

Volume 40, No 11

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CONTENTS

Original Articles

- 1215** Anaphylaxis and anaphylactoid reactions associated with the insertion of peripherally inserted central catheters: A multiyear comparative retrospective cohort study
Christina S. Thornton, Jody Dumanski, Cherylanne Margherit, Sandra Vaz-Gonsalves, Sheryl McDiarmid, Michael D. Parkins and John M. Conly
- 1222** Use of antibiotics among end-of-life hospitalized patients with advanced directives: Status examination and association with infectious disease consultation and physician burnout
Rina Fedorowsky, Yaacov G. Bachner, Abraham Borer, Pnina Ciobotaro and Talma Kushnir
- 1229** Hospital-level high-risk antibiotic use in relation to hospital-associated *Clostridioides difficile* infections: Retrospective analysis of 2016–2017 data from US hospitals
Ying P. Tabak, Arjun Srinivasan, Calvin C. Yu, Stephen G. Kurtz, Vikas Gupta, Steven Gelone, Patrick J. Scoble and L. Clifford McDonald
- 1236** Evaluation of a multifaceted approach to antimicrobial stewardship education methods for medical residents
Kali M. VanLangen, Lisa E. Dumkow, Katie L. Axford, Daniel H. Havlichek, Jacob J. Baker, Ian C. Drobish and Andrew P. Jameson
- 1242** Incidence and risk factors of non–device-associated urinary tract infections in an acute-care hospital
Paula D. Strassle, Emily E. Sickbert-Bennett, Michael Klompas, Jennifer L. Lund, Paul W. Stewart, Ashley H. Marx, Lauren M. DiBiase and David J. Weber
- 1248** Nursing preference for alcohol-based hand rub volume
Richard A. Martinello, James W. Arbogast, Kerri Guercia, Albert E. Parker and John M. Boyce
- 1253** Needlestick and sharps injuries in orthopedic surgery residents and fellows
Joseph E. Snavelly, Benjamin C. Service, Daniel Miller, Joshua R. Langford and Kenneth J. Koval

Commentary

- 1258** Serious superficial incisional surgical site infections (SSISIs): A proposed surveillance definition
Jessica L. Seidelman, Becky Smith, Christopher Shoff, Arthur W. Baker, Sarah S. Lewis, Deverick J. Anderson and Daniel J. Sexton
- 1260** SSISSI—Enough trouble to name it double? Commentary on “Serious superficial incisional surgical site infections (SSISSI): A proposed surveillance definition”
Robert A. Weinstein

Review

- 1262** Using social media to disseminate research in infection prevention, hospital epidemiology, and antimicrobial stewardship
Kelly A. Cawcutt, Jasmine R. Marcelin and Julie K. Silver

Concise Communications

- 1269** The impact of measurement changes on evaluating hospital performance: The case of catheter-associated urinary tract infections
Heather E. Hsu, Rui Wang, Maximilian S. Jentzsch, Kelly Horan, Robert Jin, Donald Goldmann, Chanu Rhee and Grace M. Lee
- 1272** Reducing unnecessary urethral catheter use in Japanese intensive care units: A multicenter interventional study
Akira Kuriyama, Karen E. Fowler, Jennifer Meddings, Hiromasa Irie, Daisuke Kawakami, Hiroshi Iwasaki, Masaaki Sakuraya, Kohta Katayama, Yasuharu Tokuda and Sanjay Saint
- 1275** Infection surveillance and prevention strategies to detect and prevent postaccess breast tissue expander infections
Sima L. Sharara, Heather M. Saunders, Valeria Fabre, Sara E. Cosgrove, Donna P. Fellerman, Clare Rock, Polly A. Trexler, Laura B. Lewis, Meg G. Bernstein, Michele A. Manahan, Justin M. Sacks, Gedge D. Rosson and Lisa L. Maragakis
- 1278** A crossover trial comparing contamination of healthcare personnel during removal of a standard gown versus a modified gown with increased skin coverage at the hands and wrists
Zeina Hajar, Thriveen S. C. Mana, Myreen E. Tomas, Heba Alhmidi, Brigid M. Wilson and Curtis J. Donskey
- 1281** Prolonged postprocedural antimicrobial use: A survey of the Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America Research Network
Mireia Puig-Asensio, Eli N. Perencevich and Daniel J. Livorsi
- 1284** Antimicrobial activity of a continuously active disinfectant against healthcare pathogens
William A. Rutala, Maria F. Gergen, Emily E. Sickbert-Bennett, Deverick J. Anderson and David J. Weber, for the CDC Prevention Epicenters Program
- 1287** Impact of an automated antibiotic time-out alert on the de-escalation of broad-spectrum antibiotics at a large community teaching hospital
Jenna R. Wolfe, Alex M. Bryant and Jad A. Khoury
- 1290** Outcomes of extended-spectrum beta-lactamases producing Enterobacteriaceae colonization among patients abdominal surgery patients
Anucha Apisarnthanarak, Sumalee Kondo, Chatchai Mingmalairak, Prasit Mahawongkajit, Jatupong Juntong, Palin Limpavitayaporn, Ekkapak Sriussadaporn, Assanee Tongyoo and Linda M. Mundy
- 1294** Guideline implementation is effective at reducing proton pump inhibitor use in hematology-oncology units: A multidisciplinary intervention for reducing *Clostridioides difficile* risk
Matthew J. Ziegler, Craig Freyer, Daniel Landsburg, David Pegues, Warren Bilker, Rebecca Hirsh, Colleen Kucharczuk, Cheryl Gilmar, Theresa Gorman, Melissa Palmer, Christina Harker, Erin Lightheart and Jennifer H. Han
- 1297** Impact of FDA black box warning on fluoroquinolone and alternative antibiotic use in southeastern US hospitals
Michael E. Yarrington, Deverick J. Anderson, Elizabeth Dodds Ashley, Travis Jones, Angelina Davis, Melissa Johnson, Yuliya Likhnygina, Daniel J. Sexton and Rebekah W. Moehring

- 1301** Prevalence of hospital antibiotic use in Argentina, 2018
Norma Peralta, Belén Ibarra Camou, Karina Leszczuk, Diego Arcidiácono, Roberto Giordano Lerena, Paula Herrera, Wanda Cornistein, Fernando Riera, Sara E. Cosgrove and Valeria Fabre
- 1305** Adenovirus pseudo-outbreak associated with bronchoscopy
Walter C. Hellinger, Heather C. Parth, Brenda T. Smith, Lisa L. Bickley, Michael A. Bednarik, Elma B. Reger, D. Jane Hata and Anne-Carol Burke
- 1309** Respiratory viral surveillance of healthcare personnel and patients at an adult long-term care facility
Caroline A. O’Neil, Lindsay Kim, Mila M. Prill, H. Keipp Talbot, Brett Whitaker, Senthilkumar K. Sakthivel, Yange Zhang, Jing Zhang, Suxiang Tong, Nimalie Stone, Shikha Garg, Susan I. Gerber and Hilary M. Babcock
- 1313** Classification of bloodstream infections in patients recently discharged from acute-care facilities: Hospital acquired or healthcare-associated community onset?
Riad Khatib, Mamta Sharma, Mohamad G. Fakih, Kathleen M. Riederer and Leonard B. Johnson

Research Briefs

- 1316** Shifting surgical site infection denominators and implications for National Health Safety Network reporting
Jessica L. Seidelman, Becky Smith, Brittain Wood, Linda Adcock, Barry Shelton, Kirk Huslage, Art Baker, Ibukunoluwa C. Akinboyo, Deverick J. Anderson, Daniel J. Sexton and Sarah S. Lewis
- 1318** The timing and redosing of perioperative antimicrobial prophylaxis in Greek children
Anastasia Dimopoulou, Georgia Kourlaba, Alexandros Psarris, Athanasia Lourida, Susan Coffin, Vasiliki Spoulou and Theoklis Zaoutis
- 1320** Uptake and initial use of novel antimicrobial agents at community hospitals in western Pennsylvania
J. Ryan Bariola, T. Khadem and M. Hong Nguyen

Letters to the Editor

- 1323** Is UV-C “light wand” mobile disinfection in air ambulance helicopters effective?
Sebastian Schulz-Stübner, Raimund Kosa, Jürgen Henker, Frauke Mattner, and Andreas Friedrich Wendel
- 1326** ‘Chemical-free’ cleaning—Need for a closer look
Syed A. Sattar
- 1327** Improving antibiotic use through antimicrobial stewardship interventions upon discharge
Cynthia T. Nguyen, Angela M. Huang and Jerod L. Nagel
- 1328** Oseltamivir prophylaxis for the prevention of influenza in healthy healthcare workers: Tolerability and compliance challenges
Westyn Branch-Elliman, David S. Yassa and Sharon B. Wright
- 1329** Possibility of nosocomial person-to-person transmission of hemorrhagic fever with renal syndrome
Jong Wook Park, Eun-Jeong Joo and Hae Suk Cheong

Corrigendum

- 1332** The association between implementation of second-tier prevention practices and CLABSI incidence: A national survey—CORRIGENDUM

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Infection Control & Hospital Epidemiology (ISSN 0899-823X) is published monthly by Cambridge University Press, One Liberty Plaza, New York, NY 10006, USA.

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Communications should be addressed to the Editor, *Infection Control & Hospital Epidemiology*, One Liberty Plaza, New York, NY 10006 (email: iche.managingeditor@cambridge.org). Contributors should consult the Instructions for Contributors, which is available at the journal's Web site.

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About the cover:



Since 2015, the cover format of each volume of *Infection Control and Hospital Epidemiology* has been changed to honor one of the many professionals throughout history who recognized not only how disease might be spread but also how those principles could be applied to reduce health care associated infections.

Rabbi Moshe ben Maimon or Moses Maimonides (son of Maimon) was born in Cordoba, Spain, a center of intellectual and religious freedom, on March 30, circa 1135. Maimon ben Joseph, his father, was a prominent scholar, writer, and judge for Jewish religious courts. Maimonides studied with Averroes, a prominent physician-philosopher. In 1148, his family left Cordoba after a repressive dynasty, the Almohades Caliphate that ruled in Spain and North Africa during the 12th and 13th centuries, required that they either convert to Islam, emigrate, or be put to death. They wandered first to Fez, Morocco, and to Acco, Palestine, before finally settling in Old Cairo (Fostat), Egypt, circa 1165. His father and brother established a business selling precious stones, but soon after, his father died and his brother David perished in a shipwreck. Maimonides turned to medicine as a means to support both families. While only in his thirties, Maimonides was appointed as physician to the Court of the Sultan, and he served as head of the Jewish community in Cairo. During the Crusades, Maimonides' reputation as a healer was so great that King Richard the Lion hearted offered him a position as his personal physician.

Maimonides wrote many scholarly works on a variety of subjects ranging from biblical and Talmudic law to logic, science, and medicine. He embraced the use of careful scientific reasoning and eschewed mysticism. In his 10 books on medicine, Maimonides was an early advocate for the importance of hygiene, bathing, and the need for fresh air, clean water, a healthy diet, as well as proper disposal of refuse and placement of toilets far away from living quarters. Maimonides was an early "steward" who recommended nonpharmacological interventions first. He also noted where evidence was lacking and further investigation was needed before recommendations could be made. Many of the concerns and observations that Maimonides made more than 800 years ago remain highly relevant to the field of infection prevention and control today.

Maimonides died in Cairo on December 13, 1204 at the age of 69. Several legends are ascribed to Maimonides. It is unlikely that he wrote the Oath of Maimonides. He is buried in Tiberias, Palestine, on the western shore of the Sea of Galilee in present-day Israel. However, this site was not chosen at random by a donkey that roamed free while bearing his body; Maimonides was interred at Tiberias at his request. Even today, Maimonides remains a highly regarded physician, philosopher, and scholar among Jewish, Arabic, and Christian circles.

Cover image: Statue of the Jewish scholar Moses Maimonides, Rabbi Mosheh Ben Maimon, Cordoba, Andalusia, Spain - courtesy of Shutterstock.

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The Department of Internal Medicine, Division of Infectious Diseases at the University of California, Davis, School of Medicine, is currently recruiting for three full-time faculty positions in the Health Sciences Clinical Professor series at the rank of Assistant Professor. Appointees to the Health Sciences Clinical series are required to teach, participate in university service, provide direct patient care and engage in creative work.

UC Davis has recently been designated as an Antimicrobial Stewardship Center of Excellence. The focus of this position is to contribute to our Center of Excellence around Antimicrobial Stewardship and Infection Prevention. We strive to continue to raise the standard of excellence in Antimicrobial Stewardship and are looking for faculty to join our team of physicians, nurses and pharmacists. The faculty member will be involved in management of outpatient IV antimicrobial use as well as the control and optimization of in-patient antimicrobial use. They will participate in surveillance and evaluation of hospital associated infections. Responsibilities will also include general inpatient and outpatient Infectious Diseases consultations. Opportunities are available in community HIV care, transplant consultation, TB treatment, travel medicine and clinical research.

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