FROM THE JOURNALS

Syed Ahsan MD

I have recently come across the following articles that should be of interest to Hospitalists:

House Staff Member Awareness of Older Inpatients' Risks for Hazards of Hospitalization

Fernandez, HM et al., Arch Intern Med, 2008, Feb 25; 168(4):390-396

This study showed that Internal Medicine house staff members are not aware of many of their patients' risk factors that contribute to the hazards of hospitalization.

Outcomes of Care by Hospitalists, General Internists and Family Physicians

Lindenauer, PK et al., NEJM, 2007, Dec 20; 357(25): 2589-2600; Center for Quality & Safety Research, Baystate Medical Center, Springfield, MA 01199

For common inpatient diagnoses, the hospitalist model is associated with a small reduction in the length of stay without adverse effect on rates of death or readmission.

Promoting Effective Transitions of Care at Hospital Discharge: A Review of Key Issues for Hospitalists

Kripalani, S et al., J Hosp Med, 2007, Sep; 2(5): 314-323

This article reviews several important challenges to providing high quality care upon discharge.

Acute Heart Failure Syndromes in Patients with Coronary Artery Disease: Early Assessment and Treatment

Flaherty, JD et al., Acute Heart Failure Syndromes International Working Group, J Am Coll Cardiol 2009, Jan 20; 53(3): 254-263

The initial in-hospital and after-discharge management of AHFS may be dependent on clinical presentation.

ID CORNER

William Salzer MD

Candidiasis Guidelines

The IDSA has updated their practice guidelines for Candida infections; this includes candidemia, other invasive forms and superficial infections.

Pappas, PG et al., Clinical Practice Guidelines for the Management of Candidiasis: 2009 Update by the Infectious Disease Society of America, Clin Infect Dis 2009; 48:503-535

http://www.journals.uchicago.edu/doi/pdf/10.1086/596757