

AHRQ Publications Catalog



Spring/Summer 2008



Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality
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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 2006. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, July 2007, 30 pp. Presents key findings from AHRQ's 2006 research portfolio and highlights the advances made in moving from research to practice. (AHRQ 07-0037)

AHRQ Update. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, *HSR: 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)

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)

Childhood Obesity: Is There Effective Treatment?

J. Greaser, J. Whyte, *Consultant*, September 2004, 1349-1353. Discusses how to calculate body mass index in children and identify those who require further evaluation. Also outlines practical steps to help prevent and treat childhood obesity. (AHRQ 05-R011)

Children's Health Care in the First National Healthcare Quality Report and National Healthcare Disparities Report.

D. Dougherty, S. Meikle, P. Owens, et al., *Medical Care*, Supplement, 43(3):March 2005, 58-63. Highlights why a focus on children is appropriate for the first National Healthcare Quality and Disparities Reports, presents selected highlights of findings on children's health care quality and disparities from the reports, and stimulates improvements in measurement and reporting on children's

health care that can enhance future reports. (AHRQ 05-R053)

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)

Does SCHIP Benefit All Low-Income Children?

K. VanLandeghem, C. Brach. *CHIRI Issue Brief No. 4,*

December 2004, 6 pp. Discusses how the State Children's Health Insurance Program affects access to and satisfaction with care for new enrollees, including vulnerable children and adolescents with special health care needs. (AHRQ 05-0010)

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)

Health Care for Children and Youth in the United States: Annual Report on Patterns of Coverage, Utilization, Quality, and Expenditures by Income. L. Simpson, P. Owens, M. Zodet, et al., *Ambulatory Pediatrics*, 5(1):2005, 6-44. Examines differences by income in health care for children in the United States by examining data from the 2000-2002 Medical Expenditure Panel Survey and the 2001 Nationwide Inpatient Sample from the Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project. (AHRQ 05-R048)

How Much Can Really Be Saved by Rolling Back SCHIP? The Net Cost of Public Health Insurance for Children. T. Selden, J. Hudson, *Inquiry*, 42:Spring 2005, 16-28. Uses data from the 2000 Medical Expenditure Panel Survey to simulate the net cost of SCHIP, finding that the true cost of this program is

substantially less than average spending per enrollee would suggest, and thereby exaggerating the saving that might be achieved from SCHIP rollbacks. (AHRQ 05-R063)

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)

Kawasaki Syndrome in Hawaii. R. Holman, A. Curns, E. Belay, et al., *The Pediatric Infectious Disease Journal*, 24(5):May 2005, 429-433. Examines hospital discharge data for Kawasaki syndrome patients to describe the incidence and epidemiology of Kawasaki syndrome in Hawaii, including the incidence among the various racial groups. (AHRQ 05-R073)

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)

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)

More on RotaShield and Intussusception: The Role of Age at the Time of Vaccination. L. Simonsen, C. Viboud, A. Elixhauser, et al., *The Journal of Infectious Diseases*, Supplement 1, 192:2005, S36-43. Uses Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project data to estimate how absolute risk varies with age and to model the projected population-attributable risk associated with three different vaccination schedules. (AHRQ 06-R002)

Combating Childhood Obesity

Max's Magical Delivery. September 2004. A DVD for kids and parents to help fight childhood obesity, sponsored by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and FitTV and Discovery Communications. (AHRQ 04-0088-DVD) **Childhood Obesity: Combating the Epidemic.** Accompanying DVD for clinicians to learn about the latest recommendations and receiving useful tools about combating childhood obesity. (AHRQ 04-0089-DVD)

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)

Neonatal Circumcision: Cost-Effective Preventive Measure or “the Unkindest Cut of All?” D. Gray, *Medical Decision Making*, 24(6): November/December 2004, 688-692. Discusses costs associated with routine neonatal circumcision (performed as a preventive rather than a therapeutic measure). (AHRQ 05-R029)

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)

Relevance of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality Patient Safety Indicators for Children’s Hospitals. A. Sedman, J. Harris, K. Schulz, et al., *Pediatrics*, 115(1): January 2005, 135-145. Applies AHRQ’s Patient Safety Indicators (PSIs) to a national children’s hospital database to establish mean rates for each of the PSI events in children’s hospitals, investigate the inadequacies of PSI in relation to pediatric diagnoses, and express the data in such a way that children’s hospitals could use the PSIs for comparison with their own data. Attempts to use the data to set priorities for ongoing clinical

investigations and to propose interventions. (AHRQ 05-R034)

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)

Trends in Children’s Antibiotic Use: 1996 to 2001. G. Miller, W. Carroll, *MEPS Research Findings No. 23*, March 2005, 22 pp. Uses nationally representative data from the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey to examine antibiotic use by U.S. children for the years 1996-2001. (AHRQ 05-0020)

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

Treating Tobacco Use and Dependence

Clinical Practice Guideline. Public Health Service, June 2000. 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. (AHRQ 00-0032)

You Can Quit Smoking Kit. A one-stop source for information to help smokers become tobacco-free. Contains guideline products available in English, Spanish, and easy-to-read formats designed specifically for consumers. (AHRQ 03-0023)

Products listed below are contained in the *You Can Quit Smoking Kit* and may be ordered separately:

5-Day Countdown, Flip Book. (AHRQ 02-0048; AHRQ 03-0045 Spanish)

Good Information for Smokers, Consumer Guide. (AHRQ 02-0049; AHRQ 03-0005 Spanish)

Quitting Helps You Heal Faster, Hospital Card. (English/Spanish) (AHRQ 03-0044)

You Can Quit Smoking, Card. (AHRQ 02-0047; AHRQ 03-0006 Spanish)

You Can Quit Smoking, Consumer Guide. (AHRQ 00-0033; AHRQ 00-0046 Spanish)

Clinician's Packet. A how-to guide for implementing the Public Health Service clinical practice guideline. Contains information about developing a system, advising patients, special populations, and reimbursement; and products for clinicians and consumers. (AHRQ 03-0029)

Products listed below are contained in the *Clinician's Packet* and may be ordered separately:

Clinician Tear Sheet, Prenatal. (AHRQ 00-0052; AHRQ 00-0065 Spanish)

Clinician Tear Sheet, Primary Care. (AHRQ 00-0034; AHRQ 00-0055 Spanish)

Health Systems Guide. (AHRQ 00-0037)

Helping Smokers Quit, A Guide for Clinicians. (AHRQ 06-0080)

Helping Smokers Quit, A Guide for Nurses. (AHRQ 05-0035)

Quick Reference Guide for Clinicians. (AHRQ 00-0036)

The *Clinician's Packet* also includes products for consumers. See *You Can Quit Smoking Kit*.

Other Treating Tobacco Use Products

PowerPoint Slides. (AHRQ 06-0008-CD)

You Can Quit Smoking, Poster. (PHS 05-0060-1; PHS 05-0060-2 Spanish)



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

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)

Preventing 3 Million Premature Deaths and Helping 5 Million Smokers Quit: A National Action Plan for Tobacco Cessation. M. Fiore, R. Croyle, S. Curry, et al., *American Journal of Public Health*, 94(2):February 2004, 205-210. Summarizes a national plan for reducing premature morbidity and mortality by helping millions of Americans stop using tobacco. The plan includes both evidence-based, population-wide strategies

designed to promote cessation (e.g., a national quitline network) and a Smokers' Health Fund to finance the programs. (AHRQ 05-R003)

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 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

County Characteristics and Racial and Ethnic Disparities in the Use of Preventive Services. M. Benjamins, J. Kirby, S. Bond Huie, *Preventive Medicine*, 39:2004, 704-712. Finds that county

racial or ethnic composition is associated with the utilization of certain preventive services, net of individual-level characteristics. (AHRQ 05-R036)

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)

Long-Term Effectiveness of Weight-Loss Interventions in Adults with Pre-Diabetes: A Review. S. Norris, X. Zhang, A. Avenell, et al., *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*, 28(1):2005, 126-139. Assesses the effectiveness of weight-loss and weight-control interventions for adults with pre-diabetes, an important risk factor for the development of type 2 diabetes. Finds that overall, weight-loss strategies using dietary, physical activity, or behavioral interventions produced significant improvements in weight among persons with pre-diabetes, and a significant decrease in diabetes incidence. (AHRQ 05-R025)

Motorcycle-Related Hospitalizations in the United States, 2001. J. Coben, C. Steiner, P. Owens, *American Journal of Preventive*

Medicine, 27(5):2004, 355-362. Examines the prevalence of motorcycle-related hospitalization in the United States in 2001 and describes the demographic, clinical, hospital, and financial characteristics associated with these injuries. (AHRQ 05-R015)

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.

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. (AHRQ 07-IP005-A; first 100 copies free; additional package

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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)

Implementation Guide for Clinicians and Office Staff

A Step-by-Step Guide to Delivering Clinical Preventive Services: A Systems Approach.

October 2001. Explains how to evaluate delivery of preventive services and integrate whatever changes, large or small, are needed to make the routine delivery of preventive services part of a practice setting. Includes worksheets, health risk profiles, and preventive care flow sheets. (APPPI 01-0001; three copies free; \$20 each additional book)

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.

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)

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 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 2007.

September 2007, 239 pp. Pocket-sized guide is a compilation of abridged USPSTF recommendations released from 2001 to 2005 that can be used as an evidence-based tool at the point of patient care. (AHRQ 07-05100; single copies free)

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 to help make sure they receive the best possible care. Also discusses quality measures and 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. For patients who are facing surgery that is not an emergency, helps patients and their families understand more about 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-

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

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 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)

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)

Dental Health

An Analysis of Preventive Dental Visits by Provider Type, 1996. H. Goodman, R. Manski, J. Williams, et al., *JADA*, 136:February 2005, 221-228. Examines patterns of preventive dental visit



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

(http://www.meps.ahrq.gov/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.

utilization by analyzing the receipt of preventive dental services in the United States by type of dental provider. (AHRQ 05-R030)

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)

Dental Use, Expenses, Dental Coverage, and Changes, 1996 and 2004. R.H. Manski, E. Brown, *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)

Medicaid Coverage and Utilization of Adult Dental Services. C. Mullins, L. Cohen, L. Magder, et al., *Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved*, 15:2004, 672-687. Evaluates the economic impact of a policy change in adult Maryland Medicaid dental benefits that eliminated reimbursements to dentists, and examines all claims for 2 years before and after the change. (AHRQ 05-R042)

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 topics concerning the particular 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)

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: Summary.

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 Non-Opioid Analgesics for Osteoarthritis: Clinician's Guide.

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, January 2007, 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.

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)

Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease (GERD).

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, *Comparing Health Care Choices*, December 2005. 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)

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)

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)

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. 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 Darbeopetin 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

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.

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)

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(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)

Effects of Nursing Home Ownership Type and Resident Payer Source on Hospitalization for Suspected Pneumonia. R. Konetzka, W. Spector, T. Shaffer, *Medical Care*, 42(10):October 2004, 1001-1008. Examines the role of proprietary status in the decision to hospitalize residents with suspected pneumonia, controlling for facility- and resident-level factors. (AHRQ 05-R002)

Gender Differences in Drug Use and Expenditures in a Privately Insured Population of Older Adults. R. Corrae-de-Araujo, E. Miller, J. Banthin, et al., *Journal of Women's Health*, 14(1):January 2005, 73-81. Examines gender differences in use and expenditures for prescription drugs among Medicare and privately insured adults aged 65 and over, using data on a nationally representative sample of prescription drug purchases collected for the

Medical Expenditure Panel Survey Household Component. (AHRQ 05-R019)

Hospitalization and Death Associated with Potentially Inappropriate Medication Prescriptions Among Elderly Nursing Home Residents. D. Lau, J. Kasper, D. Potter, et al., *Archives of Internal Medicine*, 165:January 2005, 68-74. Discusses the association of potentially inappropriate medication prescriptions with subsequent adverse outcomes (hospitalization and death), and provides new evidence of the importance of improving prescribing practices in the nursing home setting. (AHRQ 05-R024)

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)

Inappropriate Medication Use in the Elderly. C. Zahn, *Journal of the Pharmacy Society of Wisconsin*, May/June 2005, 29-33. Discusses the definition, epidemiology, solutions, and new developments on the issue of inappropriate medication use in the elderly, including the publication of explicit criteria for screening. (AHRQ 05-R058)

The Influence of Rural Location on Utilization of Formal Home Care: The Role of Medicaid. W. McAuley, W. Spector, J. Nostrand, et al., *The Gerontologist*, 44(5):2004, 655-664. Examines the impact of rural-urban residence on formal home-care utilization among older people, and determines whether and how Medicaid coverage influences the association between rural-urban location and risk of formal home-care use. (AHRQ 05-R010)

National Estimates of Medication Use in Nursing Homes: Findings from the 1997 Medicare Current Beneficiary Survey and the 1996 Medical Expenditure Survey. J. Doshi, T. Shaffer, B. Briesacher, *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society*, 53(3):July 2005, 438-443. Provides the first nationwide estimates of medication use in nursing homes and introduces a new data set for examining drug use in long-term care facilities. (AHRQ 05-R057)

Nursing Home Spending Patterns in the 1990s: The Role of Nursing Home Competition and Excess Demand. D. Mukamel, W. Spector, A. Bajorska, *HSR: Health Services Research*, 40(4):August 2005, 1040-1055. Examines nursing home expenditures on clinical, hotel, and administrative activities during the 1990s and determines the association between nursing home competition and excess demand on expenditures. (AHRQ 05-R068)

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).

Pneumonia in Nursing Home Residents: Factors Associated with In-Home Care of EverCare Enrollees. T. Rector, W. Spector, T. Shaffer, et al. *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society*, 53(3):March 2005, 472-477. Identifies determinants of whether nursing home residents enrolled in EverCare were admitted to in-home intensive service days rather than a hospital when they were thought to have pneumonia. (AHRQ 05-R055)

Potentially Inappropriate Medication Prescriptions Among Elderly Nursing Home Residents: Their Scope and Associated Resident and Facility Characteristics. D. Lau, J. Kasper, D. Potter, et al., *Health Services Research*, 39(5):October 2004, 1257-1276. Finds that, at minimum, 50 percent of all residents aged 65 or older with a nursing home stay of 3 months or longer received at least one potentially inappropriate medication prescription in 1996. Factors associated with lower odds of potentially inappropriate medication prescriptions were fewer medications, residents with

communication problems, and being an accredited nursing home. (AHRQ 05-R022)

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).

Severity of Illness, Race, and Choice of Local Versus Distant Hospitals Among the Elderly. J. Basu, *Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved*, 16:2005, 391-405. Examines travel patterns for hospitalization among elderly patients to address whether there are differences by age and race/ethnicity, and whether the differences persist even when a severe illness occurs. Focuses on New York residents in the 65-and-over age group who are hospitalized in New York or neighboring States. (AHRQ 05-R054)

Suboptimal Prescribing in Elderly Outpatients: Potentially Harmful Drug-Drug and Drug-Disease Combinations. C. Zhan, R. Correa-de-Araujo, A. Bierman, et al., *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society*, 53(2): February 2005, 262-267. Measures incidences of six drug-drug combinations and 50 drug-disease combinations that can place elderly patients at risk for adverse events according to expert consensus panels. (AHRQ 05-R041)

Evidence-Based Medicine

AHRQ Update: Evidence-Based Health Care 2004: AHRQ Moves Research to Translation and Implementation. C. Clancy, J. Slutsky, L. Patton, *HSR: Health Services Research*, 39(5):October 2004, xv-xxiii. Discusses AHRQ's current programs that focus on developing, translating, and implementing state-of-the-art evidence into improved practice and policy; provides examples; and discusses Federal programs, such as the Medicare, Medicaid, and State Children's Health Insurance Program and Section 1013. (AHRQ 05-R005)

Closing the Quality Gap: A Critical Analysis of Quality Improvement Strategies. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, *Technical Review 9*, August 2004, 75 pp. The first publication in this multi-volume series examines the challenges of improving the adoption rate for best practice guidelines, and the methodology used to analyze literature relevant to the series topics. (AHRQ 04-0051-1)

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: Diabetes Care Strategies. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, *Technical Review 9*, September 2004, 200 pp. The second publication in this multi-

volume series examines strategies for improving the quality of care for adult type 2 diabetic patients through changes in provider behavior, patient behavior, and modifications to the organization of care. (AHRQ 04-0051-2)

Closing the Quality Gap: Hypertension Care Strategies. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, *Technical Review 9*, September 2004, 75 pp. The third publication in this multi-volume series provides a systematic assessment of different quality improvement strategies in the process of hypertension identification and management. (AHRQ 04-0051-3)

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 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.

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

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Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 92.

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

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

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

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

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Summary. July 2005 (AHRQ 05-E024-1)
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Summary. May 2002 (AHRQ 02-E023)
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Summary. January 2002 (AHRQ 02-E009)
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Evidence Report. August 2006 (AHRQ 06-E017)

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Summary. March 2002 (AHRQ 02-E005)

Evidence Report. July 2002 (AHRQ 02-E006)

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Summary. May 2003 (AHRQ 03-E036)

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Summary. May 2003 (AHRQ 03-E034)

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Summary. March 2003 (AHRQ 03-E012)

Evidence Report. January 2003 (AHRQ 03-E016)

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Summary. July 2003 (AHRQ 03-E044)

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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)

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Evidence Report. September 2006 (AHRQ 06-E014)

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Summary. May 2005 (AHRQ 05-E018-1)

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Antiretroviral Drug Resistance in the Developing World. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 156.*

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Information Technology

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Evidence Report. February 2006 (AHRQ 06-E007)

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Prevention of Fecal and Urinary Incontinence in Adults. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 161.*

Evidence Report. December 2007 (AHRQ 08-E003)

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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

Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder, Treatment. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 11.*

Summary. November 1999 (AHCPR 99-E017)
Evidence Report. November 1999 (AHRQ 00-E005)

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)

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Evidence Report. June 2006 (AHRQ 06-E015)

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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)

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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)

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Methodology

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

Summary. August 2004 (AHRQ 04-E022-1)

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Rating Systems for Strength of Scientific Evidence.

Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 47.

Summary. April 2002 (AHRQ 02-E015)

Evidence Report. March 2002 (AHRQ 02-E016)

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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)

Osteoporosis in Postmenopausal Women, Diagnosis and Monitoring. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 28.*

Summary. February 2001 (AHRQ 01-E031)

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Total Knee Replacement. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 86.*

Summary. December 2003 (AHRQ 04-E006-1)

Evidence Report. December 2003 (AHRQ 04-E006-2)

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

Evidence Report. July 2007 (AHRQ 07-E012)

Worker-Related Musculoskeletal Disorders, Diagnosis and Treatment. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 62.*

Summary. October 2002 (AHRQ 02-E037)

Evidence Report. Vols. 1 & 2, May 2003 (AHRQ 03-E038)

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)

Epilepsy, Management of Newly Diagnosed Patients. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 39.*

Summary. February 2001 (AHRQ 01-E037)

Evidence Report. September 2001 (AHRQ 01-E038)

Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 85.*

Summary. September 2003 (AHRQ 03-E049)

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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)

Multiple Sclerosis, Criteria to Determine Disability.

Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 100

Summary. December 2002 (AHRQ 04-E019-1)

Evidence Report. December 2002 (AHRQ 04-E019-2)

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, Management of Neurogenic/Neuropathic Pain. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 45.*

Summary. September 2001 (AHRQ 01-E062)

Evidence Report. September 2001 (AHRQ 01-E063)

Spinal Cord Injury, Pulmonary Disease. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 27.*

Summary. June 2001 (AHRQ 01-E013)

Evidence Report. September 2001 (AHRQ 01-E014)

Spinal Cord Injury, Sexuality and Reproductive Health.

Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 109.

Summary. December 2004

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

Spinal Stenosis, Degenerative Lumbar, Treatment.

Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 32.

Summary. March 2001 (AHRQ 01-E047)

Evidence Report. Vols. 1 & 2, June 2001 (AHRQ 01-E048)

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)

Treatment-Resistant Epilepsy, Management.

Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 77.

Summary. April 2003 (AHRQ 03-E027)

Evidence Report. Vols. 1 & 2, May 2003 (AHRQ 03-E028)

Obstetric and Gynecologic Conditions

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)

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).

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)

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)

Vaginal Birth After Cesarean. *Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 71.*

Summary. March 2003 (AHRQ 03-E017)

Evidence Report. Vols. 1 & 2, March 2003 (AHRQ 03-E018)

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)

Pathology

Autopsy. *Evidence Report/
Technology Assessment No. 58.*
Summary. October 2002
(AHRQ 03-E001)
Evidence Report. October
2002 (AHRQ 03-E002)

Pediatric Conditions

**Low Birth Weight,
Determining Disability in
Infants and Children.**
*Evidence Report/Technology
Assessment No. 70.*
Summary. December 2002
(AHRQ 03-E008)
Evidence Report. Vols. 1 & 2,
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E010)

**Neonatal
Hyperbilirubinemia,
Management.** *Evidence
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No. 65.*
Summary. November 2002
(AHRQ 03-E005)
Evidence Report. January
2003 (AHRQ 03-E011)

Toilet Training. *Evidence
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Evidence Report. December
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Public Health Emergency Preparedness

**Bioterrorism Preparedness,
Information Technology.**
*Evidence Report/Technology
Assessment No. 59.*

Summary. June 2002 (AHRQ
02-E027)
Evidence Report. June 2002
(AHRQ 02-E028)

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

**Bioterrorism Preparedness,
Regionalization.** *Evidence
Report/Technology Assessment
No. 96.*
Summary. April 2004 (AHRQ
04-E016-1)
Evidence Report. April 2004
(AHRQ 04-E016-2)

**Bioterrorism Preparedness,
Training of Clinicians.**
*Evidence Report/Technology
Assessment No. 51.*
Summary. December 2001
(AHRQ 02-E007)
Evidence Report. January
2002 (AHRQ 02-E011)

**Mass Casualty Incident,
Training Hospital Staff to
Respond.** *Evidence
Report/Technology Assessment
No. 95.*
Summary. March 2004
(AHRQ 04-E015-1)
Evidence Report. June 2004
(AHRQ 04-E015-2)

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**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)

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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)

**Patient Safety Practices,
Making Health Care Safer.**
*Evidence Report/Technology
Assessment No. 43.*
Summary. July 2001 (AHRQ
01-E057)
Evidence Report. July 2001
(AHRQ 01-E058)

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)

Can We Better Prioritize Resources for Cost-Utility Research? P. Neumann, A. Rosen, D. Greenberg, et al., *Medical Decision Making*, July/August 2005, 429-436. Examines published cost-utility analyses in the U.S. and other developed countries from 1976 through 2001 to determine the types of interventions studied, whether they cover diseases and conditions with the highest burden, and to what extent they have covered leading health concerns defined by the *Healthy People 2010* report. (AHRQ 05-R066)

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)

Databases and Related Resources from the Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project (HCUP).

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, May 2005, 3 pp. Briefly describes HCUP databases (e.g., Nationwide Inpatient Sample, State Inpatient Databases, State Ambulatory Surgery



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

Databases, Kids' Inpatient Database) and software tools (e.g., AHRQ Quality Indicators, Clinical Classifications Software, Comorbidity Software); data availability and ordering information are included. Web-based HCUPnet and recently published research notes and journal articles are also summarized. (AHRQ 05-P014)

Does Capitation Matter? Impacts on Access, Use, and Quality. S. Zuvekas, S. Hill, *Inquiry*, 41:Fall 2004, 316-335. Examines impacts of capitating the usual source of care of enrollees in health maintenance organizations. Accounts for the endogeneity of capitation and other characteristics using generalized methods of moments estimation on a sample from the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey for 1996 and 1997. (AHRQ 05-R046)

Economic and Health Costs of Diabetes. *HCUP Highlights Issue 1*, January 2005, 4 pp. Summarizes findings from AHRQ's Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project (HCUP) using hospital care data to examine how diabetes-related complications affect health status, hospitalizations, and economic costs. (AHRQ 05-0034)

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 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)

Hospitalization in the United States, 2002. C. Merrill, A. Elixhauser, *HCUP Fact Book No. 6*, June 2005, 52 pp. Summarizes information from the Nationwide Inpatient Sample, an all-payer hospital database maintained by AHRQ. Updates an earlier fact book that described hospital care in 1997, and allows for easy comparisons between 1997 and 2002 hospital care information. (AHRQ 05-0056)

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)

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)

Riding the Rollercoaster: The Ups and Downs in Out-of-Pocket Spending Under the Standard Medicare Drug Benefit. B. Stuart, B. Briesacher, D. Shea, et al., *Health Affairs*, 24(4):July/August 2005, 1022-1031. Projects how much Medicare beneficiaries who sign up for the standard Part D drug benefit in 2006 will pay in quarterly out-of-pocket payments through 2008. (AHRQ 05-R069)

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)

State Level Estimates: Medical Expenditure Panel Survey. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, *MEPS Statistical Briefs*, October 2006. Includes three Statistical Briefs from the Household Component of the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey, fiscal year 2006. (AHRQ 07-RG005)

Statistics on Health Care Expenditures: Medical Expenditure Panel Survey. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, *MEPS Statistical Briefs*, October 2007. Includes nine Statistical Briefs from the Household Component of the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey, fiscal year 2006. (AHRQ 07-RG001)

Statistics on Prescribed Drugs: Medical Expenditure Panel Survey. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, *MEPS Statistical Briefs*, October 2006. Includes nine Statistical Briefs from the Household Component of the

Medical Expenditure Panel Survey, fiscal year 2006. (AHRQ 07-RG003)

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)

Use and Costs of Bariatric Surgery and Prescription Weight-Loss Medications. W. Encinosa, D. Bernard, C. Steiner, et al., *Health Affairs*, 24(4):July/August 2005, 1039-1046. Using the Nationwide Inpatient Sample, estimates growth rates of bariatric surgeries and related hospital costs, and decline in inpatient death rates. (AHRQ 05-R059)

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)

Who Can't Pay for Health Care?

R. Weinick, S. Byron, A. Bierman, *Journal of General Internal Medicine*, 2005, 504-509. Provides estimates of the number of adults who avoid health care due to cost, and assesses the association of income, functional status, and type of insurance with the extent to which people with health insurance report financial barriers. (AHRQ 05-R065)

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 Different Measures of Hospital Competition Matter in Empirical Investigations of Hospital Behavior?

H. Wong, C. Zhan, R. Mutter, *Review of Industrial Organization*, 26:2005, 61-87. Reviews the literature on hospital

competition measures, recreates versions and evaluates these measures, and assesses whether different measures of hospital competition matter in empirical investigations of hospital behavior. (AHRQ 05-R050)

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 Plan Liability and ERISA: The Expanding Scope of State Legislation.

F. Hellinger, G. Young, *American Journal of Public Health*, 95(2):February 2005, 217-223. Examines the intent, scope, and impact of recent laws passed in 10 States attempting to expand the legal rights of health plan enrollees to sue their plans. (AHRQ 05-R039)

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. Reexamines the data using multivariate panel data methods to determine the extent to which secular trends might explain the increases. (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)

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. Highlights the role of previous performance, internal operations, and market competition in hospital performance improvements. (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)

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

Health Information Technology to Advance Excellence in Health Care. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, February 2006, two-fold brochure. Describes the health information technology initiative at AHRQ, discusses statewide and regional networks, and the AHRQ National Resource Center. (AHRQ 06-M022)

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)

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)

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, *The 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)

Demographic and Clinical Variations in Health Status. J. Fleishman, *MEPS Methodology Report*, 14:January 2005, 10 pp. Using nationally representative data from the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey, summarizes population differences using two generic measures, the SF-12® and the EuroQol. (AHRQ 05-0022)

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: What Employers Are Reporting.

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, *MEPS Statistical Briefs*, October 2006. Includes eight Statistical Briefs from the Insurance Component of the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey, fiscal year 2006. (AHRQ 07-RG004)

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)

Neighborhood Socioeconomic Disadvantage and Access to Health Care.

J. Kirby, T. Kaneda, *Journal of Health and Social Behavior*, 46:March 2005, 15-31. Discusses the role of community-level factors in helping or hindering individuals in obtaining needed care by examining how neighborhood socioeconomic disadvantage is associated with access to health care. (AHRQ 05-R051)

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 insurance in patchwork fashion from both private and public sources. (AHRQ 08-R033)

Rural-Urban Differences in Employment-Related Health Insurance.

S. Larson, S. Hill, *Journal of Rural Health*, 21(1):Winter 2005, 21-30. Compares nonelderly adult residents in three types of nonmetropolitan areas with metropolitan workers to evaluate which characteristics contribute to lack of employment-related insurance. Concludes that health insurance disparities associated with rural residence are related to employment factors including smaller employers,

lower wages, greater prevalence of self-employment, and sociodemographic characteristics. (AHRQ 05-R026)

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)

Statistics on Health Insurance: Medical Expenditure Panel Survey.

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, *MEPS Statistical Briefs*, October 2006. Includes six Statistical Briefs from the Household Component of the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey, fiscal year 2006. (AHRQ 07-RG002)

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)

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)

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-R9050)

An Opportunity for Health Services Research: The AHRQ Furthers Nursing Practice.

H. Hubbard, B. Collins Sharp, *American Journal of Nursing*, 104(11): November 2004, 89-91. Discusses examples of nursing-related research from AHRQ. (AHRQ 05-R016)

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)

Some Tips on Getting Funding for Health Services Research.

R. Hughes, *Applied Nursing Research*, 17(4): November 2004, 305-307. Advice on submitting clear and methodologically sound grant applications in order to be successful in receiving Federal research grants. (AHRQ 05-R035)

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)

Translating Research Into Nursing Practice: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. B. Collins Sharp, H. Hubbard, C. Jones, *Nursing Outlook*, 53(1):2005, 46-48. Describes opportunities for nurse scientists, administrators, and clinicians to interact with AHRQ programs that fund and generate research while seeking to translate that research into practice and policy. (AHRQ 05-R040)

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)

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)

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., *The 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)

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 and Ethnic Differences in the Mental Health Problems and Use of Mental Health Care.

K. Harris, M. Edlund, S. Larson, *Medical Care*, 43(8):August 2005, 775-784. Compares rates of mental health problems and use of mental health care across multiple racial and ethnic groups using secondary data from a large, nationally representative survey. (AHRQ 05-R064)

Racial and Gender Disparities in Receipt of Highly Active Antiretroviral Therapy Persist in a Multistate Sample of HIV Patients in 2001. K. Gebo, J. Fleishman, R. Conviser, et al., *Journal of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndromes*, 38(1):January 2005, 96-103. Examines whether demographic disparities in the use of highly active antiretroviral therapy (HAART) persisted in 2001 and if outpatient care is associated with HAART utilization. Studies data collected from 10 U.S. HIV primary care sites in the HIV Research Network. (AHRQ 05-R049)

Racial/Ethnic Disparities in Potentially Preventable Readmissions: The Case of Diabetes. H. Jiang, R. Andrews, D. Stryer, et al., *American Journal of Public Health*, 95(9):September 2005, 1561-1567. Examines the relationship between race/ethnicity and hospital readmissions for diabetes-related conditions. (AHRQ 05-R071)

Outcomes and Effectiveness Research

Advancing Excellence in Health Care: Getting to Effectiveness. C. Clancy, J. Slutsky, *Journal of Investigative Medicine*, 53(2):March 2005, 65-66. Discusses the need for better evidence about the benefits, risks, and costs of alternative choices in health care. (AHRQ 05-R062)

An Analysis of Administrative Data Found that Proximate Clinical Event Ratios Provided a Systematic Approach to Identifying Possible Iatrogenic Risk Factors or Complications. W. Baine, S. Kazakova, *Journal of Clinical Epidemiology*, 58:2005, 162-170. Discusses a method to generate hypotheses about iatrogenic risk factors and complications from administrative data that was developed and tested using hospitalization of the elderly for depression as a model. (AHRQ 05-R028)

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)

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 5. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, September 2005, 41 pp. Highlights a number of CERTs research and educational projects completed in the past year. Also includes some of the projects currently in progress and in the planning stages. (AHRQ 05-0048)

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)

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)

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)

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)

Ambulatory Care Visits for Treating Adverse Drug Effects in the United States, 1995-2001. C. Zhan, I. Arispe, E. Kelley, et al., *Joint Commission Journal on Quality and Patient Safety*, 31(7):July 2005, 372-378. Explores the use of existing national surveys and ICD-9-CM codes for ambulatory visits for adverse drug effects to assess national prevalence of adverse drug effects. (AHRQ 05-R067)

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)

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)

First, Do No Harm: Reducing Pediatric Medication Errors. R. Hughes, E. Edgerton, *American Journal of Nursing*, 105(5):May 2005, 36-42. Discusses the frequency of pediatric medication errors, the unique vulnerabilities of children, and the disproportional reliance on ambulatory care as compared to inpatient care. (AHRQ 05-R052)

Hospital Finances and Patient Safety Outcomes. W. Encinosa, D. Bernard, *Inquiry*, 42:Spring 2005, 60-72. Using the Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project (HCUP) State Inpatient Data for Florida from 1996 to 2000, examines

whether financial pressure at hospitals is associated with increases in the rate of patient safety events for major surgeries. (AHRQ 05-R070)

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: 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 breakdowns of the data by hospital and respondent characteristic. Allows hospitals to compare their data with data from other similar hospitals. (AHRQ 07-0025)

The Importance of Safety and Quality in Rural America. H. Burstin, M. Wakefield, *The Journal of Rural Health*, 20(4):October 2004, 301-303. Introduction to a special issue that draws much-needed research attention to the topic of rural health care quality and attempts to stimulate appropriate redesign in rural health care systems and practices through institutional, academic, and public policy change. (AHRQ 05-R043)

TeamSTEPS™: 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 TeamSTEPS 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 TeamSTEPS (AHRQ 06-0020-5; single copies free)

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—Five Years After the IOM Report.

D. Altman, C. Clancy, R. Blendon, *New England Journal of Medicine*, 351(20):November 11, 2004, 2041-2043. Discusses the state of improving patient safety in hospitals after a 1999 report from the Institute of Medicine featured statistics about preventable medical errors. (AHRQ 05-R017)

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. Discusses how physical settings and conditions—such as room layout, light, and noise—interact with the organization and delivery of health care and explains how the physical environment directly and indirectly affects patients' care outcomes and practitioners' behavior and well-being. (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)

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 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)

Medication Errors: Why They Happen and How They Can Be Prevented. R. Hughes, E. Ortiz, *American Journal of Nursing*, Supplement:March 2005, 14-24. Provides an overview of what is known about errors in medication administration, barriers to implementing safer practices, and current and potential mechanisms to improve medication administration. (AHRQ 05-R044)

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)

Nurses' Working Conditions: Implications for Infectious Disease. P. Stone, S. Clarke, J. Cimiotti, et al., *Emerging Infectious Diseases*, 10(11):November 2004, 1984-1989. Discusses the nurse workforce, reviews research examining nursing as it relates to infectious disease, identifies gaps in the literature, and discusses potential policy options. (AHRQ 05-R006)

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 Improvement Corps: Tools, Methods, and Techniques for Improving Patient Safety. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality and Department of Veterans Affairs, August 1007. A DVD that provides a self-paced, modular approach to training individuals involved in patient safety activities at the institutional level. The DVD 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 DVD.

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, September 2007. 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)

Mistake-Proofing the Design of Health Care Processes.

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, May 2007, 155 pp. 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.

CD-ROM. May 2007 (07-0020-CD)

Report. May 2007 (AHRQ 07-0020).

Using Standardised Patients in an Objective Structured Clinical Examination as a Patient Safety Tool. J. Battles, S. Wilkinson, S. Lee, *Quality & Safety in Health Care*, 13(Suppl 1):2004, i46-i50. Describes how using individuals who have been trained to portray a medical case in a consistent manner can be a powerful tool in measuring continued competence in human reliability and skill performance where such skills are a critical attribute to maintaining patient safety. (AHRQ 05-R027)

Primary Care

Asthma Severity: The Patient's Perspective. B. Yawn, G. Fryer, D. Lanier, *Journal of Asthma*, 41(6):2004, 623-630. To learn how patients and parents of children with asthma rate the severity of their or their child's asthma, data from the 1999 Medical Expenditure Panel Survey were combined to obtain a distribution of patient-reported asthma severity. (AHRQ 05-R047)

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)

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)

Prescription Drugs and the Changing Patterns of Treatment for Mental Disorders, 1996-2001. S. Zuvekas, *Health Affairs*, 24(1):January/February 2005, 196-205. Uses detailed data and other services from the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey to examine recent trends in mental health and substance abuse treatment between 1996 and 2001. (AHRQ 05-R031)

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)

Public Health Emergency Preparedness

Addressing Surge Capacity in a Mass Casualty Event.

Bioterrorism Preparedness Issue Brief No. 9, December 2005, 8 pp. Summarizes a Web conference that examined some of the ways resources might be deployed in response to a mass casualty event. (AHRQ 06-0027)

Addressing the Smallpox Threat: Issues, Strategies, and Tools. *Bioterrorism Preparedness Issue Brief No. 1*, February 2004, 6 pp.

Summarizes an audioconference that examined the implementation of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's smallpox vaccination program and strategies to assist public health officials in responding to a potential smallpox outbreak. (AHRQ 04-P006)

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)

Bioterrorism and Other Public Health Emergencies: Tools and Models for Planning and 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)

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)

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 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)

Changing Organizations for Their Likely Mass-Casualties Future.

J. Begun, J. Jiang, *Advances in Health Care Management*, 4:2004,163-180. Investigates how organizations can change in order to be better prepared for unforeseen,

catastrophic events in general, and bioterrorism in particular. (AHRQ 05-R004)

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); **Video** (AHRQ 05-0036-VD)

Developing Alternative Approaches to Mass Casualty Care: The Role of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. *Bioterrorism Preparedness Issue Brief No. 11*, September 2006, 6 pp. Reviews AHRQ's research on mass casualty care, describing projects funded by AHRQ that have made major contributions to that effort. (AHRQ 06-0073)

Development of Models for Emergency Preparedness. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, August 2005, 161 pp. Summarizes current evidence-based, best demonstrated practices relating to preparedness for health care professionals in the topics of personal protective equipment, decontamination, isolation/quarantine, and laboratory capacity. (AHRQ 05-0099)

Disaster Planning Drills and Readiness Assessment. *Bioterrorism Preparedness Issue Brief No. 2*, February 2004, 4 pp. Summarizes an audioconference that examined resources to assist hospitals and other health systems in preparing for bioterrorism disasters, and in conducting disaster response. (AHRQ 04-P007)

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)

Linkages With Community Providers. *Bioterrorism Preparedness Issue Brief No. 6*, January 2005, 4 pp. Summarizes a Web-assisted audioconference that examined the role of community providers in detecting and responding to a potential bioterrorist event or other public health emergency, and also examined the efforts of a pediatric practice-based research network to enable community-based providers to share information on emerging public health threats. (AHRQ 05-0032)

Mass Prophylaxis: Building Blocks for Community Preparedness. *Bioterrorism Preparedness Issue Brief No. 10*, June 2006, 8 pp. Describes five projects funded by AHRQ that provide tools that local planners can use to prepare their communities for mass prophylaxis. (AHRQ 06-0050)

Optimizing Surge Capacity: Hospital Assessment and Planning. *Bioterrorism Preparedness Issue Brief No. 3*, February 2004, 4 pp. Summarizes an audioconference that examined tools to assist hospitals and other health care facilities to assess their current capacity and develop a plan to achieve surge capacity. (AHRQ 04-P008)

Optimizing Surge Capacity: Regional Efforts in Bioterrorism Readiness. *Bioterrorism Preparedness Issue Brief No. 4*, February 2004, 6 pp. Summarizes an audioconference that examined regional strategies to identify and mobilize resources to respond to a public health disaster such as a bioterrorist attack. (AHRQ 04-P009)

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). March 2007

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)

The Role of Information Technology and Surveillance Systems in Bioterrorism Readiness. *Bioterrorism Preparedness Issue Brief No. 5*, March 2005, 5 pp. Describes

syndromic monitoring systems and how they are used to track trends within patient populations and to establish early warning of disease outbreaks, including potential bioterrorist activity. (AHRQ 05-0072)

Surge Capacity—Education and Training for a Qualified Workforce. *Bioterrorism Preparedness Issue Brief No. 7*, October 2004, 6 pp. Summarizes an audioconference that examined how education and training efforts are being used to create and maintain the readiness of an appropriately trained workforce that can respond to a sudden increase in surge capacity needs. (AHRQ 04-P028)

Surge Capacity: Facilities and Equipment. *Bioterrorism and Health System Preparedness Issue Brief No. 8*, October 2005, 8 pp. Summarizes a Web-assisted audioconference devoted to the need for facilities and equipment as a critical component in planning for surge capacity. (AHRQ 05(06)-0100)

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

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)

range of conditions, services, and population groups. (AHRQ 06-R048)

AHRQ Summit—Improving Health Care Quality for All Americans: Celebrating Success, Measuring Progress, Moving Forward. *AHRQ Conference Summary Report*, June 2005, 28 pp. Summarizes individual and panel presentation from AHRQ's first Quality Summit held April 4, 2005, to identify strategies for addressing health care quality and eliminating disparities. Examples from the field, findings from the research, and lessons on leading by example are included. (AHRQ 05-0084)

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)

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)

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

2007 National Reports on Quality and Disparities

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, February 2008. Reports focus on quality of care and disparities in health care in America, overall and for AHRQ's priority populations.

2007 National Healthcare Disparities Report. 244 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 08-0041)

2007 National Healthcare Quality Report. 136 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 improved since 2000, but more needs to be done. (AHRQ 08-0040)

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)

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 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)

The First National Reports on United States Healthcare Quality and Disparities. A. Poker, H. Hubbard, *Journal of Nursing Care Quality*, 19(4): October-December 2004, 316-321. Provides an overview of the framework, development, and future uses of the National Healthcare Quality and Disparities Reports by consumers, practitioners, researchers, and policymakers. Discusses the role of information technology in

improving the quality of health care in the United States. (AHRQ 05-R001)

From Information on Quality to Quality Information. C. Clancy, *HSR: Health Services Research*, 39(6):December 2004, 1631-1634. Addresses issues in making information on quality useful and used by consumers and health care purchasers. (AHRQ 05-R023)

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 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)

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)

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 Payment: Six Case Examples. P. McNamara, *International Journal for Quality in Health Care*, 17(4):May 2004, 357-362. Examines quality-based payment design features,

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)

Patient Safety Indicators. Reflect quality of care inside hospitals, but focus on potentially avoidable complications and iatrogenic events. (AHRQ 06-M049-3)

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

namely incentive structures and performance standards used to benchmark quality. Raises debate about whether and how quality-based payment might fit within a developing country's framework of strategies to ensure and promote quality of care. (AHRQ 05-R060)

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 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)

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)

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)

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)

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Public Health Service
Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality
540 Gaither Road
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www.ahrq.gov
AHRQ Pub. No. 08-0035
April 2008