BARRIERS TO TRANSPARENCY

December 2, 2013 Leah Binder, MA, MGA President & CEO, The Leapfrog Group



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Bone-Chilling Mistakes Hospitals Make And Why They Don't Want You To Know

Claire* was detained by security at the airport when the metal detector went off. Guards couldn't figure out why. Eventually, they let her board the flight, but when she arrived home she immediately asked her doctor to order an X-Ray. The result: There in Claire's abdomen, clear as day, was a retractor, a surgical instrument the size of a crowbar, somehow left behind from her recent surgery.



X-Ray (Photo credit: Adrian Barnes)

This story is not as unusual as we would all hope. Indeed, the story is instructive enough that it appears in the leading textbook on patient safety, "<u>Understanding Patient Safety</u>" by Bob Wachter.

AHA'S PAMELA THOMPSON & JOHN. R. COMBES

- "...the data did not paint an accurate picture of hospital performance in which CMS could have confidence.
- "It would be similar to your child's teacher telling you that she is about 40 percent sure that your high school student got a C on his semester final, and then publishing that grade for all to see, including prospective colleges."

LEAPFROG'S RESPONSE

- "...if we allowed all students who thought their grades were unfair to suppress the grade from their transcripts, college admissions offices would stop considering high school transcripts altogether..."
- "...for consumers, the choice of a hospital is quite literally life and death. As a result, when measures are not perfectly fair to hospitals, the balance should still tip in favor of public reporting because so much is at stake for patients."

SOME MISSING PUBLIC REPORTS

- Medication safety
- Appropriateness of care delivered
- Surgical outcomes by surgeon
- Procedure-specific SSIs and other HAI measures
- Registry composites
- Patient-reported outcomes

LEAPFROG TRANSPARENCY CHECKLIST

- Shows variation
- Relevant
- Unbiased

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Effective Pneumonia Care						
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Pneumonia Patients Whose Initial Emergency Room Blood Culture Was Performed Prior To The Administration Of The First Hospital Dose Of Antibiotics	97% ²	98% ²	100% ²			
Pneumonia Patients Given the Most Appropriate Initial Antibiotic (s)	98% ²	98% ²	98% ²			
Pneumonia Patients Given Smoking Cessation Advice/Counseling	98% ^z	100% 1,2	96% 1,2			
Pneumonia Patients Assessed and Given Pneumococcal Vaccination	87% ²	85% ²	94% ²			
Pneumonia Patients Assessed and Given Influenza Vaccination	92% ²	91% ²	88% 2			

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Rate of Readmission for Heart	No Different than U.S. National	No Different than U.S. National	No Different than U.S. National
Attack Patients	Rate	Rate	Rate
Death Rate for Heart Attack	No Different than U.S. National	No Different than U.S. National	No Different than U.S. National
Patients	Rate	Rate	Rate
Rate of Readmission for Heart	Worse than U.S. National Rate	No Different than U.S. National	No Different than U.S. National
Failure Patients		Rate	Rate
Death Rate for Heart Failure	No Different than U.S. National	No Different than U.S. National	No Different than U.S. National
Patients	Rate	Rate	Rate
Rate of Readmission for	No Different than U.S. National	No Different than U.S. National	No Different than U.S. National
Pneumonia Patients	Rate	Rate	Rate
Death Rate for Pneumonia Patients	No Different than U.S. National	No Different than U.S. National	No Different than U.S. National
	Rate	Rate	Rate

HOSPITAL COMPARE

- Shows variation
- Relevant
- Unbiased

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- The Leapfrog Group (@LeapfrogGroup): <u>www.LeapfrogGroup.org</u>
- Hospital Safety Score: <u>www.HospitalSafetyScore.org</u>
- Leapfrog Hospital Survey: <u>www.leapfroghospitalsurvey.org</u>
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- o http://stream.wsj.com/story/experts-health-care/SS-2-1355[^]

