



October 2025 Vol. 25, No. 10

OPTIMA EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Webinar:

"Generations in the Workplace"
October 30, 2025 @ 10:00 – 11:00 am (Pacific Time)

Optima 2025 Education Calendar

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CDC

CDC Report Finds Sharp Rise in Dangerous Drug-Resistant Bacteria (CDC News Room, September 23, 2025)

Infections caused by a highly drug-resistant and dangerous bacteria known as NDM-producing carpabenem-resistant Enterobacterales, or NDM-CRE, have surged by more than 460% in the U.S. between 2019 – 2023. With limited testing and gaps in infection control fueling the surge, experts warn that timely detection and targeted treatment are critical. Read more ...

Measles Preparedness and Response in Healthcare Settings (CDC Infection Control, August 18, 2025)

As measles outbreaks resurface, the CDC has launched a new assessment tool to help health care facilities strengthen infection control and response protocols. The toolkit includes practical resources like exposure response steps, patient screening scripts, and notification templates to support preparedness during community outbreaks. Read more...

FALL PREVENTION

Preventing Patient Falls Through Sensor Technology (Becker's Clinical Leadership. September 10, 2025)

Hospitals using sensor technologies like bed, chair, and toilet alarms have seen up to a 30% drop in patient falls, the most common harmful event in inpatient care. Read more...

HEALTH EQUITY

IHI Launches First-Ever Age-Friendly and Health Equity Certification for Health Care Professionals (IHI News, September 3, 2025)

These new certifications give healthcare professionals a meaningful way to validate their skills and advance their careers, while offering employers a way to verify the knowledge and expertise of job candidates to ensure that patients receive the best care possible. The Certified Professional in Age-Friendly Health Care (CPAFH) credential establishes a benchmark for excellence in the care of older adults, while the Certified Professional in Clinical Health Equity (CPCHE) credential sets the standard for individuals committed to delivering equitable care. Read more...

HEALTH INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

Cleveland Clinic, Mayo Top Executives Rethink Strategy for an Al-Powered Ecosystem (Becker's Hospital Review Healthcare News & Analysis, September 15, 2025)

Top executives describe how AI investments are already transforming patient care, clinical trials and operations. While optimistic about AI's potential, ongoing concerns around regulation, ethics and trust exist. Read more...

HIPAA

Spouse and Family Access to PHI Often Disputed (Clinician.com, September 1, 2025)

Despite the healthcare community's long experience with HIPAA, it continues to be an issue that is not well understood by some employees. Read more...

MEDICATION SAFETY

Polypharmacy and Potentially Inappropriate Medications in Certain Patient Populations (Mayo Clinic Proceedings, Volume 100, Issue 9, September 2025)

A new study in the *Mayo Clinic Proceedings* identifies trends in polypharmacy for those with dementia and levels of frailty. It identifies useful steps to take to avoid adverse drug interactions, hyperpolypharmacy, and other medication risks. Read more...

OBSTETRICS

Managing Obstetric Risk to Mitigate Claims (Medical Professional Liability Association/Preverity, May 2025)

Improving maternal outcomes is achievable with the right strategies. We can create a future where safe deliveries and healthy outcomes are the norm by fostering collaboration among physicians, hospitals, and insurers. Read more...

Boosting Maternity Care in Rural America (The National Conference of State Legislatures - Brief – September 10, 2025)

Almost 800 women in the United States die of pregnancy-related complications every year, and the mortality rate in rural areas <u>tends to be higher</u> than in urban areas. Hospital closures, shrinking budgets, a diminishing workforce and poorer health outcomes in rural areas are prompting policymakers to look for ways to boost maternal health care. <u>Read more...</u>

PATIENT CARE MANAGEMENT

Medically Unpreventable Wounds *Webinar- October 9, 2025* (SCAHRM.org information September 16, 2025)

Recognition of severe pressure injuries are often caused by internal vascular problems and compromised blood flow rather than external pressure alone and shifts the demands toward prevention strategies that address tissue perfusion and may enable us to create objective definitions of medical unpreventability. Register here...

PATIENT EXPERIENCE

City of Hope Brings Disney-Style Immersion to Spiritual Care (Becker's Hospital Review – Patient Experience, September 4, 2025)

Research shows spiritual care is linked to better health outcomes, and 91% of individuals with advanced cancer have spiritual needs. These factors were central in designing a multidenominational <u>spiritual care center</u>, It uses immersive technology to allow visitors to select one of seven spaces on a touch screen — a chapel, mandir, mosque, temple, synagogue, shorelines or an alpine forest — which then displays on a main screen and two side screens, transforming the space based on the user's preferences.

Read more...

PATIENT SAFETY

Join Leapfrog's Comments on the CY26 CMS OPPS and ASC Proposed Rule (The Leapfrog Group, September 15, 2025)

Each year, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) invites stakeholders to submit comments on the proposed changes to the Outpatient Prospective Payment System (OPPS) and Ambulatory Surgical Center (ASC) Proposed Rule. Leapfrog commented on the 2026 proposed rule centered around two key areas: Retain Health Equity and SDOH Measures and Support for Emergency Department (ED) Wait Time Data. Read more...

ECRI Whitepaper – Patient Safety: A Moral Imperative and Smart Business Strategy (ECRI Communications, September 17, 2025)

In honor of World Patient Safety Day, ECRI's latest Whitepaper captures thoughts of 17 C-suite healthcare leaders who are redefining what it means to lead patient safety in today's complex environment. Explore how these strategies are helping organizations navigate today's challenges while building safer, more sustainable systems for tomorrow. Read more... (ECRI log-in and download required)

PHYSICIAN OFFICE PRACTICE

Top Tools for Protecting Your Practice: A Brief Guide for Independent and Hospital-Owned Physician Office Practices (ASHRM Exchange, August 22, 2025)

Running a medical office practice involves much more than providing patient care. Physicians and other clinicians must proactively safeguard their practices against various clinical and operational risks to ensure longevity and success. Read more...

RISK MANAGEMENT

2025 CHI/Optima Prevent One Concierge Fund

The goal of the Prevent One Concierge Fund is to support risk management professional development, education initiatives, and "Prevent One" claim for CHI owners. Total reimbursement per each CHI owner is set at \$3,000, and \$5,000 for owners considered by Optima to be a system. The Fund may be applied towards education/services and/or risk manager professional development expenses, which must be incurred in 2025 and submitted no later than December 12, 2025. Submit here...

TECHNOLOGY

Remote Patient Monitoring: A Booming Industry Across the Globe- (Med Device Online, August 20, 2025)

Remote patient monitoring (RPM) is revolutionizing global health care by enabling real-time tracking of vital signs through home-based devices, reducing hospital visits and improving personalized care. Driven by AI, wearable tech, and a growing chronic disease burden, RPM is expanding rapidly—even in regions facing economic or geopolitical challenges. Read more...

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