Selected news items and updates for the practicing clinician

Zachary Mulkey MD

• After a recent *JAMA meta-analysis* regarding the use of hydroxyethyl starch solutions in patients with shock, *the FDA is recommending* that the volume expander solutions carry a boxed warning for increased risk of kidney injury and death. See a review story [here](#).

• The *FDA has expanded the role* of the antibiotic telavancin to include nosocomial pneumonia due to *S. aureus*. It was already approved in 2009 for complicated skin & soft tissue infections. Here is *a brief review of the drug*.

• *Some are calling for the practice of isolating patients colonized with MRSA to stop*. This after *a study in the NEJM* was published showing that daily universal decolonization bathing with chlorhexidine washes was much more effective than active detection/isolation techniques.

• The *latest on Sarah Murnaghan*, the 10-year-old girl suffering from cystic fibrosis who won a court case allowing her to be placed on the adult lung transplant list.

• I recently viewed a board review DVD that had the expert teacher state their belief that smoking cessation attempts were worthless. Well, a recent Cochrane review seems to say otherwise. Here’s the *story* and *review*.

*Corresponding Author:* Zachary Mulkey, MD

*Contact Information:* zachary.mulkey@ttuhsc.edu