporting system, MEDMARX. Study objectives were to explore the value and proper use of voluntary medical error reports and to learn more about common errors in warfarin use. (AHRQ 08-R047)

The Impact of Medical Errors on Ninety-Day Costs and Outcomes: An Examination of Surgical Patients.

W. Encinosa, F. Hellinger, *Health Services Research*, July 2008, online.

Examines the effects of medical errors on medical expenditures, death, readmissions, and outpatient care within 90 days after surgery. (AHRQ 08-R079)

Improving Patient Safety by Instructional Systems Design.

J. Battles, *Quality and Safety in Health Care*, 15(Suppl 1): 2006, 25-29. Discusses how patient safety training itself sometimes contributes to the risks and hazards of health care associated injuries. Examines the principle of safety by design and the application of established design principles to patient safety education and training programs. (AHRQ 07-R044)

Improving Patient Safety in Hospitals: Contributions of High-Reliability Theory and Normal Accident Theory.

M. Tamuz, M. Harrison, *Health Services Research*, Part II, 41(4):August 2006, 1654-1676. Identifies the distinctive contributions of high-reliability theory and normal accident theory as frameworks for examining five patient safety practices. (AHRQ 06-R076)

Improving the Complex Nature of Care Transitions.

R. Hughes, C. Clancy, *Journal of Nursing Care Quality*, 22(4):2007, 289-292.

Discusses the potential for medical errors associated with shift handovers and patient transfers, presents findings from some recent studies focused on patient transitions, and identifies remaining challenges in this area. (AHRQ 08-R014)

Improving the Health Care Work Environment: A Sociotechnical Systems Approach.

M. Harrison, K. Henriksen, R. Hughes, *Joint Commission Journal on Quality and Patient Safety*,

33(11 Suppl):November 2007, 3-6. Discusses the use of a sociotechnical systems approach to improve the health care work environment and introduces a special journal supplement on this topic. (AHRQ 08-R022)

Improving the Health Care Work Environment: Implications for Research, Practice, and Policy.

M. Harrison, K. Henriksen, R. Hughes, *Joint Commission Journal on Quality and Patient Safety*, 33(11 Suppl):November 2007, 81-84. Reviews implications for research, practice, and policy stemming from the articles in the Improving the Health Care Work Environment Joint Commission journal supplement. (AHRQ 08-R026)

Initiating Transformational Change to Enhance Patient Safety.

K. Henriksen, M. Keyes, D. Stevens, et al., *Journal of Patient Safety*, 2(1):March 2006, 20-24. Explores what transformational change means with respect to patient safety and quality initiatives and examines lessons learned as found in the management and transformation change literature. (AHRQ 07-R003)

The Intensive Care Unit, Patient Safety, and the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality.

C. Clancy, *American Journal of Medical Quality*, 21(5): September-October 2006, 348-351. Highlights some of the major issues in intensive care unit safety, including difficult working conditions that make errors more probable, and describes AHRQ-supported research and other activities in the patient safety area. (AHRQ 07-R001)

Keeping Our Promises: Research, Practice, and Policy Issues in Health Care Reliability; Foreword to a Special Issue of Health Services Research.

J. Reinertsen, C. Clancy, *Health Services Research*, 41(4):August 2006, 1535-1538. Introduces a special journal issue focused on an organizational approach to patient safety, including articles on research and policy issues in reliability, organizational culture, and translation of reliability theory into practice. (AHRQ 06-R074)

Limiting Nurse Overtime and Promoting Other Good Working Conditions Influences Patient Safety.

B. Sharp, C. Clancy, *Journal of Nursing Care Quality*, 23(2): April-June 2008, 97-100. Commentary discusses the relationship between nurse staffing level and patient outcomes, the effect of nursing overtime on patient outcomes, and the role of nurse fatigue in medical errors. (AHRQ 08-R065)

Medicaid Markets and Pediatric Patient Safety in Hospitals.

R. Smith, R. Cheung, P. Owens, et al., *Health Services Research*, 42(5):October 2007, 1981-1997. Compares the association between Medicaid market characteristics and the occurrence of potentially preventable adverse medical events in hospitalized children in Florida, New York, and Wisconsin in the years 1999-2001. (AHRQ 08-R018)

Medical Office Survey on Patient Safety Culture.

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, November 2008, 54 pp. Presents materials for a survey

TeamSTEPPS™: Strategies and Tools to Enhance Performance and Patient Safety

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality and Department of Defense, September 2006. A comprehensive set of ready-to-use materials and training curricula for health care organizations provides techniques to improve the ability of teams to respond quickly and effectively to high-stress situations.

Instructor Guide. 794 pp., explains how to conduct a pre-training assessment of an organization's training needs, how to present the information effectively, and how to manage organizational change. Includes printed materials in a 3-inch loose-leaf binder, plus the *Multimedia Resource Kit* and the *Pocket Guide* (see below). (AHRQ 06-0020-0; single copies \$12.00 for shipping to addresses within the U.S.)

Multimedia Resource Kit. Includes contents of the *Instructor Guide* and the *Pocket Guide* as printable files (Word®, PDF, and PowerPoint®), plus a DVD that contains nine video vignettes. (AHRQ 06-0020-3; single copies free)

Pocket Guide. Spiral-bound, 36 pp., summarizes TeamSTEPPS principles in a portable, easy-to-use format. (AHRQ 06-0020-2; single copies free)

Poster. 17 x 22 inch, tells your staff you are adopting TeamSTEPPS (AHRQ 06-0020-5; single copies free)

Rapid Response System Module. March 2009, CD. Provides an overview of the Rapid Response System and the role of the Rapid Response Team, which comprises clinicians who bring critical care expertise to patients requiring immediate treatment while in the hospital. Includes curriculum slides, an instructor guide, and video vignettes. (AHRQ 08(09)-0074-CD; single copies free)

that is designed to measure patient safety culture in an individual medical office by assessing the opinions of staff at all levels, from physicians to receptionists. Includes guidance on how to collect and report data, as well as how to conduct a Web-based survey. (AHRQ 08(09)-0059)

Medical Teamwork and Patient Safety: The Evidence-Based Relation. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, April 2005, 59 pp. Presents evidence to support the relation between team training and patient safety. Presents background information related to

teamwork, including the nature of effective teamwork, teamwork-related knowledge, skills, and attitudes, and contextual issues surrounding teamwork. (AHRQ 05-0053)

Medicare Payment for Selected Adverse Events: Building the Business Case for Investing in Patient Safety. C. Zhan, B. Friedman, A. Mosso, et al., *Health Affairs*, 25(5):September/October 2006, 1386-1393. Provides insights into the intricate financial relationships surrounding adverse events and illustrates the business cases

for both Medicare and hospitals to invest in patient safety. (AHRQ 07-R008)

Mistake-Proofing in Health Care: Lessons for Ongoing Patient Safety Improvements. C. Clancy, *American Journal of Medical Quality*, 22:2007, 463-465. Discusses the role and importance of mistake-proofing in creating a culture of patient safety in health care organizations. (AHRQ 08-R016)

Mistake-Proofing the Design of Health Care Processes. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, May 2007, CD-ROM. Provides an in-depth introduction to mistake-proofing, a little-known but very promising approach to preventing medical errors and reducing the adverse events that result from errors. (AHRQ 07-0020-CD)

New Patient Safety Organizations Lower Roadblocks to Medical Error Reporting. C. Clancy, *American Journal of Medical Quality*, 23:2008, 318-321. Discusses the importance of sharing information about events that jeopardize patient safety and the role of clinicians and patient safety organizations, working within a protected legal environment, in sharing information about medical errors and near misses to facilitate better error prevention strategies. (AHRQ 09-R002)

Nursing Home Survey on Patient Safety Culture. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, November 2008, 52 pp. Presents a survey designed to measure resident safety culture in a nursing home facility or in a special contained area of a

facility that includes only licensed nursing home beds. Guidance is provided for data collection and reporting. (AHRQ 08(09)-0060)

Organizational Silence and Hidden Threats to Patient Safety. K. Henriksen, E. Dayton, *Health Services Research*, Part II, 41(4):August 2006, 1539-1554. Focuses on some of the less obvious factors contributing to organizational silence—a collective-level phenomenon of saying or doing very little in response to significant problems that face an organization—that can threaten patient safety. (AHRQ 06-R060)

Patient Safety and Quality: An Evidence-Based Handbook for Nurses. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, April 2008, 1,400 pp. This three-volume resource, available in print and as a searchable CD-ROM, contains 89 contributions that represent the work of a broad range of nurses and other patient safety researchers, spanning a range of issues applicable to a variety of health care settings. (AHRQ 08-0043) **CD-ROM** (AHRQ 08-0043-CD)

Patient Safety Improvement Corps: Tools, Methods, and Techniques for Improving Patient Safety. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality and Department of Veterans Affairs, August 2007, DVD. Provides a self-paced, modular approach to training individuals involved in patient safety activities at the institutional level. Presents eight modules that depict processes and tools that can be used to develop a systems-based approach to patient

safety including: investigation of medical errors and their root causes; identification, implementation, and evaluation of system-level interventions to address patient safety concerns; and steps necessary to promote a culture of safety within a hospital or other health care facility. (AHRQ 07-0035-DVD)

Patient Safety in Nursing Practice. M. Farquhar, B. Sharp, C. Clancy, *AORN Journal*, 86(3):September 2007, 455-457. Discusses AHRQ-supported research focused on the role of nurses in improving patient safety and quality of care. (AHRQ 08-R019)

Patient Safety in the Intensive Care Unit: Challenges and Opportunities. C. Clancy, *Journal of Patient Safety*, 3(1):March 2007, 6-8. Commentary on the occurrence of errors in hospital ICUs, as well as examples of research in this area funded by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. (AHRQ 07-R054)

Problems and Prevention: Chest Tube Insertion. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality and University of Maryland School of Medicine, September 2006, 11-minute DVD. Uses video excerpts of 50 actual chest tube insertion procedures to illustrate problems that can occur and provides correct techniques for inserting chest tubes. (AHRQ 06-0069-DVD)

Putting the Patient in Patient Safety. C. Clancy, *Journal of Patient Safety*, 3(2):June 2007, 65-66. Discusses the importance of patient participation in health care decisionmaking as one of the

key factors in reducing medical errors and improving patient safety. (AHRQ 07-R076)

Relationship Between Performance Measurement and Accreditation: Implications for Quality of Care and Patient Safety.

M. Miller, P. Pronovost, M. Donithan, et al., *American Journal of Medical Quality*, 20(5):September/October 2005, 239-252. Examines the association between the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations accreditation scores and the AHRQ's Inpatient Quality Indicators and Patient Safety Indicators. (AHRQ 06-R005)

Sensemaking of Patient Safety Risks and Hazards.

J. Battles, N. Dixon, R. Borotkanics, et al., *Health Services Research*, Part II, 41(4):August 2006, 1555-1575. Defines patient safety sensemaking in the context of eliminating risks and hazards that are a threat to patient safety and discusses it as a conceptual framework. (AHRQ 06-R059)

Sleepless in the Hospital: Evidence Mounts that Tired Caregivers May Compromise Quality.

C. Clancy, *Journal of Patient Safety*, 3(3):September 2007, 125-126. Comments on recent evidence on the relationship between extra long shifts without sleep for residents and interns and the occurrence of preventable adverse events in hospitals. (AHRQ 08-R007)

Struggling to Invent High-Reliability Organizations in Health Care Settings: Insights from the Field.

N. Dixon, M. Shofer, *Health Services Research*, Part II, 41(4):August 2006, 1618-1632.

Discusses an analysis of findings from an AHRQ consumer needs assessment of leaders in selected health care systems, asking questions about current implementation initiatives and perceived needs for continued implementation of patient safety initiatives. (AHRQ 06-R075)

TeamSTEPPS™: Assuring Optimal Teamwork in Clinical Settings.

C. Clancy, D. Tornberg, *American Journal of Medical Quality*, 22(3):May/June 2007, 214-217. Discusses the importance of teamwork in promoting high quality health care and preventing medical errors and describes the Team Strategies and Tools to Enhance Performance and Patient Safety (TeamSTEPPS) training resource, which is sponsored jointly by AHRQ and the Department of Defense. (AHRQ 07-R024)

TeamSTEPPS™: Optimizing Teamwork in the Perioperative Setting.

C. Clancy, *AORN Journal*, 86(1):2007, 18-22. Discusses the importance of teamwork in health care and describes the TeamSTEPPS initiative, which is a resource for training health care providers in better teamwork practices. The program was developed jointly by AHRQ and the Department of Defense. (AHRQ 08-R001)

Tracking Rates of Patient Safety Indicators Over Time: Lessons from the Veterans Administration.

A. Rosen, S. Zhao, P. Rivard, et al., *Medical Care*, 44(9):September 2006, 850-861. Provides a descriptive analysis of the incidence of Patient Safety Indicator (PSI) events from 2001 to 2004 in the Veterans Health Administration, examines

trends in national PSI rates at the hospital discharge level over time, and assesses whether hospital characteristics and baseline safety-related hospital performance predict future hospital stay-related performance. (AHRQ 06-R078)

Training Health Care Professionals for Patient Safety.

C. Clancy, *American Journal of Medical Quality*, 20(5):September/October 2005, 277-279. Discusses AHRQ's goals, vision, and role in ongoing professional education and staff training to foster a new culture of patient safety. (AHRQ 06-R006)

Transforming Hospitals: Designing for Safety and Quality.

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, September 2007, DVD. Reviews the case for evidence-based hospital design and how it can increase patient and staff satisfaction and safety, quality of care, and employee retention, as well as how it results in a positive return on investment. Describes the experiences of three modern hospitals that incorporated evidence-based design elements into their construction and renovation projects. (AHRQ 07-0076-DVD)

Triggers and Targeted Injury Detection Systems (TIDS)

Expert Panel Meeting: Conference Summary.

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, February 2009, 50 pp. Presents background information on the development and implementation of clinical triggers and targeted injury detection systems to identify patient safety risks and hazards. Includes eight papers

presented at a 2008 AHRQ-sponsored conference focused on triggers and TIDS. (AHRQ 09-0003)

Using Patient Safety Indicators to Estimate the Impact of Potential Adverse Events on Outcomes. P. Rivard, S. Luther, C. Christiansen, et al., *Medical Care Research and Review*, 65(1):February 2008, 67-87. Estimates the impact of potentially preventable patient safety events as identified by the AHRQ Patient Safety Indicators on patient outcomes, mortality, length of stay, and cost. (AHRQ 08-R046)

Primary Care

Alcohol Use Among HIV-Infected Persons in Care: Results of a Multi-Site Survey. G. Chander, J. Josephs, J. Fleishman, et al., *HIV Medicine*, 9(4):April 2008, 196-202. Examines the prevalence of any alcohol use and hazardous alcohol consumption among HIV-infected individuals engaged in care and identifies factors associated with hazardous alcohol use. (AHRQ 08-R067)

Describing Primary Care Encounters: The Primary Care Network Survey and the National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey. H. Binns, D. Lanier, W. Pace, et al., *Annals of Family Medicine*, 5:2007, 39-47. Describes clinical encounters in primary care research networks and compares them with those of the National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey. (AHRQ 07-R046)

Evidence on the Chronic Care Model in the New Millennium. K. Coleman, B. Austin, C. Brach, E. Wagner, *Health Affairs*, 28(1):January-February 2009, 75-85. Examines the evidence on the effectiveness of the chronic care model in improving outpatient care for people with chronic illnesses. (AHRQ 09-R016)

How Well Do Family Physicians Manage Skin Lesions? D. Merenstein, D. Meyers, A. Krist, et al., *Journal of Family Practice* 56(1):January 2007, 40-45. Examines the percentage of skin lesions that improve after evaluation and management by family physicians, as well as the agreement between family physicians' diagnosis and treatment of lesions compared with dermatologists' assessments and treatment plans. (AHRQ 07-R052)

Improving Colorectal Cancer Screening in Primary Care Practice: Innovative Strategies and Future Directions. C. Klabunde, D. Lanier, E. Breslau, et al., *Journal of General Internal Medicine*, 22:2007, 1195-1205. Analyzes colorectal cancer screening practices in primary care and discusses ways to improve colorectal cancer screening rates. (AHRQ 08-R010)

Lost in Translation: The Value of Qualitative Data. D. Lanier, *The Journal of the American Board of Family Practice*, 18(5):September-October 2005, 409-410. Looks at the *Every Woman Matters* study by Backer, et al., to discuss why practice change in this country is often so difficult due to data that often are not

collected or not included in quantitative research. (AHRQ 06-R008)

A National Survey of Primary Care Practice-Based Research Networks. W. Tierney, C. Oppenheimer, B. Hudson, et al., *Annals of Family Medicine*, 5(3): May/June 2007, 242-250. Presents and discusses the results of a Web-based survey and structured interviews conducted in Fall 2003 to assess the current status, relevance to everyday practice, and potential value of research underway in primary care practice-based research networks across the Nation. (AHRQ 07-R068)

Patient Self-Management Support Programs: An Evaluation. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, November 2007, 50 pp. Presents a number of key considerations for developers and purchasers of patient self-management support programs, as well as program evaluation measures used in research and by existing programs. (AHRQ 08-0011)

Primary Care Physicians' Perceptions of the Effect of Insurance Status on Clinical Decision Making. D. Meyers, R. Mishori, J. McCann, et al., *Annals of Family Medicine*, 4(5):September/October 2006, 399-402. Presents the results of a survey of primary care physicians about their perceptions of what effect, if any, patients' insurance status has on their clinical decisionmaking during office visits. (AHRQ 07-R017)

Substance Abuse Treatment in Human Immunodeficiency Virus: The Role of Patient-Provider Discussions. P. Korthuis, J. Josephs, J. Fleishman, et al., *Journal of Substance Abuse Treatment*, March 2008, online. Examines factors associated with use of substance abuse treatment, including patient-provider discussions of substance use issues, based on a survey of 951 HIV-infected adults receiving care at 14 HIV Research Network primary care sites. (AHRQ 08-R066)

Public Health Emergency Preparedness

Adapting Community Call Centers for Crisis Support: A Model for Home-Based Care and Monitoring. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, September 2007, 222 pp. Describes the development, testing, and implementation of a model to enable community health call centers—such as poison control centers, nurse advice lines, and other hotlines—to support home management and shelter-in-place approaches in certain mass casualty or health emergency events. (AHRQ 07-0048)

AHRQ's Bioterrorism and Health System Preparedness Initiative. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, August 2006. Provides information about AHRQ's bioterrorism and health system preparedness initiative, describing resources and examples of funded initiatives. (AHRQ 06-M045)

Altered Standards of Care in Mass Casualty Events. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, March 2005, 43 pp. White Paper summarizes the recommendations of a group of experts who met in August 2004 to discuss the provision of health and medical care in a mass casualty event. (AHRQ 05-0043)

Community-Based Mass Prophylaxis: A Planning Guide for Public Health Preparedness. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, August 2004, 74 pp. Planning guide to assist public health and emergency management officials devise comprehensive mass prophylaxis plans to ensure that civilian populations have timely access to necessary antibiotics and/or vaccines in the event of a bioterrorist attack or natural disease outbreak. (AHRQ 04-0044)

Current Status of Surge Research. S. Phillips, *Academic Emergency Medicine*, 13(11):October 2006, 1103-1108. Describes research on emergency department preparedness and surge capacity and focuses primarily on the work of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality in this area. (AHRQ 07-R023)

Decontamination of Children: Preparedness and Response for Hospital Emergency Departments. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, October 2005, 27-minute video. Demonstrates for emergency responders and hospital emergency department staff how to safely decontaminate children who have been exposed to hazardous

chemicals, including those from a bioterrorist attack. **DVD** (AHRQ 05-0036-DVD)

Emergency Preparedness Atlas: U.S. Nursing Home and Hospital Facilities. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, April 2007, 281 pp. Provides an overview of the role and potential needs of nursing homes in the event of a public health emergency, presents a series of case studies illustrating the ways in which nursing homes may be used to accommodate a surge of patients in six States, and presents an atlas of full-color maps of selected health care facilities for all 50 States and the District of Columbia. (AHRQ 07-0029-2). **CD-ROM** (AHRQ 07-0029-2-CD)

Emergency Severity Index, Version 4. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, May 2005. Presents a five-level emergency department triage algorithm that provides clinically relevant stratification of patients into five groups from most urgent to least urgent on the basis of acuity and resource needs. **Everything You Need to Know**, Set of two DVDs (AHRQ 05-0046-DVD) **Implementation Handbook**, spiral bound, 82 pp, and poster (AHRQ 05-0046-2)

Evaluation of Hospital Disaster Drills: A Module-Based Approach. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, April 2004, 128 pp. In collaboration with Johns Hopkins University, presents an approach to the evaluation of hospital disaster drills that consists of a series of evaluation modules and addendums to identify specific weaknesses that can be

targeted for improvement, and to promote continuing efforts to strengthen hospital disaster preparedness. (AHRQ 04-0032) **CD-ROM** (AHRQ 04-0032-CD)

Health Emergency Assistance Line and Triage Hub (HEALTH) Model. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, January 2005, 92 pp. Report helps planners determine the requirements, specifications, and resources needed for developing an emergency contact center such as the HEALTH model. (AHRQ 05-0040)

Home Health Care During an Influenza Pandemic: Issues and Resources. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, September 2008, 80 pp. An introductory guide for the home health care industry to prepare for and respond to an influenza pandemic. Lists more than two dozen resources for home health care agency preparedness. (AHRQ 08-0018; single copies free)

Mass Medical Care with Scarce Resources: A Community Planning Guide. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, February 2007, 166 pp. A guide to assist planners at the facility, community, State, and Federal levels in their efforts to plan for and respond to a mass casualty event in the context of broader emergency planning. (AHRQ 07-0001)

Nursing Homes in Public Health Emergencies: Special Needs and Potential Roles. E. Root, J. Amoozegar, S. Bernard, May 2007, 50 pp. Presents findings from a series of focus group discussions about disaster and bioterrorism-related planning activities among nursing homes

in Southern California and in five States: North Carolina, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Washington, and Utah, as well as the influence of State regulations on nursing homes. (AHRQ 07-0029-1)

Pediatric Hospital Surge Capacity in Public Health Emergencies. E. Boyer, J. Fitch, M. Shannon, December 2008, 32 pp. Provides recommendations to assist clinicians and pediatric hospitals in converting from standard operating capacity to surge capacity in the wake of a public health emergency. Also provides recommendations for community hospital emergency departments so they can provide care for large numbers of critically ill children. (AHRQ 09-0014)

Pediatric Terrorism and Disaster Preparedness; A Resource for Pediatricians. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, October 2006, CD-ROM and 34 pp summary. Discusses the various roles and responsibilities of community- and hospital-based pediatricians in preparing for and responding to natural disasters and bioterrorism events to ensure that the special needs of children are considered and incorporated into planning at the local, State, regional, and Federal levels.

Summary. October 2006 (AHRQ 06(07)-0056-1)
Full Report (CD-ROM). October 2006 (06(07)-0056-CD)

Project XTREME. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, March 2007. A CD-ROM and DVD set for use in cross-training non-respiratory therapy health care professionals in basic

respiratory care and ventilator management in the event of a public health emergency.

Model for Health Professionals' Cross-Training for Mass Casualty Respiratory Needs (Report; CD-ROM).
Cross-Training Respiratory Extenders for Medical Emergencies (Training program, DVD).
CD-ROM and DVD Set. (AHRQ 07-0017-MW)

Reopening Shuttered Hospitals to Expand Surge Capacity. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, February 2006, 193 pp. Offers comprehensive guidance on how to reopen a shuttered or partially shuttered hospital to serve as a medical surge facility. Covers physical structure, supply and staffing needs, security, patient transport, and information requirements. Includes a **Surge Tool Kit and Facility Checklist**, 171 pp. in a three-ring binder. Tool Kit guides staff step by step on planning, reopening, operating, and closing down the hospital. Checklist provides detailed prompts for facility inspection with space for notes on findings. **Report** (AHRQ 06-0029); **Surge Tool Kit and Facility Checklist** (AHRQ 06-0029-A)

Rocky Mountain Regional Care Model for Bioterrorist Events. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, August 2004. Model helps State and local officials quickly locate alternate health care sites if hospitals are overwhelmed by patients due to a bioterrorism attack or other public health emergency. Accompanying alternate care site selection tool helps regional planners locate and rank potential alternative sites such as stadiums or

schools based on whether they have adequate ventilation, plumbing, food supply, kitchen facilities, and other factors. (AHRQ 04-0075)

School-Based Emergency Preparedness: A National Analysis and Recommended Protocol. S. Chung, J. Danielson, M. Shannon, December 2008, 53 pp. Presents a national model for school-based emergency response planning, including guidance on the recommended steps for creating and implementing a school-based emergency response plan. (AHRQ 09-0013)

Tool for Evaluating Core Elements of Hospital Disaster Drills. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, June 2008, 60 pp. Provides modules that hospitals can use to identify the most important strengths and weaknesses of their disaster drills. (AHRQ 08-0019; single copies free)

Tools for Public Health Emergency Planners and Responders

AHRQ's Public Health Emergency Preparedness Research Program has several interactive online tools to assist Federal, State, and local governments in planning for and responding to public health emergencies. These tools and resources are available on the AHRQ Web site at www.ahrq.gov/prep under "Tools and Resources."

Quality of Care

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality's National Healthcare Quality and Disparities Reports: Action Agendas for the Nation. D. McNeill, E. Moy, C. Clancy, *American Journal of Medical Quality*, 21(3):May/June 2006, 206-209. Discusses the 2005 National Healthcare Quality Report and National Healthcare Disparities Report, tracking the Nation's progress in improving health care quality and reducing health care disparities across a broad range of conditions, services, and population groups. (AHRQ 06-R048)

AHRQ's National Healthcare Quality and Disparities Reports: An Ever-Expanding Road Map for Improvement. J. Brady, K. Ho, E. Kelley, C. Clancy, *Health Services Research*, 42(3):June 2007, xi-xxi. Discusses refinements that have been made in the National Healthcare Quality Report and National Healthcare Disparities Report and describes a new Web site and online resources for quality and disparities data. (AHRQ 07-R061)

All or None Measurement: Why We Know So Little About the Comprehensiveness of Care. E. Kelley, *International Journal for Quality in Health Care*, 19(1):2007, 1-3. Discusses the benefits and limitations of using an "all or none" approach to assessing quality of care by looking at data at the patient level to examine whether a bundle or set of evidence-based interventions that are supposed to be done for the patient are actually done for the patient. (AHRQ 07-R058)

Assessing the Validity of Self-Reported Medication Adherence in Hepatitis C Treatment. S. Smith, A. Wahed, S. Kelley, et al., *Annals of Pharmacotherapy*, 41:July/August 2007, 1116-1123. Assesses the validity of self-reported medication adherence provided by individuals in treatment for hepatitis C virus infection with a regimen of peginterferon and ribavirin. (AHRQ 08-R003)

Best Practice Implementation: Lessons Learned from 20 Partnerships. P. Sharek, C. Mullican, A. Lavanderos, et al., *Joint Commission Journal on Quality and Patient Safety*, 33(12 Suppl):December 2007, 16-26. Identifies the most important perceived barriers to implementation witnessed in the 20 multiyear AHRQ Partnerships for Quality projects and describes successful and unsuccessful strategies reported by these partnerships to overcome the most significant of these barriers. (AHRQ 08-R038)

Board Engagement in Quality: Findings of a Survey of Hospital and System Leaders. H. Jiang, C. Lockee, K. Bass, et al., *Journal of Healthcare Management*, 53(2):March/April 2008, 121-135. Presents and discusses the results of a survey of hospital and system leaders that was conducted in the first half of 2006 with 562 respondents to determine leadership involvement in quality improvement planning and activities. (AHRQ 08-R057)

Building Capacity for a Transformation Initiative: System Redesign at Denver Health. M. Harrison, J. Kimani, *Health Care Management Review*, 34(1):January-March 2009, 42-53. Examines the development of transformation initiatives—deliberate attempts to achieve systemic changes and rapid performance improvements—over a 2-year period at an integrated safety net health system. (AHRQ 09-R017)

The CAHPS Hospital Survey: Development, Testing, and Use. C. Crofton, C. Darby, M. Farquhar, et al., *Journal of Quality and Patient Safety*, 31(11):November 2005, 655-659. Describes how the CAHPS consortium developed the CAHPS Hospital Survey instrument, how it was tested, and expectation for its use. (AHRQ 06-R017)

Consumer Assessment of Health Providers and Systems (CAHPS®): Evolving to Meet Stakeholder Needs. C. Darby C. Crofton, C. Clancy, *American Journal of Medical Quality*, 21(2): March/April 2006, 144-147. Describes the evolution of the CAHPS family of survey instruments, from the project's beginning in the mid-1990s to the present. Currently, there are about 30 instruments in use or in development. (AHRQ 06-R047)

Design of the Physical Environment for Changing Healthcare Needs. C. Clancy, S. Isaacson, K. Henriksen, *Health Environments Research & Design Journal*, 1(1):Fall 2007, 10-11. Discusses the role of the physical environment—including light, noise, air quality, toxic exposures, temperature, humidity, and so

on—in health care organizations and how improvements in the physical environment might lead to improvements in quality of care. (AHRQ 08-R027)

Designing and Implementing Medicaid Disease and Care Management Programs: A User's Guide. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, March 2008, 180 pp. Presents information, examples, and checklists to help States design, implement, and evaluate Medicaid care management programs for the chronically ill. (AHRQ 07(08)-0063)

Disseminating QI Interventions. G. Boratgis, S. Broderick, M. Callahan, et al., *Joint Commission Journal on Quality and Patient Safety*, 33(12 Suppl):December 2007, 48-65. Describes the AHRQ's Partnerships for Quality Dissemination Planning Tool, which was used to identify the most appropriate partners to disseminate the quality improvement interventions for three projects—that is, the partners most likely to reach and influence the target audience(s). (AHRQ 08-R041)

Emergency Departments in Crisis: Implications for Accessibility, Quality, and Safety. C. Clancy, *American Journal of Medical Quality*, 22(1):January/February 2007, 59-62. Examines the role of hospital emergency departments in providing emergency care and more routine treatment, including current challenges and efforts to ensure continued quality and safety of care. (AHRQ 07-R038)

Emergency Departments in Crisis: Opportunities for Research. C. Clancy, *Health Services Research*, 42(1, Part 1):February 2007, xiii-xx. Discusses the state of emergency medicine and describes opportunities for research on ways to improve the quality of emergency medicine and care in hospital emergency departments. (AHRQ 07-R041)

Enhancing Quality Improvement. C. Clancy, *Healthcare Papers*, 6(3):2006, 46-50. Discusses the significant opportunities for improvements in quality of care in most, if not all, developed nations. (AHRQ 07-R005)

Evaluating the Impact of Partnerships to Improve Clinical Quality. N. Donaldson, S. Horn, J. Edwards, et al., *Joint Commission Journal on Quality and Patient Safety*, 33(12 Suppl):December 2007, 27-36. Describes the AHRQ's Partnerships for Quality Framework for Evaluating the Impact of Partnerships on research translation and presents a pragmatic tool for evaluating the impact of partnership-driven translation and implementation research projects. Includes examples of the application of the tool to evaluate the impact of real-world partnerships, demonstrating its utility across varied partnerships. (AHRQ 08-R039)

Factors Associated with High-Quality/Low-Cost Hospital Performance. H. Jiang, B. Friedman, J. Begun, *Journal of Health Care Finance*, 32(3):Spring 2006, 139-152. Explores organizational and market

Resource Guides for State Action

Complementary products help State leaders implement quality improvement plans for their States or enhance existing programs. Uses State-level data from *National Healthcare Quality Reports* to help States assess the quality of care in their States and fashion quality improvement strategies suited to State conditions.

Asthma Care Quality Improvement: A Resource Guide for State Action. 143 pp. (AHRQ 06-0012-1)

Asthma Care Quality Improvement: A Workbook for State Action. 35 pp. (AHRQ 06-0012-2)

Diabetes Care Quality Improvement: A Resource Guide for State Action. 152 pp. (AHRQ 04-0072) **Supplement.** 4 pp. (AHRQ 04(05)-0072-1)

Diabetes Care Quality Improvement: A Workbook for States. 38 pp. (AHRQ 04-0073)

characteristics associated with superior hospital performance in both quality and cost of care, using the Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project State Inpatient Databases for 10 States in 1997 and 2001. (AHRQ 06-R054)

Finding Order in Heterogeneity: Types of Quality Improvement Intervention Publications. L. Rubenstein, S. Hempel, M. Farmer, et al., *Quality and Safety in Health Care*, 17(6):December 2008, 394-395. This commentary explores the heterogeneity in clinical quality improvement intervention publications. (AHRQ 09-R022)

Frontiers in Gender-Based Research: Health Care Quality Data. E. Moy, E. Dayton, *Women's Health Issues*, 17(6):November/December 2007, 334-337. Editorial discusses underused data sources included in the appendixes of AHRQ's National Healthcare Disparities Report that can be used to examine disparities in health care based on sex. (AHRQ 08-R048)

Hospital and Demographic Influences on the Disposition of Transient Ischemic Attack. J. Coben, P. Owens, C. Steiner, et al., *Academic Emergency Medicine*, 15(2):February 2008, 171-176. Examines the influence of clinical, sociodemographic, and hospital characteristics on emergency department dispositions of patients diagnosed with transient ischemic attack. (AHRQ 08-R063)

Hospital Quality, Efficiency, and Input Slack Differentials. V. Valdmanis, M. Rosko, R. Mutter, *Health Services Research*, 43(5):December 2008, 1830-1848. Examines the effects of hospital inefficiency on quality of care in public, not-for-profit, and teaching hospitals. (AHRQ 09-R005)

How Do Hospital Organizational Structure and Processes Affect Quality of Care? A Critical Review of Research Methods. L. Hearld, J. Alexander, I. Fraser, et al., *Medical Care Research and Review*, 65(3):June 2008, 259-299. Reviews the literature on the relationship between the

structural characteristics and organizational processes of hospitals and quality of care. (AHRQ 08-R083)

Improving Efficiency and Value in Health Care: Introduction. I. Fraser, W. Encinosa, S. Glied, *Health Services Research*, 43(5 Part II):October 2008, 1781-1786. Introduces a new theme issue for the journal, which is focused on ideas and programs to reduce waste, increase efficiency, and better allocate resources to improve value in health care. (AHRQ 09-R004)

Improving Quality and Reducing Disparities: The Role of Nurses. K. Ho, J. Brady, C. Clancy, *Journal of Nursing Care Quality*, 23(3):July-September 2008, 185-188. Summarizes findings from AHRQ's national reports on quality and disparities and the role of nurses in health care communication and quality improvement. (AHRQ 08-R085)

Improving the Quality of Nursing Care Using the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey Data. R. Hughes, C. Clancy, *Journal of Nursing Care Quality*, 22(2):April-June 2007, 93-96. Describes the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey and discusses how nurses in practice, research, and policymaking can use MEPS data for the benefit of patients and organizational improvement. (AHRQ 07-R055)

Informing Quality Health Care. C. Clancy, *Healthcare Financial Management*, March 2006, 64-68. Commentary on the importance of quality in the health care system. Discusses the role of the government, AHRQ's Effective Health Care

2008 National Reports on Quality and Disparities

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, March 2009. Reports focus on quality of care and disparities in health care in America, overall and for AHRQ's priority populations.

2008 National Healthcare Disparities Report. 290 pp. Finds that although some of the biggest disparities in quality remain, progress has been made in reducing disparities in several areas, such as dialysis, hospital admissions for perforated appendix, and childhood vaccinations. This year, the NHDR also reports on the biggest disparities in quality documented over the years where there has not been improvement, such as new AIDS cases. (AHRQ 09-0002)

2008 National Healthcare Quality Report. 153 pp. Finds that health care quality continues to improve, but the rate of improvement has slowed. In addition, variations in the quality of health care across the Nation are decreasing but not for all measures. The safety of health care also has worsened, and more needs to be done. (AHRQ 09-0001)

Program, and quality-improvement principles. (AHRQ 06-R057)

Integrating Literacy, Culture, and Language to Improve Health Care Quality for Diverse Populations. D. Andrulis, C. Brach, *American Journal of Health Behavior*, 31:Sept/Oct 2007, S122-S132. Examines the interrelationship of literacy, culture, and language and the importance of addressing their interactions in order to improve health care quality for low-literacy and other vulnerable individuals. (AHRQ 07-R079)

Is Our Pharmacy Meeting Patients' Needs? A Pharmacy Health Literacy Assessment Tool: User's Guide. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, October 2007, 66 pp. Presents a tool to measure how well an organization is serving patients with limited health literacy. It is designed for use primarily in outpatient pharmacies of large, urban, public hospitals that serve low-income populations with a high

incidence of chronic disease and limited health literacy skills. (AHRQ 07-0051)

Issues in the Design of Training for Quality and Safety. K. Henriksen, E. Dayton, *Quality and Safety in Health Care*, 15(Suppl 1):2006, 17-24. Explores changes in the practice of medicine and the health care delivery environment and describes how health care training and education can benefit from findings in the behavioral and cognitive sciences. (AHRQ 07-R042)

Measuring Hospital Inefficiency: The Effects of Controlling for Quality and Patient Burden of Illness. R. Mutter, M. Rosko, H. Wong, *Health Services Research*, 43(6):December 2008, 1992-2013. Assesses the impact of employing a variety of controls for hospital quality and patient burden of illness on the mean estimated inefficiency and relative ranking of hospitals as generated by stochastic frontier

analysis (SFA), a statistical method used for economic modeling. (AHRQ 09-R011)

Missed Opportunities for Quality Improvement. K. Ho, E. Kelley, J. Brady, et al., *American Journal of Medical Quality* 22(4):July/August 2007, 296-299. Discusses the data presented in the 2006 National Healthcare Quality Report and National Healthcare Disparities Report, briefly describes AHRQ's "Questions Are the Answer" campaign, and talks about the important role of prevention in health care quality improvement. (AHRQ 07-R075)

Modifying DRG-PPS to Include Only Diagnoses Present on Admission: Financial Implications and Challenges. C. Zhan, A. Elixhauser, B. Friedman, et al., *Medical Care*, 45(4):April 2007, 288-291. Uses 2003 data from two States (New York and California) currently coding their data for conditions that are present on admission (POA) to assess the financial impact if Medicare decides to pay based on POA conditions only. Also examines the challenges involved in implementing POA coding. (AHRQ 07-R081)

National Quality Measures Clearinghouse™ Tutorial. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, October 2003, CD-ROM tutorial provides information on specific evidence-based health care quality measures and measure sets. (AHRQ 04-0009-CD)

Pay for Performance: A Decision Guide for Purchasers. *AHRQ Final Contract Report*, April 2006, 28 pp. Isolates and sequences 20 questions purchasers face in considering pay for performance, reviews options and any available evidence—from empirical evaluations and economic theory—that may inform future decisionmaking, and discusses potential effects and unintended consequences. (AHRQ 06-0047)

Payment Matters? The Next Chapter. P. McNamara, *Medical Care Research and Review*, Supplement, 63(1):February 2006, 5S-10S. Latest in a series of coordinated efforts by AHRQ to contribute to an ongoing national dialogue related to payment. Addresses the research gap and adds to the collective understanding of pay-for-performance. (AHRQ 06-R050)

The Performance of Performance Measurement. C. Clancy, *Health Services Research*, 43(5):October 2007, 1797-1800. Discusses the use of performance measurement to drive clinical improvements and inform choices made by health care purchasers and consumers. (AHRQ 08-R017)

Preventing Hospital-Acquired Venous Thromboembolism: A Guide for Effective Quality Improvement. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, August 2008, 50 pp. Presents information to help quality improvement (QI) practitioners—such as physicians, pharmacists, nurses, and risk managers—lead an efficient, reliable effort to improve prevention of hospital-acquired venous

thromboembolism, one of the most critical problems facing hospitalized patients. (AHRQ 08-0075)

Process Utility in Breast Biopsy. J. Swan, W. Lawrence, J. Roy, *Medical Decision Making*, 26:July-August 2006, 347-359. Describes the use of waiting trade-off in a circumstance where measuring preferences via waiting for results of testing and treatment may not be plausible for patients, owing to the urgency of the medical situation. (AHRQ 06-R083)

Provider-Specific Report Cards: A Tool for Health Sector Accountability in Developing Countries. P. McNamara, *Advanced Access*, 23:January 2006, 101-109. Discusses universal design options for report cards, summarizes the evidence base, presents developing country examples, reviews challenges, and outlines implementation steps. (AHRQ 06-R023)

Purchaser Strategies to Influence Quality of Care: From Rhetoric to Global Applications. P. McNamara, *Quality & Safety in Health Care*, 15:June 2006, 171-173. Highlights and frames purchasers' strategies explicitly crafted to enhance the quality and safety of care. (AHRQ 06-R051)

Quality-Based Purchasing in the United States: Applications in Developing Countries? P. McNamara, *Spending Wisely: Buying Health Services for the Poor*. In: Preker AS and Langenbrunner JC, eds. World Bank. Chapter 22. 2005. p. 375-388. Discusses the quality-based purchasing movement globally, nationally, and regionally, and talks about barriers, strategies to promote health accountability for quality, and impact of employer strategies on quality. (AHRQ 06-R009)

Quality Tools to Improve Care and Prevent Errors. M. Nix, M. Coopey, C. Clancy, *Journal of Nursing Care Quality*, 21(1):January-March 2006, 1-4. Provides a

AHRQ Quality Indicators Brochures

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, September 2006. AHRQ Quality Indicators (QIs), measures of health care quality that make use of readily available hospital inpatient administrative data, consist of four modules measuring various aspects of quality. See <http://www.qualityindicators.ahrq.gov> for announcement of updates to AHRQ QI software.

Prevention Quality Indicators. Identify hospital admissions that evidence suggests could have been avoided, at least in part, through high-quality outpatient care. (AHRQ 06-M049-1)

Inpatient Quality Indicators. Reflect quality of care inside hospitals including inpatient mortality for medical conditions and surgical procedures. (AHRQ 06-M049-2)

Pediatric Quality Indicators. Reflect quality of care inside hospitals and identify potentially avoidable hospitalizations among children. (AHRQ 06-M049-4)

commentary on patient safety in nursing practice, discussing quality tools to assist health care professionals, policymakers, health plans, employers, patients, and consumers in the development, promotion, and enhancement of quality within a practice or organization. (AHRQ 06-R034)

Redesigning Health Systems for Quality: Lessons from Emerging Practices.

M. Wang, J. Hyun, M. Harrison, et al., *Joint Commission Journal on Quality and Patient Safety*, 32(11):November 2006, 599-611. Discusses the progress that has been made in improving health care quality in the 5 years since the Institute of Medicine's landmark report, *Crossing the Quality Chasm*. Also discusses lessons that have been learned and provides suggestions for moving forward. (AHRQ 07-R030)

Report of Nationally Representative Values for the Noninstitutionalized U.S. Adult Population for 7 Health-Related Quality-of-Life Scores.

J. Hanmer, W. Lawrence, J. Anderson, et al., *Medical Decision Making*, 26:July/August 2006, 391-400. Presents age- and sex-stratified nationally representative values for several commonly used preference-based and non-preference-based health-related quality-of-life scores. Uses data from the 2001 wave of the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey. (AHRQ 06-R082)

The Role of the Physical Environment in Crossing the Quality Chasm.

K. Henriksen, S. Isaacson, B. Sadler, C. Zimring, *Joint Commission Journal on Quality and Patient Safety*, 33(11):November 2007,

68-80. Discusses the use of evidence-based design findings to help inform hospital decisionmakers about opportunities for ensuring that quality and safety are designed into new and refurbished facilities. (AHRQ 08-R028)

SCIP: Making Complications of Surgery the Exception Rather than the Rule.

C. Clancy, *AORN Journal*, 87(3):March 2008, 621-624. Commentary describes the Surgical Care Improvement Project (SCIP), a multi-year, national campaign involving 10 national organizations that was started in 2005 to substantially reduce the incidence of surgical complications through collaborative efforts. (AHRQ 08-R060)

Simulation in Health Care: Setting Realistic Expectations.

K. Henriksen, M. Patterson, *Journal of Patient Safety*, 3(3):September 2007, 127-134. Examines the role of simulation technology in training clinicians and discusses some of the challenges—such as setting realistic expectations, identifying relevant research questions, and developing well-rounded curricula—that need to be addressed. (AHRQ 08-R009)

Sustainability of Partnership Projects: A Conceptual Framework and Checklist.

J. Edwards, P. Feldman, J. Sangl, et al., *Joint Commission Journal on Quality and Patient Safety*, 33(12 Suppl):December 2007, 37-47. Describes the framework developed to incorporate elements for sustainability into AHRQ's Partnerships for Quality projects and the checklist that was developed to provide

concrete assistance in planning for sustainability. (AHRQ 08-R040)

The Third National Reports on Healthcare Quality and Disparities in the United States. National Data for Targeting Improvements.

M. Hand, F. Chesley, K. Ho, et al., *Journal of Nursing Care Quality*, 21(4):2006, 283-289. Discusses AHRQ's 2005 *National Healthcare Quality Report* and *National Healthcare Disparities Report* and their implications for nursing practice, policy, and research. (AHRQ 07-R002)

The "3Ts" Road Map to Transform U.S. Health Care: The "How" of High-Quality Care.

D. Dougherty, P. Conway, *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 299(19):May 2008, 2319-2321. Commentary on quality of care proposes a model intended to accelerate the pace at which innovations are implemented in clinical settings by addressing the "how" of health care delivery. (AHRQ 08-R054)

Unintended Consequences of Information Technologies in Health Care—An Interactive Sociotechnical Analysis.

M. Harrison, R. Kopel, S. Bar-Lev, *Journal of the American Medical Informatics Association*, 14:2007, 542-549. Develops and illustrates a conceptual model of interactions between health information technology (HIT) and a health care organization's sociotechnical system—including its workflow, culture, social interactions, and technologies—and discusses some unanticipated consequences that only become evident during HIT implementation. (AHRQ 08-R008)

Using the National Healthcare Quality and Disparities Reports for Executive Decision Making.

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