Index of Resources Related to Long Term Care High Reliability Infection Prevention and Control

Index Overview

The index of resources was derived from a scoping literature review intended to identify effective practices that improve reliability and reduce transmission of infections in nursing homes and assisted living facilities. Scoping reviews are useful in identifying gaps in a body of evidence. Unlike systematic reviews (e.g., empirical reviews, meta-analyses) that address the depth and breadth of a research topic, scoping reviews tend to be non-systematic and focus on the breadth rather than the depth of coverage of a topic area. Additionally, scoping reviews utilize a wide range of research and non-research (grey) materials and do not evaluate the quality of the studies considered in the review (1, 2). The resources presented in the index therefore provide a broad review of the existing literature related to high reliability infection prevention and control practices in long term care, but are limited in depth. The literature search included articles from 1983 to March 2013.

There are three types of resources 1) clinical guidelines (n=28), 2) guidance documents and tools (n=56), and 3) published articles (n=88). The published articles were identified through a search of two bibliographic data bases (CINAHL and PUBMED). Initial screening criteria for inclusion were that the primary setting of interest was a nursing home (NH) or assisted living facility (ALF) AND that the content pertained to infection prevention OR high reliability/safety culture/learning culture. Guidelines, position papers, toolkits and resources included here resulted from a review of selected web sites (e.g., AHRQ, CDC, WHO, and others) and professional association websites (e.g., APIC, IDSA, NIOSH, SHEA, and others) and communications from professional organizations and societies, as well as the project’s leadership team or roundtable meeting participants. Resources were excluded if they did not apply to long term care settings. Information on how to use the search function for the index is provided on the website.

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