

**DFW-APIC Government Affairs Committee  
Oct 2018**

**APIC Public Policy and E-News Highlights (2018)**

<http://cqrcengage.com/apic/home>

<http://apic.org/Member-Services/Publications/E-News>

9/12/2018	The Israeli Ministry of Health is reporting an outbreak of leptospirosis in persons with exposure to natural water sources in the Golan Heights region of northern Israel after July 1, 2018. Clinicians should consider leptospirosis as a diagnosis in any patient who develops an acute febrile illness within four weeks of travel to recreational water sites in this region since July 1, 2018. If clinicians suspect leptospirosis in a patient, they should initiate treatment with antibiotics prior to receiving results of diagnostic tests, as earlier treatment is associated with a decrease in duration and severity of disease. Read the <a href="#">CDC health advisory</a> .
9/12/2018	NIOSH updated its position regarding facial hair and the use of respiratory protective devices. The new position is intended to clarify the NIOSH definition of respirator sealing surfaces. It supersedes the October 2, 2006 <i>Letter to all Manufacturers</i> titled: <i>NIOSH Policy for Respirator Sealing Surfaces and Facial Hair</i> . Read the <a href="#">updated NIOSH position</a> .
9/19/2018	Pharm D Solutions is voluntarily recalling all sterile compounded drug products due to concerns that practices at the pharmacy have the potential to pose a risk of contamination to products that are intended to be sterile. These concerns arose following a routine inspection of the pharmacy by FDA. Read the <a href="#">FDA safety alert</a> .
9/19/2018	CMS Provider Preview Reports for long-term care hospitals (LTCH) and inpatient rehabilitation facilities (IRF) are available until October 8 for facilities to review their performance data prior to public reporting on the <a href="#">LTCH Compare</a> and <a href="#">IRF Compare</a> websites. See the <a href="#">LTCH</a> and <a href="#">IRF</a> Quality Reporting webpages for more information and instructions on accessing preview reports.
9/26/2018	Ebola virus and other emerging pathogens remain an ongoing international concern. Due to the current Ebola outbreak in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and this year's earlier outbreak in western DRC, healthcare facilities should remain aware of the possibility of imported cases of viral hemorrhagic fevers or other infections in returning travelers. In the current outbreak, no cases of Ebola Virus Disease have been reported outside North Kivu and Ituri provinces in northeastern DRC as of September 23, 2018. For current information about this outbreak, including the most up-to-date number of cases, see WHO's <a href="#">Ebola situation reports: Democratic Republic of the Congo</a> . This outbreak serves as a reminder for U.S. healthcare facilities to review their infection prevention and control processes to safely identify and manage patients with communicable infections.
10/3/2018	<b><u>NPR Patient satisfaction ratings may be a factor in doctor's prescribing behavior:</u></b> When they're sick, it seems Americans know what they want: antibiotics. And if they don't get them, their doctors' reputations may suffer. A JAMA Internal Medicine study published Monday finds that patients rated themselves happiest with their doctor's visit when they got an antibiotic after seeking care for a respiratory tract infection, such as a common cold, whether they needed it or not.

**Texas Register (2018)**

<http://www.sos.state.tx.us/texreg/index.shtml>

**Last Review Completed:**

9/28/2018

**Current Search Parameters for Review:**

25 TAC: Chapters 2, 97, 133, 135, 200

30 TAC: Chapter 330; Subchapter Y

**Key: X Pending**

X	Date Filed	Action	Title/Ch./Rules	Topic / Comments
	4/20/2018	<b>Adopted</b>	25 TAC §133.2; 25 TAC §133.41	The amendments are required by S.B. 11, which defines Do Not Resuscitate (DNR) orders and sets out procedures and requirements for issuing DNRs. S.B. 11 applies to DNR orders issued in a health care facility or hospital. The bill describes the requirements for a physician to issue a DNR at a patient's direction, an advance directive, the patient's legal guardian or known agent under a medical power of attorney, or a person authorized to make treatment decisions. The health care facility is required to notify the patient or person authorized to make treatment decisions of the facility's policies and procedures for DNR orders and to notify the patient or person authorized to make treatment decisions of the issuance of the order.

**Prepared by 2018 APIC-DFW Governmental Affairs Committee:  
Jasmine Cluck, Heather Kirby, Patti Grant, Stephanie Kreiling**