Healthcare-Acquired Infections in the UK: Could accreditation help?

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June 2009

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Many thanks for the opportunity to speak at this meeting
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Last Updated: Thursday, 24 February 2005, 11:25 GMT

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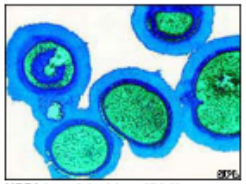
MRSA 'superbugs'

Each year, at least 100,000 people who go into hospital gets an infection there.

MRSA is one example of this.

What is MRSA?



MRSA is resistant to antibiotics

BBC ACTION NETWORK
MRSA infections
What can you do about the hospital 'superbug'?

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- Sharp rise in 'superbug' deaths 13 Dec 02 | Health

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Staphylococcus is a family of common bacteria.

Many people naturally carry it in their throats, and it can cause a mild infection in a heal

MRSA stands for methicillin-resist aureus, but is shorthand for any st Staphylococcus bacteria which is more conventional antibiotics.

Experts have so far uncovered 17 differing degrees of immunity to th antibiotics.

Two particular strains, clones 15 a be more transmissible than the oth 96% of MRSA bloodstream infecti

At present, these strains are thoug countries, but are spreading.

Antibiotics are not completely pow MRSA, but patients may require a over a much longer period, or the u antibiotic to which the bug has les

What are the symptoms?

MRSA infections can cause a broa depending on the part of the body t These may include surgical wound sites, eye, skin and blood.

Infection often results in redness, tenderness at the site of infection. may carry MRSA without having ar

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Last Updated: Thursday, 11 October 2007, 14:51 GMT 15:51 UK

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Hospital bug deaths 'scandalous'

The deaths of 90 hospital patients from clostridium difficile are "scandalous", Health Secretary Alan Johnson has said.

Kent police have launched an investigation into whether the Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust should be prosecuted for the deaths.

The commission found countless examples of dirt

sion said a "litany" of errors in sed the "avoidable tragedy".

been prepared for "an outbreak ity" but had learned lessons.

said nurses at the trust were s and left patients to lie in their

but

ort would now be sent to all be learnt.

n said the force was "in the contents" of the report.

ew is to see if any criminal acts id.

t's dio ld

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"For many of these patients there may well have been a good chance that they would have recovered if all steps had been taken"

Heather Wood
Report author

Q&A: Clostridium difficile

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Health Commission report on C.difficile at Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust [1.72MB]

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£5million for Leslie Ash - more than all MRSA awards since 2002

By JAMES MILLS
Last updated at 09:49 17 January 2008

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'Cut down in her prime': Leslie Ash has won £5million in compensation after she nearly died from a hospital superbug

Leslie Ash is to receive a record £5million damages for the hospital superbug which wrecked her career.

The compensation deal - signed by her lawyers yesterday - is ten times the £500,000 she was initially reported to have been awarded.

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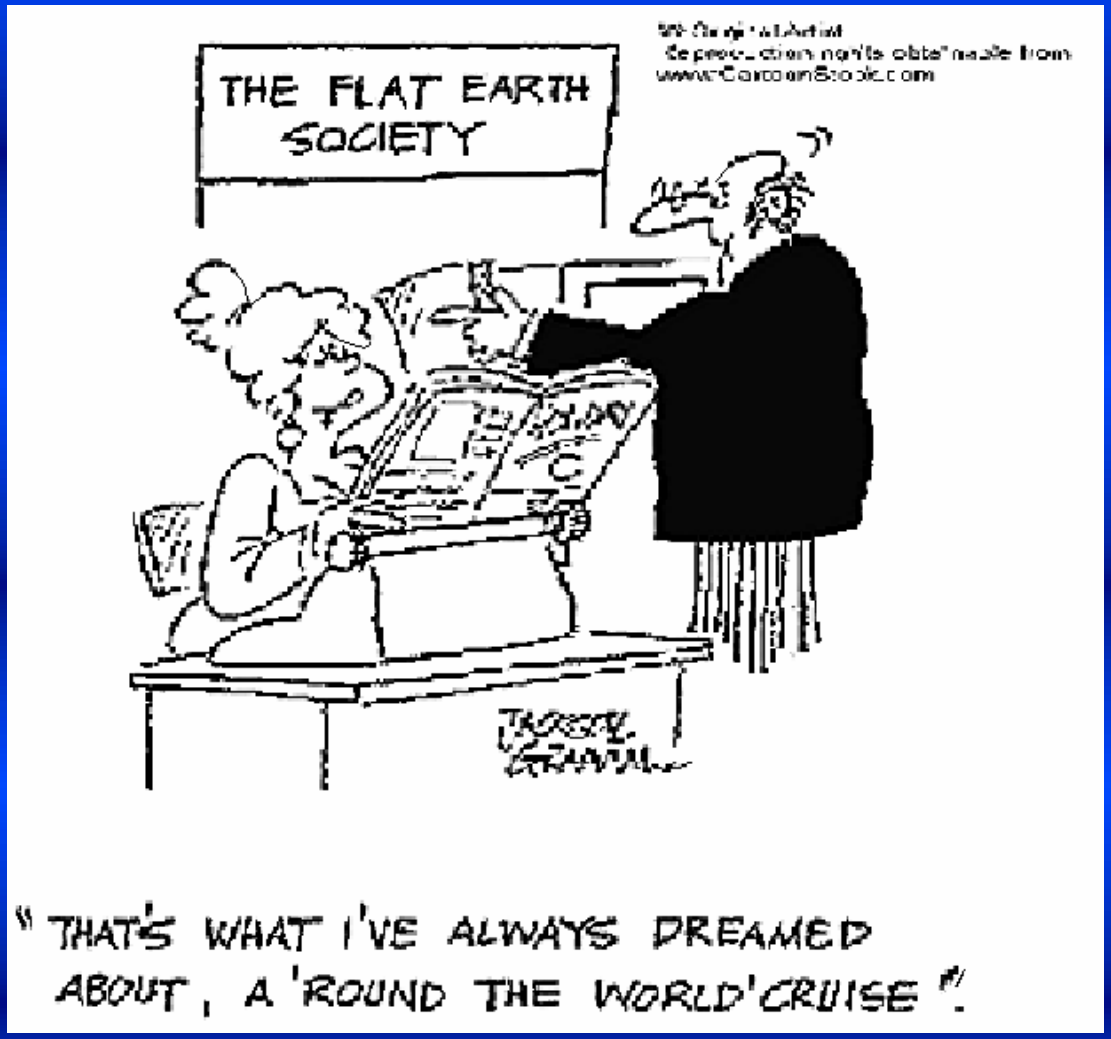

There is so much more to HCAI-related risk & prevention than just MRSA, *C. difficile*, *E. coli* et al!

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Indeed, just yesterday....

Thousands of patients told of HIV risk after visiting 'dentist with dirty instruments'

By DAILY MAIL REPORTER
Last updated at 2:53 PM on 01st June 2009

Comments (4) | Add to My Stories

Thousands of people have been told they could be at risk of infections such as HIV or hepatitis because of a dentist's poor hygiene measures.

Patients in Bristol and Bournemouth have been sent letters alerting them to the potential risk of blood-borne infections after a dentist was found to have been operating poor infection control measures.


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From Times Online

January 4, 2008

Hospitals close wards after norovirus infections spread

*List of hospital closures below

(Nick Ray/The Times)

Closing wards seems like a radical way to contain the infections, but health experts say it is the most effective method

Nigel Hawkes, Health Editor of The Times

Dozens of hospital wards all over England are being closed to new admissions in order to control a highly infectious winter vomiting disease.

The closures offer the quickest way of controlling the outbreak of norovirus infections, which although seasonal, has started sooner than usual and could involve more cases than in previous years.

The virus causes a short-lived infection with symptoms such as vomiting, diarrhoea, and fever and can spread quickly, costing the NHS more than £100 million a year.

The infective dose is very small, so anybody looking after a sufferer

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3rd Cyprus baby dies of Legionnaires' disease

11 infants infected at private clinic; test find bacteria in maternity ward

Associated Press

updated 2:23 p.m. ET Jan. 7, 2009

NICOSIA, Cyprus - Officials say a third baby has died from an outbreak of Legionnaires' disease at a private clinic in the Cypriot capital.

A total of 11 babies were infected, and one is on a respirator in critical condition at the state-run Makarios Hospital, according to Andreas Hadjidemetriou, a doctor there.

One baby died Wednesday and two others last week. The other seven are out of danger.

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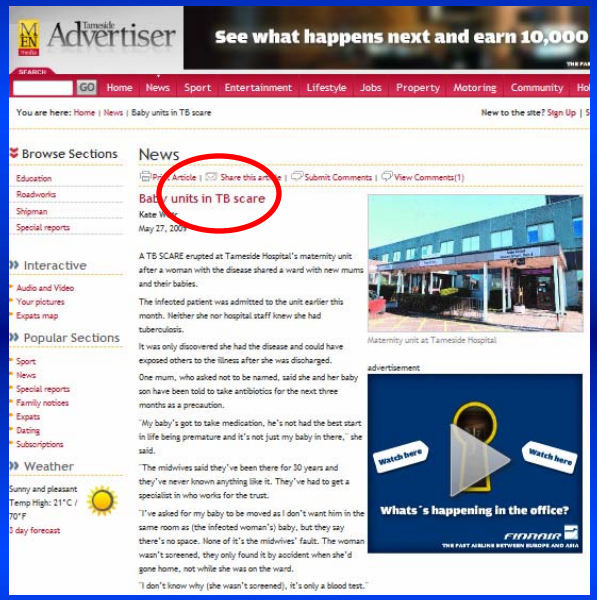
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News

Baby units in TB scare

May 27, 2007

A TB SCARE erupted at Tameside Hospital's maternity unit after a woman with the disease shared a ward with new mums and their babies.

The infected patient was admitted to the unit earlier this month. Neither she nor hospital staff knew she had tuberculosis.

It was only discovered she had the disease and could have exposed others to the illness after she was discharged.

One mum, who asked not to be named, said she and her baby son have been told to take antibiotics for the next three months as a precaution.

'My baby's got to take medication, he's not had the best start in life being premature and it's not just my baby in there,' she said.

'The midwives said they've been there for 30 years and they've never known anything like it. They've had to get a specialist in who works for the trust.

'I've asked for my baby to be moved as I don't want him in the same room as (the infected woman's) baby, but they say there's no space. None of it's the midwives' fault. The woman wasn't screened, they only found it by accident when she'd gone home, not while she was on the ward.

'I don't know why (she wasn't screened), it's only a blood test.'

Maternity unit at Tameside Hospital

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Health

Malaria 'kills hospital patient'

Tuesday, March 30, 1999 Published at 16:13 GMT 16:13 UK

Three patients were infected with malaria at Nottingham City Hospital

A patient infected with malaria on a hospital ward is believed to have died of the disease after being discharged.

An inquest into the death of 22-year-old Gavin Sebborn opened and adjourned on Tuesday.

It is believed that Mr Sebborn, who lived at Karibu House, a hostel for the homeless in Notingham, died from malaria although he had been admitted for treatment to Nottingham City Hospital for another condition.

It emerged on Monday that two other patients contracted malaria while they were inpatients on the infectious disease ward at the hospital - only the second time there has been an outbreak of the tropical disease in a British hospital.

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Last Updated: Monday, 21 February, 2005, 16:25 GMT

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Two die in German rabies outbreak

Two people have died in Germany after receiving organs from a donor infected with rabies.

The donor was a 26-year-old woman who is thought to have spent time in India.

The latest victim was a 70-year-old man who had a kidney transplant, a clinic at Hannoversch Muenden in northern Germany said.

A woman who received a lung from the donor died at the weekend, while a third patient who received a pancreas and a kidney is seriously ill.

However, three other recipients of organs from the donor have so far shown no signs of the disease.

The donor herself died of a heart attack in December.

The donor's lungs, cornea, kidneys, pancreas and liver were removed after her death and used for patients in several German regions.

The German Organ Transplant Foundation said the woman had shown no clear symptoms for rabies, and her organs had been thoroughly tested for bacteria, viruses and tumours before the transplants.

Symptoms

Rabies can be transmitted to humans through animal bites and is nearly always fatal. A quick vaccination can generally prevent the outbreak of the disease.

The virus infects the central nervous system. Symptoms include fever and headache and can progress to partial paralysis, hallucinations and fear of water. Death usually occurs within days of the symptoms appearing.

The disease is normally spread through bites from rabid mammals

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- Girl survives rabies without jab 25 Nov 04 | Health
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Four Transplant Recipients Contract H.I.V.

By DENISE GRADY

Published: November 13, 2007

Four transplant recipients in Chicago have contracted H.I.V. from an organ donor, the first known cases in more than a decade of the virus being spread by organ transplants.

The organs also gave all four patients hepatitis C, in which health officials said was the first reported instance of the two viruses being spread simultaneously by a transplant.

Though exceedingly rare, this type of transmission highlights a known weakness in the system for checking organ donors for infection: the most commonly used tests can fail to detect viral diseases if they are performed too early in the course of the infection. Officials say the events in Chicago may lead to widespread changes in testing methods.

"There are important policy implications," said Dr. Matthew Kuehnert, director of the Office of Blood, Organ and Other Tissue Safety at the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, which is investigating the incident. "Clearly, the organ transplant community is going to think about the issues raised by this, and we look forward to being involved in those discussions."

The cases were first reported today by The Chicago Tribune. Two patients were infected at the University of Chicago Medical Center, and one each at Rush University Medical Center and Northwestern Memorial Hospital. The transplants were coordinated by an organization called the Gift of Hope, in Elmhurst, Ill. Officials would not say what organs were transplanted, but a transplant expert not connected with the case said they were most likely the kidneys, liver and either the heart or lungs. Only four organs, and no other tissue, were taken from the donor.

The University of Chicago said that the operations took place in January, and that the donor was an adult who died in an Illinois hospital "three days after traumatic injury." Neither the donor's age nor sex were disclosed. The other hospitals declined to discuss what happened, except to confirm that each had an infected patient.

Well

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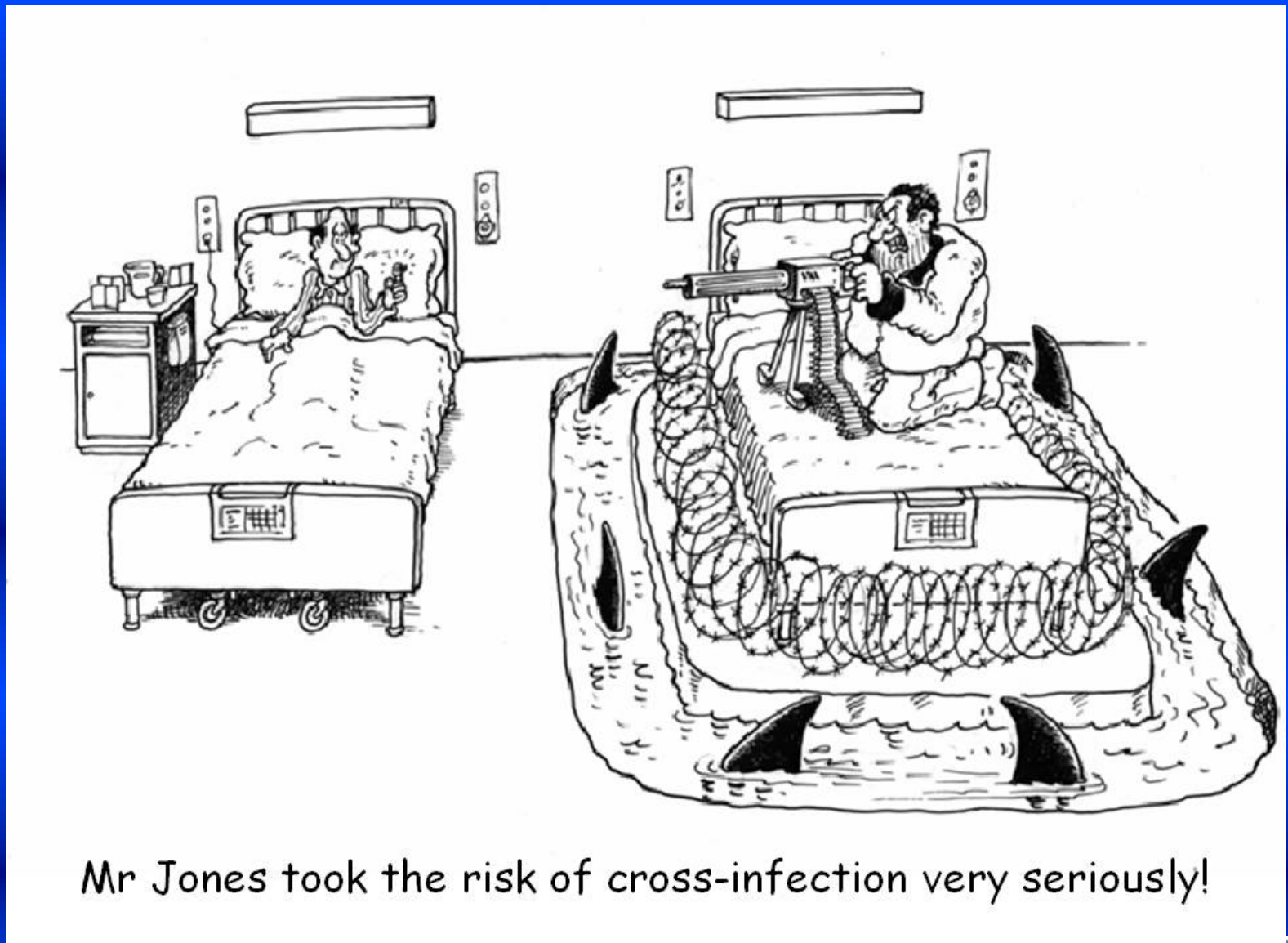
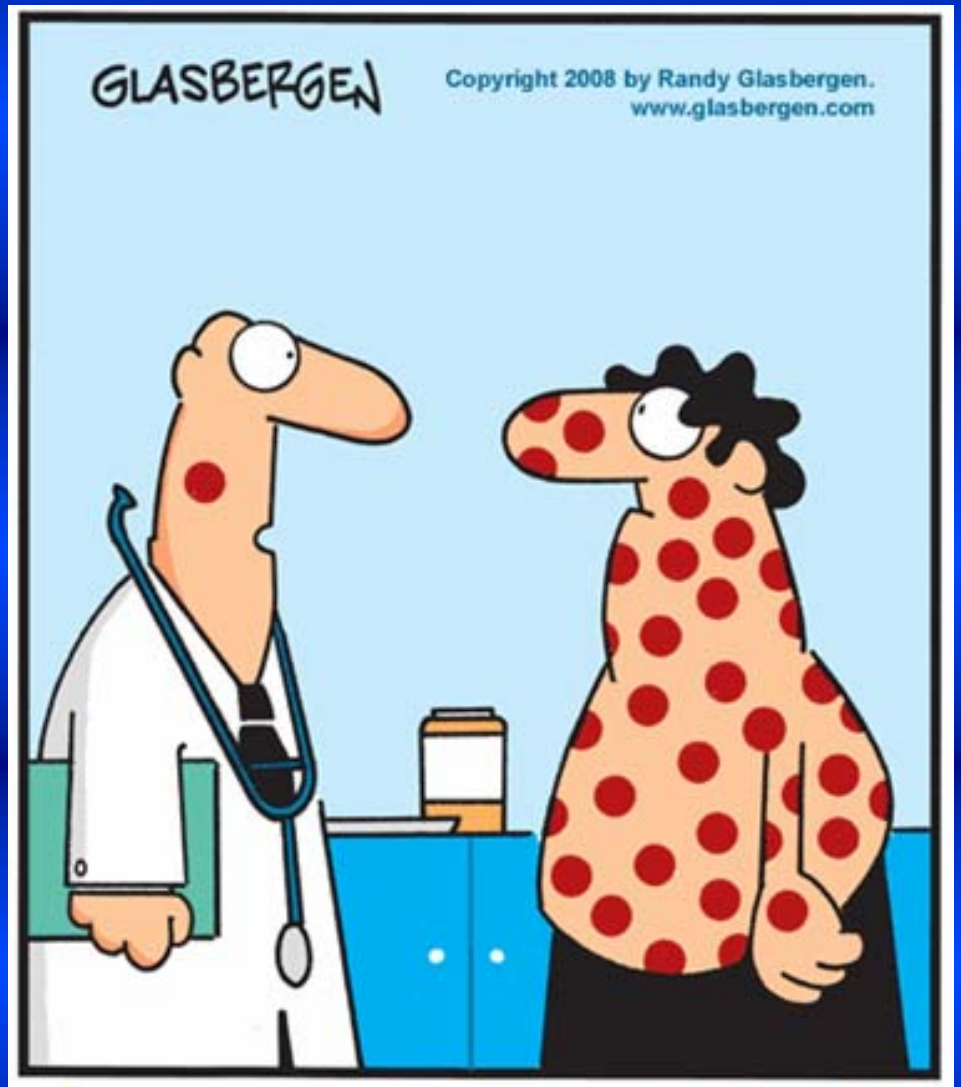
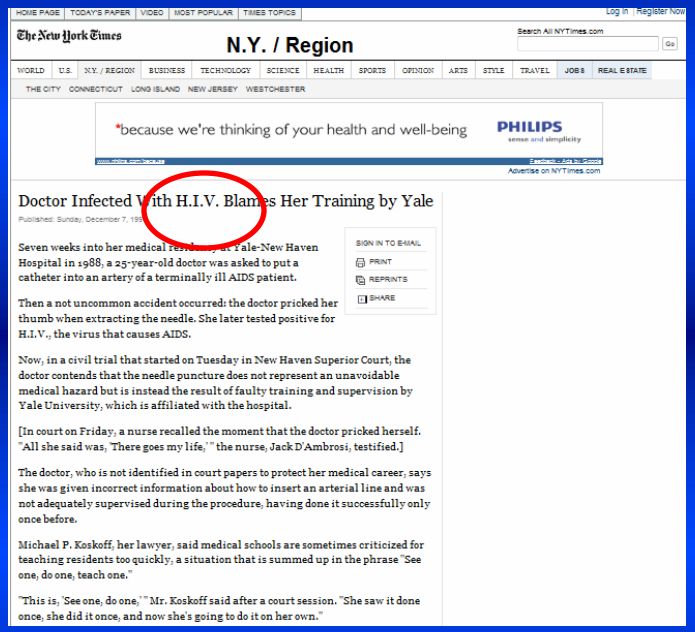


Mr Jones took the risk of cross-infection very seriously!

And what about the welfare of the staff who are caring for the patients?





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Doctor Infected With H.I.V. Blames Her Training by Yale

Published: Sunday, December 7, 199

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Seven weeks into her medical residency at Yale-New Haven Hospital in 1988, a 25-year-old doctor was asked to put a catheter into an artery of a terminally ill AIDS patient.

Then a not uncommon accident occurred: the doctor pricked her thumb when extracting the needle. She later tested positive for H.I.V., the virus that causes AIDS.

Now, in a civil trial that started on Tuesday in New Haven Superior Court, the doctor contends that the needle puncture does not represent an unavoidable medical hazard but is instead the result of faulty training and supervision by Yale University, which is affiliated with the hospital.

[In court on Friday, a nurse recalled the moment that the doctor pricked herself. "All she said was, 'There goes my life,'" the nurse, Jack D'Ambrosi, testified.]

The doctor, who is not identified in court papers to protect her medical career, says she was given incorrect information about how to insert an arterial line and was not adequately supervised during the procedure, having done it successfully only once before.

Michael P. Koskoff, her lawyer, said medical schools are sometimes criticized for teaching residents too quickly, a situation that is summed up in the phrase "See one, do one, teach one."

"This is, 'See one, do one,'" Mr. Koskoff said after a court session. "She saw it done once, she did it once, and now she's going to do it on her own."

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Dr. Carlo Urbani of the World Health Organization dies of SARS

29 March 2003

Dr. Carlo Urbani, an expert on communicable diseases, died today of SARS. Dr. Urbani, worked in public health programs in Cambodia, Laos and Viet Nam. He was based in Hanoi, Viet Nam. Dr. Urbani was 46.

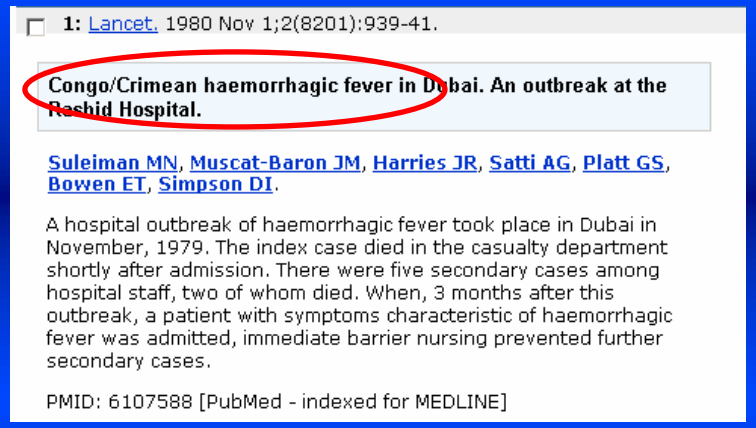
Dr. Urbani was the first WHO officer to identify the outbreak of this new disease, in an American businessman who had been admitted to a hospital in Hanoi. Because of his early detection of the disease, global surveillance was heightened and many new cases have been identified and isolated before they infected hospital staff. In Hanoi, the SARS outbreak appears to be coming under control.

"Carlo was a wonderful human being and we are all devastated," said Pascale Brudon, the World Health Representative in Viet Nam. "He was very much a doctor, his first goal was to help people. Carlo was the one who very quickly saw that this was something very strange. When people became very concerned in the hospital, he was there everyday, collecting samples, talking to the staff and strengthening infection control procedures."

Dr. Urbani was married and the father of three children.

Dr. Urbani received his medical degree from the University of Ancona, Italy, and did post-graduate work in malaria and medical parasitology. He was an expert in the parasitic diseases of schoolchildren. He was also a president of Médecins Sans Frontières-Italy.

"Carlo Urbani's death saddens us all deeply at WHO," said Dr. Gro Harlem Brundtland, WHO's Director-General. "His life reminds us again of our true work in public health. Today, we should all pause for a moment and remember the life of this outstanding physician."



1: Lancet. 1980 Nov 1;2(8201):939-41.

Congo/Crimean haemorrhagic fever in Dubai. An outbreak at the Rashid Hospital.

Suleiman MN, Muscat-Baron JM, Harries JR, Satti AG, Platt GS, Bowen ET, Simpson DI.

A hospital outbreak of haemorrhagic fever took place in Dubai in November, 1979. The index case died in the casualty department shortly after admission. There were five secondary cases among hospital staff, two of whom died. When, 3 months after this outbreak, a patient with symptoms characteristic of haemorrhagic fever was admitted, immediate barrier nursing prevented further secondary cases.

PMID: 6107588 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]

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Rabies victim bit nurses in despair

Published Date: 19 December 2003

By JIM MCBETH

A DISTURBING insight into the final days of the first Briton to die from rabies in 100 years was revealed yesterday by the doctor who fought for more than a week to save David McRae.

Driven to despair by the disease, caused by a bite from a bat, the dying man injured two nurses by biting and scratching them.

"It was not his fault, but there was concern for the staff," said Dr Dilip Nathwani, a consultant in infectious diseases at Ninewells hospital, Dundee.

Speaking for the first time since the death of the renowned artist, climber and scientist in November last year, Dr Nathwani told a meeting of colleagues at Ninewells of his desperate, and vain, race against time to identify the illness.

Later, he said: "I have asked myself if we could have done more, but we did all we could. It is unlikely we will ever see another such case."

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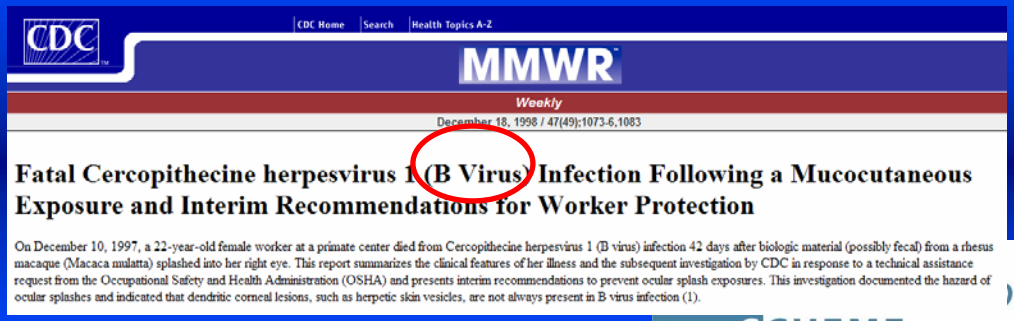

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MMWR Weekly

December 18, 1998 / 47(49):1073-6,1083

Fatal Cercopithecine herpesvirus 1 (B Virus) Infection Following a Mucocutaneous Exposure and Interim Recommendations for Worker Protection

On December 10, 1997, a 22-year-old female worker at a primate center died from Cercopithecine herpesvirus 1 (B virus) infection 42 days after biologic material (possibly fecal) from a rhesus macaque (Macaca mulatta) splashed into her right eye. This report summarizes the clinical features of her illness and the subsequent investigation by CDC in response to a technical assistance request from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and presents interim recommendations to prevent ocular splash exposures. This investigation documented the hazard of ocular splashes and indicated that dendritic corneal lesions, such as herpetic skin vesicles, are not always present in B virus infection (1).

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New killer virus found in Africa

pa.press.net

Scientists have identified a lethal new virus in Africa that causes bleeding like the dreaded Ebola.

The so-called "Lujo" virus infected five people in Zambia and South Africa last autumn.

The virus comes from a family of viruses found in rodents.

Four of the five people infected died. It is not clear how the first person became infected.

Dr Ian Lipkin, a Columbia University epidemiologist in the US, said: "This one is really, really aggressive." A paper on the virus by Dr Lipkin and his collaborators was published online in PLoS Pathogens.

The outbreak started in September, when a female travel agent who lives on the outskirts of Lusaka, Zambia, became ill with a fever that quickly grew much worse. She was airlifted to Johannesburg, South Africa, where she died.

A paramedic in Lusaka who treated her also became sick. He was transported to Johannesburg and died. The three others infected were health care workers in Johannesburg.

Investigators believe the virus spread from person to person through contact with infected body fluids.

"It's not a kind of virus like the flu that can spread widely," said Dr Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, which helped fund the research.

The name Lujo stems from Lusaka and Johannesburg, the cities where it was first identified.

Today on MSN UK News

'Expenses shame' MPs will cost £1m
The 12 MPs who plan to stand down at the next election in the wake of revelations over their expenses will cost the taxpayer more than £1 million.

MPs' expenses: political casualties
Former environment minister Elliot Morley is expected to become the 13th MP to step down in the wake of expenses revelations.

Odd Spot: news of the weird
From the 81st wedding anniversary of Britain's oldest married couple to a vision of Jesus spotted in a jar of Marmite, discover the weirdest news stories of the last seven days.

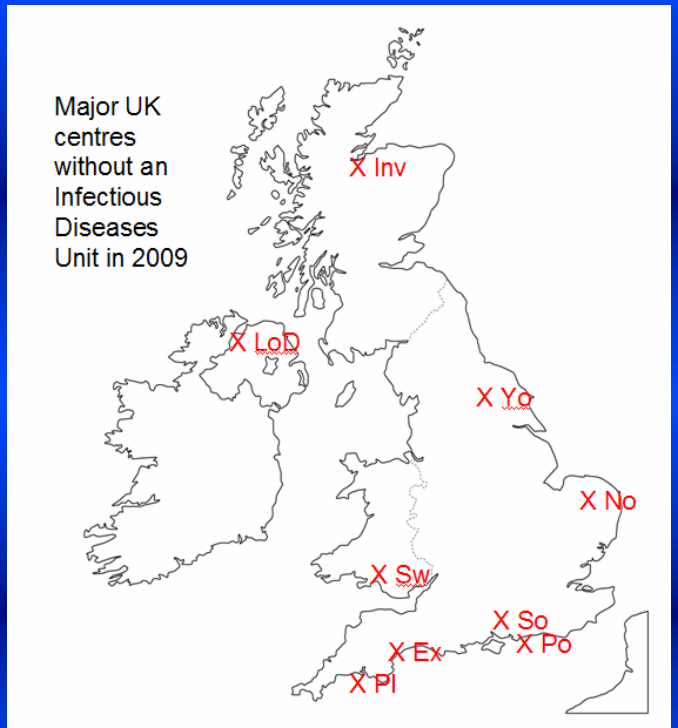
The month in pictures
Explore our photo editor's collection of the most striking news images from the past month.

Greatest ever FA Cup final goals
As Chelsea and Everton prepare to do battle at Wembley Stadium, we reveal 10 of the greatest goals ever scored in the FA Cup final.

Odd News month in pictures
From an ailing stork fitted with a synthetic replacement beak to the birthday celebrations of the world's

"Be prepared"

The Scouting Manual




So what next?
Mon Dieu! I haven't a damned clue. Try asking Wellington!
How do we win the war against this HCAI problem, mon bon Empereur?

"An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure."

Benjamin Franklin (1706-90)
American Polymath

TRENT accreditation SCHEME

Cleaning & sanitation are certainly vital

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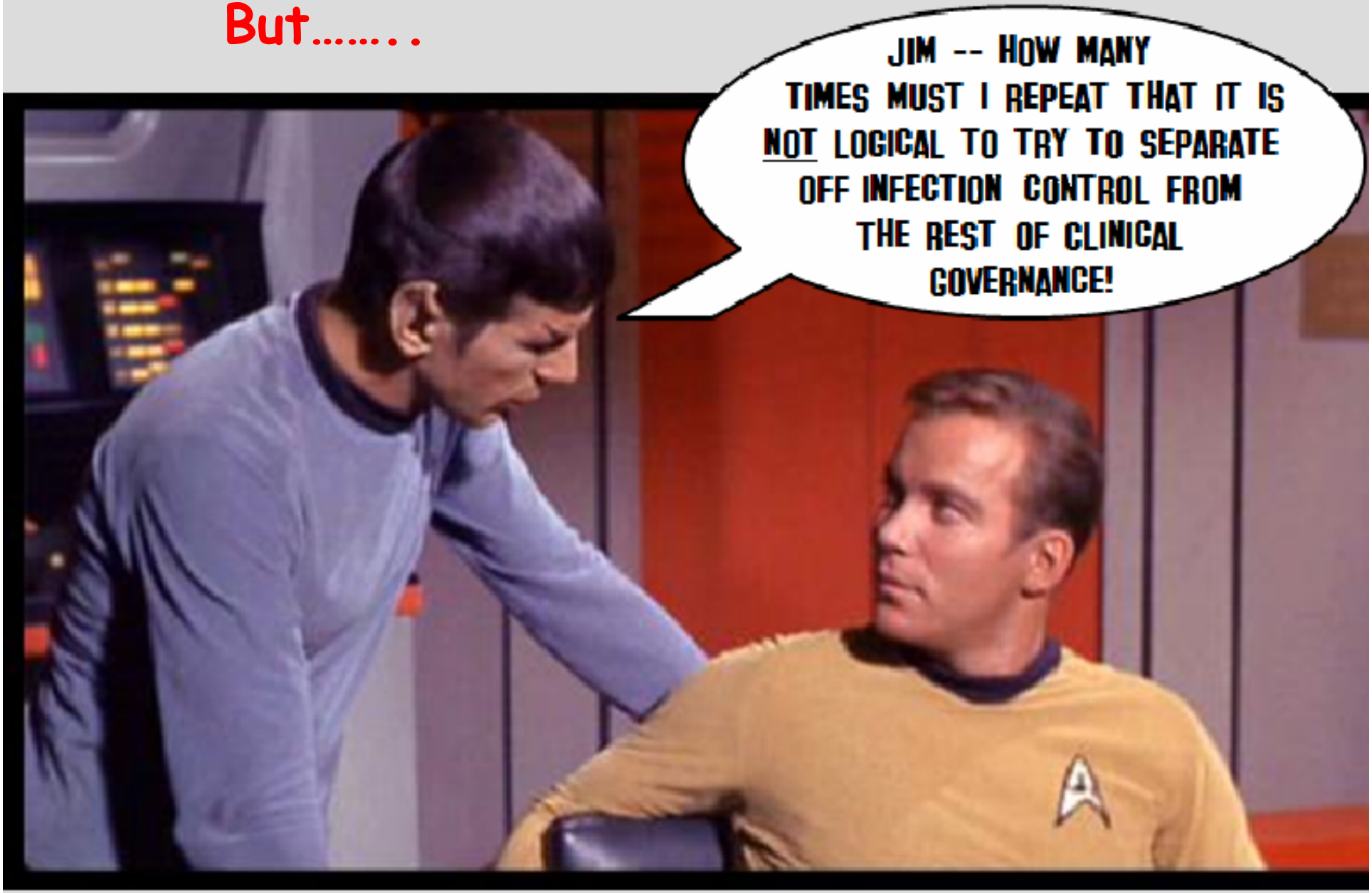
But……..



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For example, we must take into consideration issues such as:

- Staff education & training
- CPD
- Occupational Health

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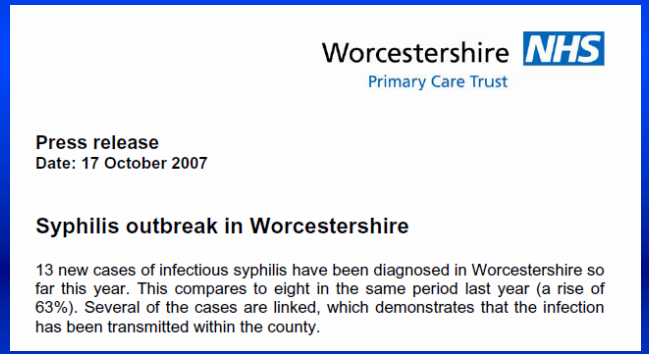
Antibiotic Policy
Travel Health
Sexual Health
Vaccination Policy
Etc etc etc



ation
SCHEME

Hospital & environmental design

TRENT accreditation SCHEME

Indeed, infection control should become a way of life in hospitals and clinics!

"You have to get your mind and heart in the right place…….. If you know the protocols required to avoid infection, if you follow them precisely every single time, then zero infections are possible. When you're talking about something that can cost people their lives and zero is possible, no other benchmarks make sense…'"

- Alan Johnson MP, Secretary of State for Health, January 2008

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- Alan Johnson MP, Secretary of State for Health, January 2008

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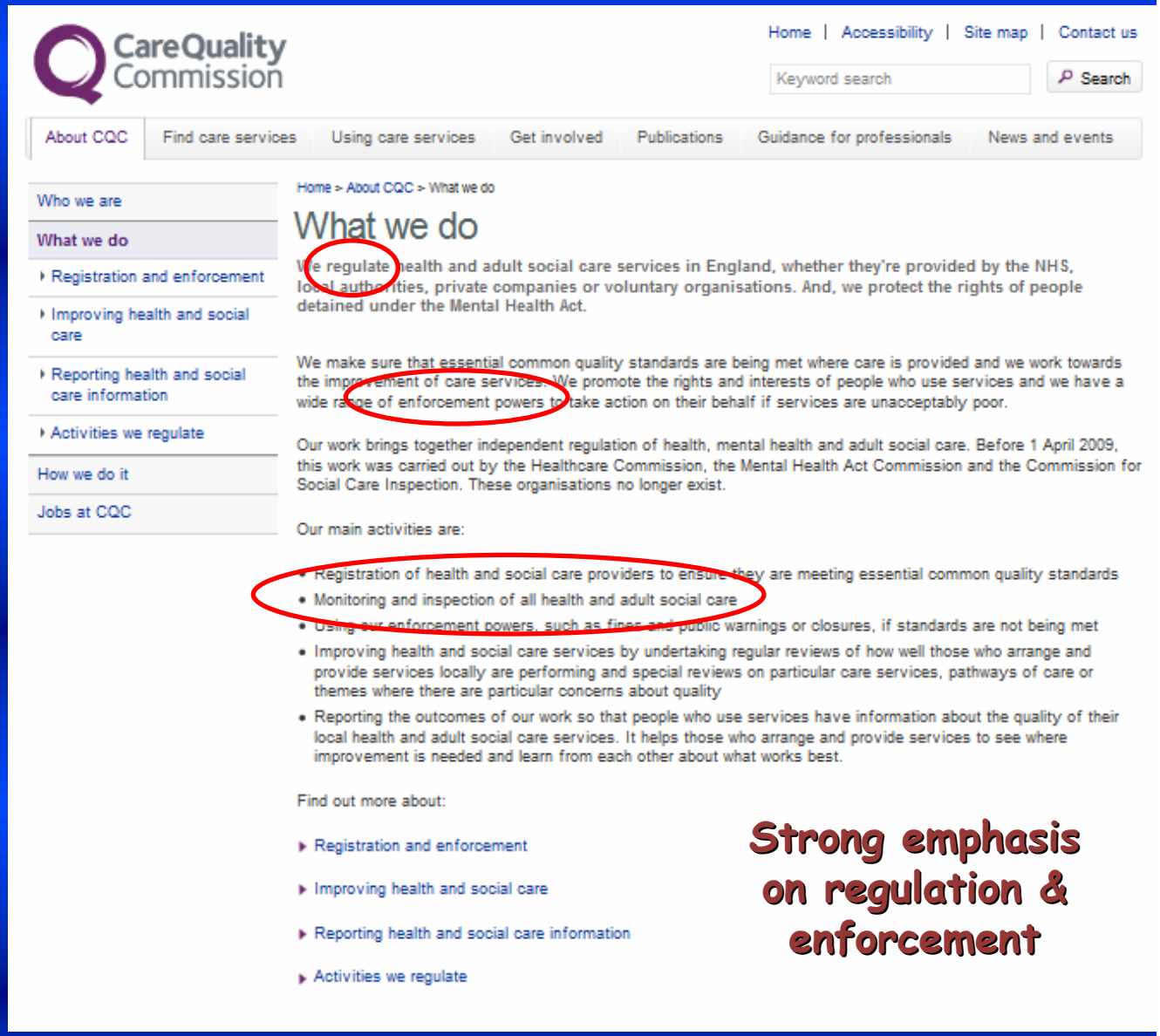
How does one most effectively capture "Minds and Hearts"? (1)



Strong emphasis on regulation & enforcement

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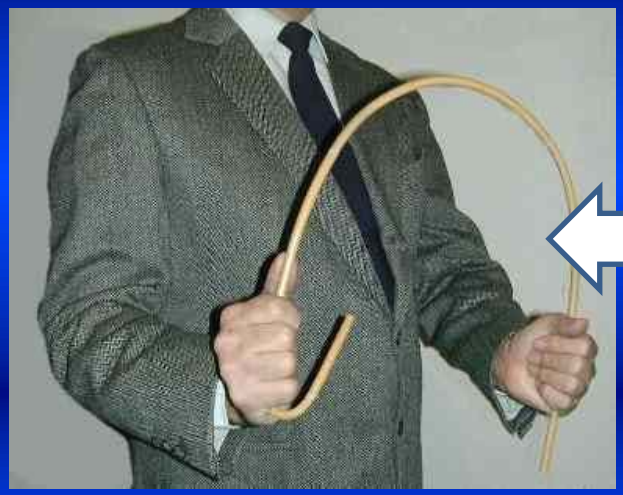
How does one most effectively capture "Minds and Hearts"? (2)



Through regulation & enforcement?

Through leadership, guiding & teaching?

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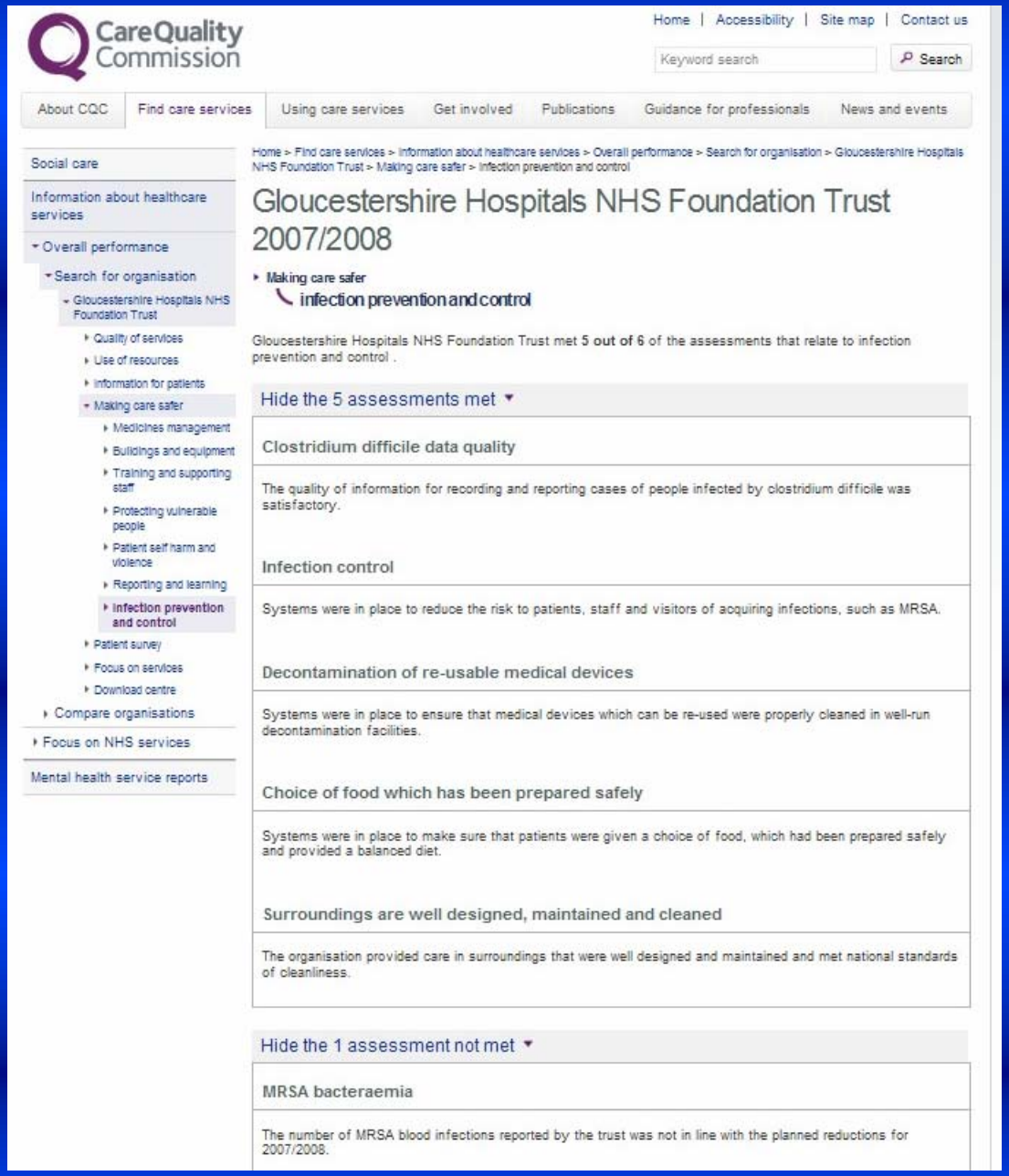


CQC & Infection Control in the field

Could this be extended further?

TRENT accreditation SCHEME

In what direction is the CQC focussed ?

- Can the CQC really act both as "poacher" and "gamekeeper"?
  - Is there potential for conflict-confusion between regulatory-enforcement vs advisory-mentoring-improving roles?

- Is there currently any element of "ownership" by healthcare staff of the quality & safety improvement process?
  - Value of professionalism, ethics & integrity
  - Multidisciplinary team & collaboration
  - Peer conduct of assessment procedures

TRENT accreditation SCHEME

Webster's Dictionary

Regulation:

A rule or order issued by an executive authority or regulatory agency of a government and having the force of law.

Does this truly promote ownership?

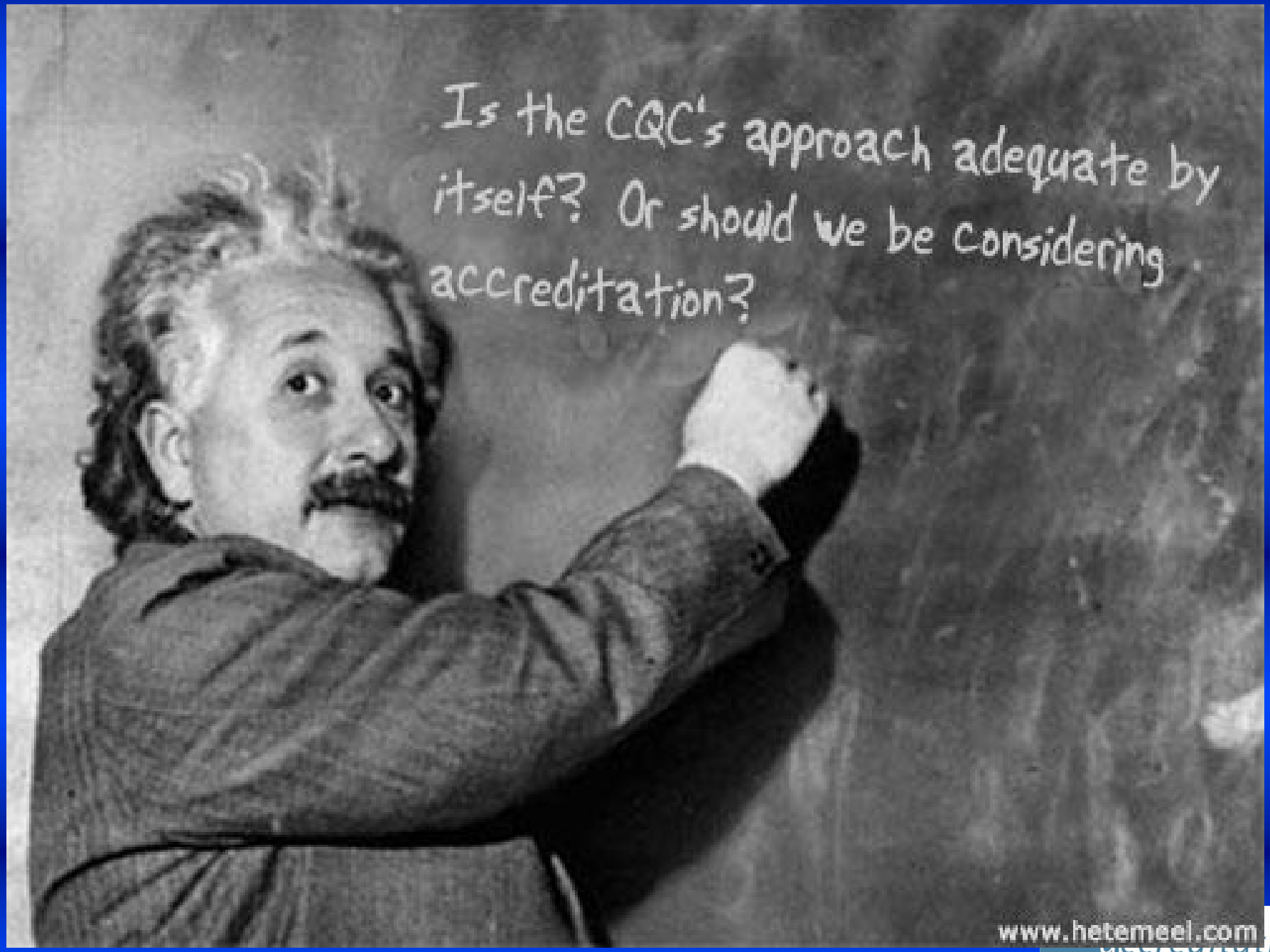
Webster's Dictionary

Regulation:

A rule or order issued by an executive authority or regulatory agency of a government and having the force of law.

Accreditation:

To recognize or vouch for as conforming with a standard.



accreditation SCHEME

Galileo Galilei (1564-1642)

"You cannot teach anybody anything. You can only help them discover it within themselves."

TRENT accreditation SCHEME

Registration
Social care
Healthcare
NHS Staff
Guidance for independent staff
All healthcare staff
Improving clinical quality
How we assess clinical care
Clinical accreditation
Developing better metrics
Our use of NICE guidance
Registration of doctors
Managing risk
Count me in census
Mental Health Act
Contact CQC

Accreditation of services

Because they are designed to assure the quality of clinical services, accreditation schemes that are developed suitably could be an important aid to how we assess clinical care in the future. This page gives a brief overview of our work to help clinicians' professional bodies develop accreditation schemes in England.

The accreditation process

The main purpose of accreditation is to assure quality and to drive improvement in standards. Accreditation of clinical services involves expert clinicians assessing the quality of a service, using standards developed from best practice and knowledge that is based on the highest level of evidence available and an understanding of the needs of patients.

Developing more schemes

There are only a few clinical accreditation schemes in England. However, several of the medical royal colleges, working with other professional groups and patients' representatives, are developing schemes for the clinical disciplines they represent. There is a potential link here with the development of standards for professional revalidation of individual clinicians.

We are working with the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges and other clinical groups to promote consistency between these emerging schemes. Data from some schemes are already helping to inform our work. We think that in the future accreditation could support and complement our assessment work, as well as helping those who commission clinical services in their decision-making.

To find out more about accreditation schemes for healthcare services, click on the links opposite.

Useful sites

- Accreditation schemes run by the Royal College of Psychiatrists (opens in new window)
- Clinical Pathology Accreditation (opens in new window)
- Radiology accreditation (opens in new window)

What is Accreditation?

- Well-recognised internationally
- Carried out by an independent "accreditation scheme"
  - Scheme is often non-governmental in basis (and therefore independent of political expediency)
- Hospital functioning compared with pre-agreed standards
  - Standards based on best available evidence and peer opinion
- Basis of accreditation process is a continuous & self-sustaining cycle of standards development, health facility auditing, and training and education
  - Puts in place a culture of continuous self-driven improvement within a hospital or clinic
  - Surveying takes place every two to three years
- Involves peer-to-peer review on a non-punitive basis
  - The best schemes use surveyors from medical, nursing, allied healthcare professions and management/clerical backgrounds

TRENT accreditation SCHEME

Being surveyed

- Infection control is embedded into the standards, and the whole organisation is assessed longitudinally and in cross-section with respect to infection control performance
- If the accreditation scheme deems the hospital to be of adequate quality, it attests that that hospital or clinic is competent to function and "accredits it"
- In most of the world, accreditation has come to be thought of as a "stamp of approval" verifying the authenticity, quality and safety of the services provided by a hospital or clinic
- Ideally the accreditation scheme works to a not-for-profit ethos

"You are aware of course that in our Trust Hospital we have no independent external assessment of quality and risk – we rely totally on trust"

TRENT accreditation SCHEME

Who does it? Examples of International Hospital Accreditation Schemes

TRENT accreditation SCHEME

UK

↑ Based within NHS
Non-profit
Surveyors all volunteers

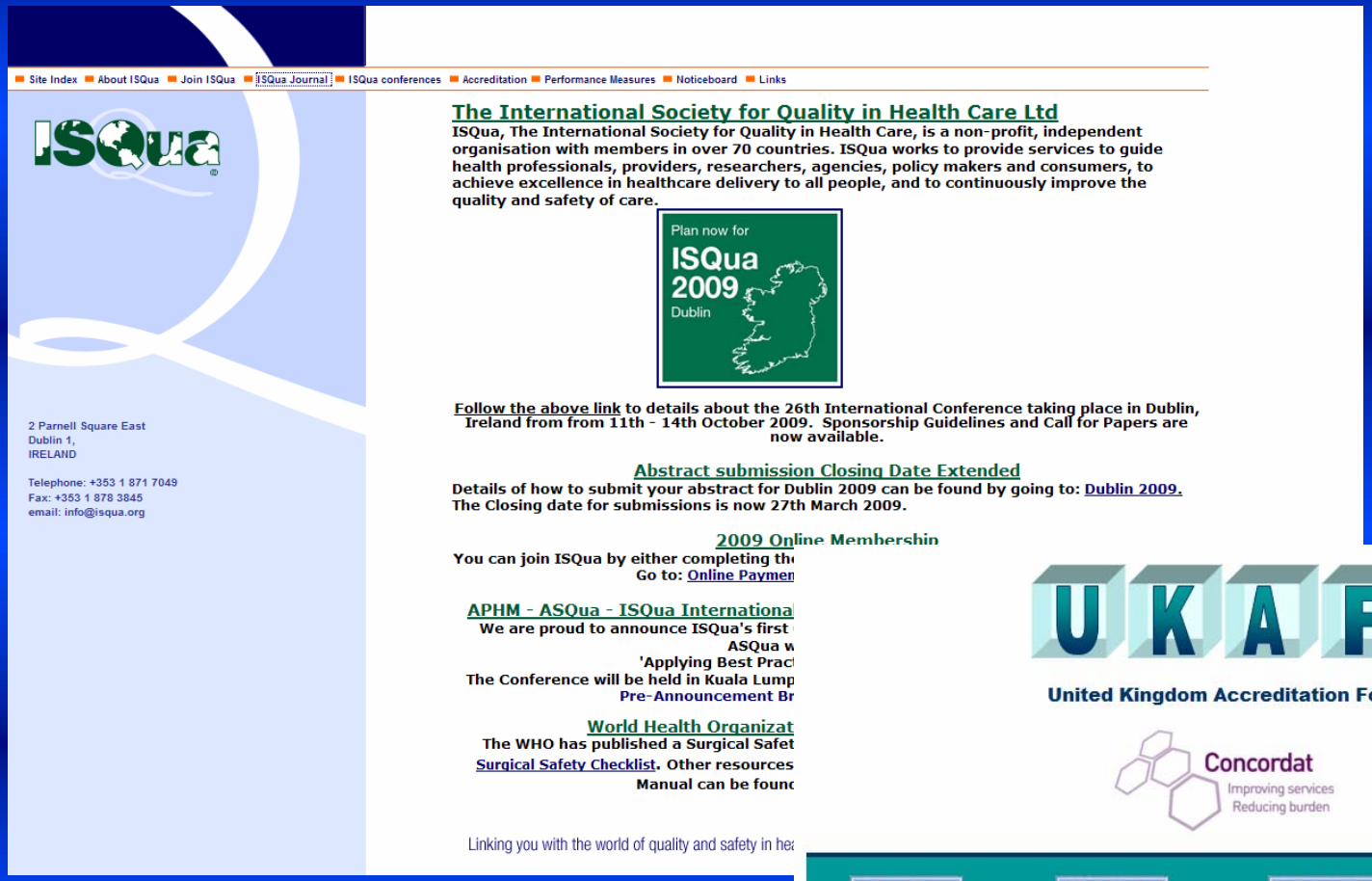
USA

Joint Commission INTERNATIONAL

AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL ON HEALTHCARE STANDARDS INTERNATIONAL
ACHSI

ACCREDITATION CANADA
AGRÉMENT CANADA
Driving Quality Health Services
Force motrice de la qualité des services de santé

TRENT accreditation SCHEME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The Conference will be held in Kuala Lump
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World Health Organizat
The WHO has published a Surgical Safet
Surgical Safety Checklist. Other resources
Manual can be found
Linking you with the world of quality and safety in hea
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United Kingdom Accreditation Forum
Concordat
Improving services
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Resources
The United Kingdom Accreditation Forum is an established network of organisations with the intentions of sharing experience good practice and new ideas around the methodology for such programmes, covering issues such as developing healthcare quality standards, implementation of standards within healthcare organisations, assessment by peer review and exploration of the peer

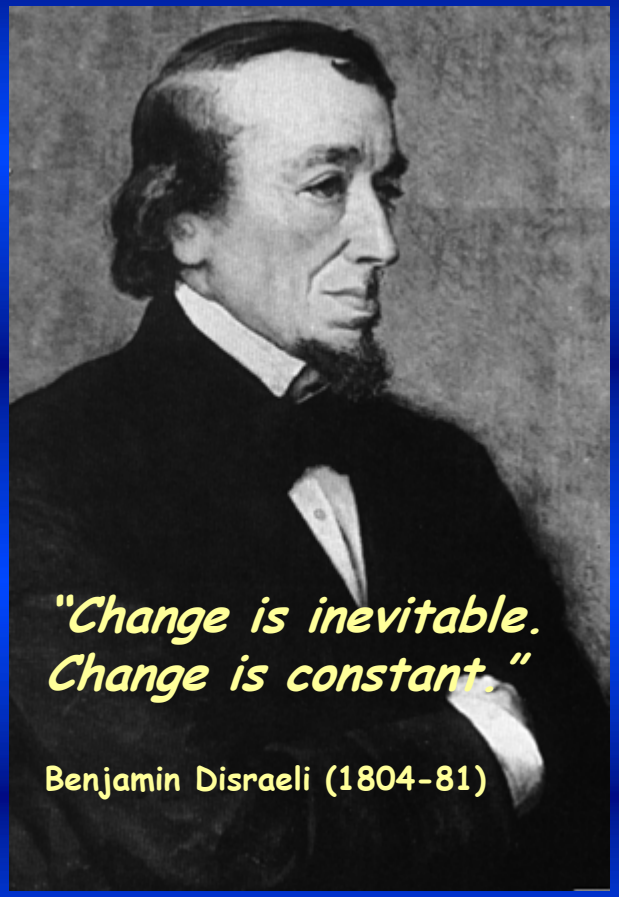
Is the accreditation process worth a passing thought?

"People always fear change. People feared electricity when it was invented, didn't they?..... There will always be ignorance, and ignorance leads to fear."

Bill Gates (1955-)

TRENT accreditation SCHEME

"MBAs need their own version of the Hippocratic Oath."



Nicholas Masoud Gilani, Investment Banker, Dubai, UAE
Quoted in the Financial Times
Friday 20th February, 2009

Who knows what's coming next?

Thank You

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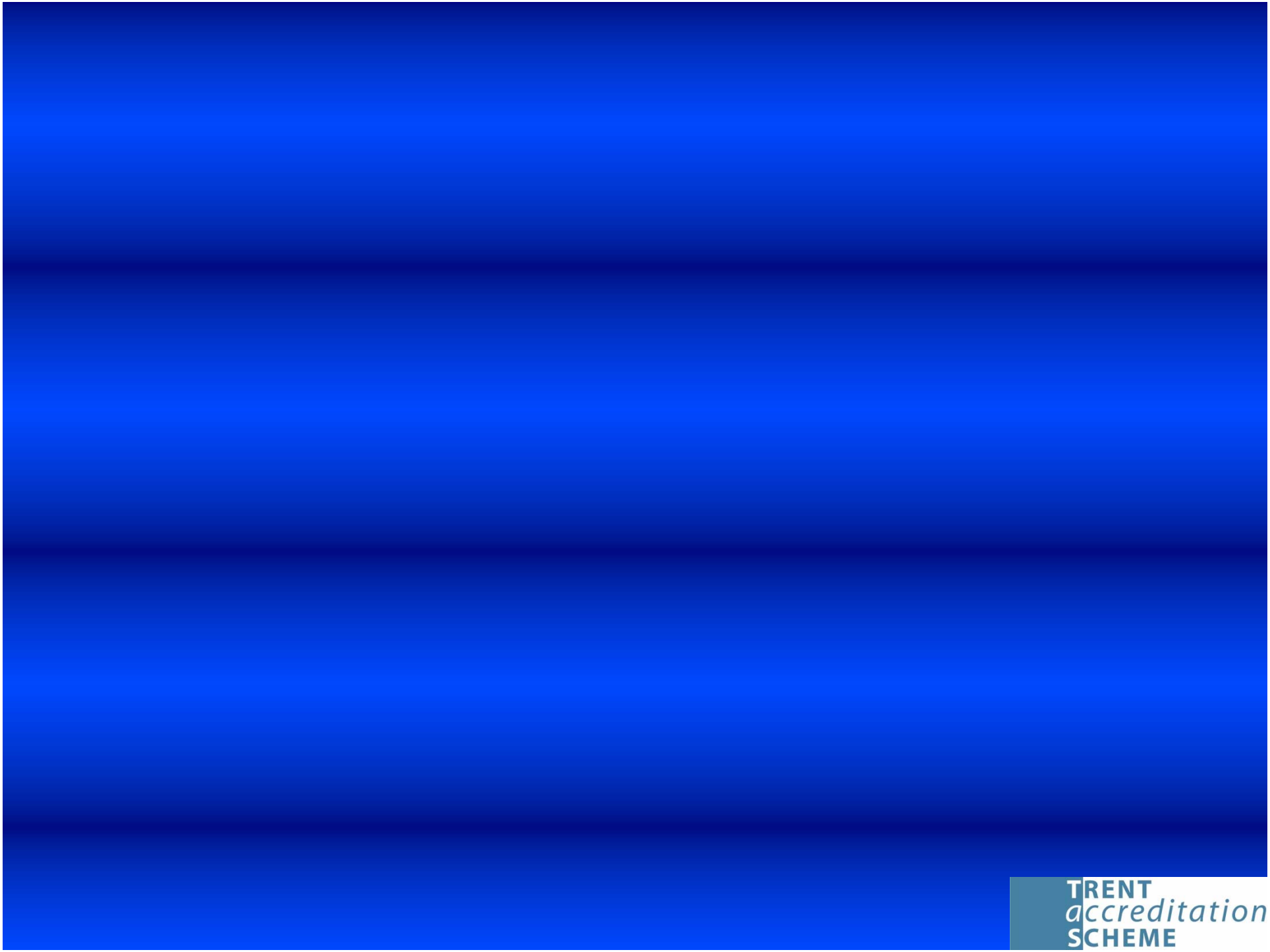
TRENT accreditation SCHEME


TRENT
accreditation
SCHEME

Why do we ever bother doing anything?

"Men fear thought as they fear nothing else on earth - more than ruin, more even than death."

Bertrand Russell (1872-1970)

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Last Updated: Tuesday, 15 May 2007, 12:17 GMT 13:17 UK

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Spanish Hep C anaesthetist jailed

A Spanish anaesthetist with hepatitis C has been sentenced to nearly 2,000 years in prison for infecting hundreds of patients with the virus.

Mr Maeso injected himself with morphine meant for his patients

Juan Maeso, 65, infected 275 people between 1988 and 1997, by injecting himself with a morphine syringe before using the rest on a patient.

Valencia's Provincial Court sentenced Mr Maeso, who is a morphine addict, to 1,933 years in jail.

However the most he can serve under Spanish law is 20 years.

He was also ordered to pay 500,000 euros ($680,000) in damages to each of the victims or their survivors.

Mr Maeso is said to have infected patients when he worked in four hospitals in the Valencia area.

Four of those he infected with the virus have since died.

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Can problems happen?