From the desk of Ana Pujols McKee, M.D., Executive Vice President and CMO

When the people of Seattle get behind something, they really get behind it. Just look at Starbucks, grunge music or how they embrace the rain. The fans of the Seattle Seahawks even once got so loud during a game that the vibrations registered as an earthquake. We made plenty of waves in our own right this summer.

With The Joint Commission partnering with the American College of Physician Executives (ACPE) to develop a CMO Academy, I was fortunate to attend the ACPE summer institute. This marked the launch of the academy, with the focus being on the needs of chief medical officers less than three years into their leadership roles. Read more

Resources

Ebola info from CDC

As a result of the worsening Ebola hemorrhagic fever (Ebola HF) outbreak in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) released the following information:

- Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Hospitalized Patients with Known or Suspected Ebola Hemorrhagic Fever in U.S. Hospitals
- Interim Guidance for Specimen Collection, Transport, Testing, and Submission for Patients with Suspected Infection with Ebola Virus Disease (EVD)

Visit the CDC website for the latest information. In addition, The Joint
Commission has an Emergency Management portal that provides pandemic preparedness information, and an Infection Control portal.

**Updated compendium: Strategies to prevent HAIs in acute care hospitals**
The popular compendium of recommendations for acute care hospitals for the prevention of common healthcare-associated infections (HAIs) has been updated by The Joint Commission, in partnership with The Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America (SHEA) and other organizations.

**R3 Report explains new memory care requirements**
New accreditation requirements for nursing care centers focus on the care of residents with memory-impacting conditions such as Alzheimer's disease or dementia.

**Free e-learning module aims to reduce infections in long term care settings**
An innovative online educational module shows how to apply the principles of high reliability to reducing infections in long term care settings. The centerpiece of the project is a 50-minute e-learning tool that includes examples, quizzes, discussion questions and other resources for nursing home and assisted living staff to learn and test their knowledge about high reliability in health care.


**New issue of Quick Safety**: Preparing for active shooter situations

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**Blogs & Podcasts**

*Don't make me wait!* Ronald M. Wyatt, M.D., M.H.A., medical director, discusses how delays in treatment can be potentially life threatening and what organizations can do to combat the problem.

*Are you a revolutionary?* Erin S. DuPree, M.D., FACOG, CMO and vice president, Joint Commission Center for Transforming Healthcare, looks at the legacy of Dr. Ernest Amory Codman - founder of the American College of Surgeons and its hospital standardization program, forerunner of The Joint Commission accreditation process.
The ARHQ Guide to Patient and Family Engagement in Hospital Quality and Safety. Tina Cordero, Ph.D., M.P.H., associate project director, highlights a new, tested, evidence-based guide to help hospitals work as partners with patients and families. [Podcast - 5:00]

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**News Links**

A view from The Joint Commission perspective: updated compendium will continue to help reduce healthcare-associated infections | Infection Control and Hospital Epidemiology by Margaret VanAmringe, M.H.S., executive vice president, Public Policy and Government Relations, The Joint Commission

"Hospital of yesterday: The biggest changes in health care" | U.S. News & World Report

"Renewed awareness of infection control during surgery" | Bulletin of the American College of Surgeons

"What's the best way to diagnose a stroke? MedStar Washington has an idea" | Washington Business Journal

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Questions or comments about Physician Leader Monthly? Email us!