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**FirstDoNoHarm.com to Help Healthcare Practitioners and Executives Reduce the Human and Financial Toll Exacted by Hospital-Acquired Conditions (HACs)**

*Web site provides prevention, intervention and risk-reduction resources as healthcare industry prepares for October 1, 2008, enactment of new CMS reimbursement rule for HACs.*

Research Triangle Park, N.C., August 18, 2008—FirstDoNoHarm.com has launched new content and resources to support healthcare practitioners and executives preparing for enactment of CMS reimbursement rules for hospital-acquired conditions (HACs). Originally introduced more than two years ago, FirstDoNoHarm.com was one of the first Web sites focused on building clinician awareness of infection-protection and compliance issues.

Now available on FirstDoNoHarm.com is a special section on reimbursement designed to help hospitals and practitioners navigate the complex and changing world of reimbursement policies. In addition to news related to the proposed CMS reimbursement rules, the section also includes information on reporting of HACs and a toll-free Reimbursement Hotline to help answer healthcare professionals' questions on this topic.

“Healthcare professionals have coalesced around the shared goal of reducing preventable infections—and that movement has gained additional urgency as healthcare facilities face the October 1, 2008, reduction of Medicare reimbursement for certain hospital-acquired conditions,” said Dr. Faisal Masud, Medical Director, Cardiovascular Intensive Care Unit, Methodist DeBakey Heart Center. “Teleflex Medical has created a valuable resource with FirstDoNoHarm.com—a noncommercial site that’s designed to help medical professionals address the patient, professional and financial dimensions of this problem.”

New on FirstDoNoHarm.com are on-demand clinical education sessions from three of the leading experts on central line safety. Dr. Masud provides insight on central line safety with a focus on infection protection. Cheryl Kelley, RN, offers ways to reduce risk and improve outcomes of central lines with proper patient assessment. Dr. Jack LeDonne of Greater Baltimore Medical Center gives professionals an in-depth look at central venous access performed with ultrasound guidance. These clinical education presentations are available in Flash media, online video and podcast formats.

“In the clinical setting, safety takes many forms, and infection protection is a major consideration when it comes to central line safety,” comments Dr. Masud. “I am pleased to have the opportunity to reach so many medical professionals online with information on this topic as we all work to eliminate hospital-acquired infections.”

Clinicians are the focus of pathogenesis, prevention and intervention information on catheter-related bloodstream infections (CRBSI), ventilator-associated pneumonia (VAP) and catheter-associated urinary tract infections (CAUTI). FirstDoNoHarm.com also includes an archive of “Clinical Mythbusters,” a monthly e-mail bulletin in which the answers to True/False questions help clarify procedures and proper technique that can play a role in infection reduction. Those interested in receiving free Clinical Mythbusters e-bulletins can register at [www.FirstDoNoHarm.com](http://www.FirstDoNoHarm.com).

Support for FirstDoNoHarm.com is provided by Teleflex Medical, a leading global provider of medical products and solutions designed to help healthcare providers improve outcomes, reduce infection and improve patient and provider safety.

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