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Georgia Southern Examines HAIs and the Changing Role of the Healthcare Environment

June 8, 2016



The role of the healthcare environment and its contribution to acquisition and transfer of microorganisms that cause infection and illness in both patients and healthcare workers is not by any means straightforward. Historically the focus was considered less critical for surface contaminants but several factors are now monitored and considered environmental controls. The transition is in context of its role in 1) acquisition and transfer of microbial populations, 2) relationship to the risk of infection and illness in both patient and healthcare worker populations, 3) recently published scientific evidence related to transmission of microbes from environmental surfaces including textiles, 4) laundering practices and procedure of textiles and uniforms, and 5) new technologies and programs that can address reducing risk association with contaminated environmental surfaces.

“The Changing Role of the Healthcare Environment,” was published in *Clinical Laboratory Science* was published on January 1 as a fourth and final article in a FOCUS series about healthcare-associated infections.

Dr. Amber Hogan Mitchell of the International Safety Center in Apopka, Florida was the lead author and Dr. Julie Reagan, Assistant Professor of Health Policy and Management at the Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health Georgia Southern University was one of the co-authors.

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Georgia Southern Examines the Legal Landscape of HAI Public Reporting

June 8, 2016



Since 2004 many state legislatures passed laws that mandated public reporting of healthcare-associated infections (HAIs). The article focuses on federal influences on state-level HAI program initiatives and reporting, the progress of state-level initiatives to reduce HAI, the core provisions of state HAI reporting laws, and healthcare worker infection and illness reporting mandates.

“[The Legal Landscape: HAI Public Reporting in the United States](#)” was published in *Clinical Laboratory Science* as the third of four in a FOCUS series about HAIs.

Dr. Julie Reagan, Assistant Professor of Health Policy and Management at the Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health Georgia Southern University was the lead author.

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