

Is It Really Fair To Penalize Hospitals For Readmissions?

by Skeptical Scalpel, M.D.

As new Medicare rules kick in, some 2,200 hospitals nationwide are facing financial penalties for high 30-day readmission rates for myocardial infarction, congestive heart failure and pneumonia. Medicare payments will be lowered by

as much as 1 percent.

Investigators at the Skeptical Scalpel Institute for Evidence-Based Outcomes and Advanced Research (SSIEBOAR, catchy acronym, don't you think?) have come up with a plan that is certain to lower readmission rates across the

board. Some have said the idea should be patented but the institute is not-for-profit and thus is willing to share.

The solution is quite simple—let the patients die. Yes, death reduces readmission rates for all diseases, not just MI, CHF and pneumonia.

[Continue reading...](#) [1]

Source URL (retrieved on 01/30/2015 - 9:57am):

http://www.surgicalproductsmag.com/blogs/2012/11/it-really-fair-penalize-hospitals-readmissions?qt-recent_blogs_articles=0&qt-recent_content=0&qt-most_popular=0

Is It Really Fair To Penalize Hospitals For Readmissions?

Published on Surgical Products (<http://www.surgicalproductsmag.com>)

Links:

[1] <http://www.kevinmd.com/blog/2012/11/fair-penalize-hospitals-readmissions.html>