

ECRI's HTAIS Update

Semi-Monthly Update on ECRI Technology Assessment Activities and Newly Published Reports for HTAIS Members

Welcome to the latest edition of ECRI's HTAIS Update, a benefit of membership in HTAIS. This newsletter will keep you informed of new additions to the HTAIS pages of ECRI's Web site.

NOTE: Access to the following reports may require you to log in using your ECRI member username and password. [To view an online version of this newsletter, [click here](#)]

Thursday, August 10, 2006

New Forecast News Briefs

Each week, HTAIS publishes a series of news briefs on the Health Technology Forecast home page. Below are links to the most recent headlines (available on ECRI's [Health Technology Forecast](#) website).

- Computed tomography speeds up with nanotechnology
- Discovery of chronic pain "switch" offers new drug target
- Nanoparticles may allow low-dose treatment of arterial plaques
- Computer simulation may improve collapsed lung treatment
- Irradiated vaccine triggers broad immune response in animal study
- New "brain pacemaker" may control epileptic seizures

New Windows on Medical Technology reports

Windows on Medical Technology are ECRI's evidence reports on drugs, devices, biotechnologies, procedures, healthcare services and behavioral health interventions. These reports describe an intervention or service, condition for which it is used and target population, evidence base, results of ECRI's analysis, and much more (available on ECRI's [Windows on Medical Technology](#) website).

- Endoscopic Thoracic Sympathectomy for the Treatment of Hyperhidrosis (draft)
- Needle Acupuncture for Migraine Headaches
- Endovenous Radio-frequency Ablation (VNUS Closure System) for the Treatment of Varicose Veins (draft)

New and Updated TARGET reports

TARGET is a powerful database that offers evidence-based reports about emerging and newly-available drugs, devices, and procedures, as well as new or off-label uses for existing technologies. Each report includes over 30 categories of valuable information that will help you make decisions about planning, procurement, investment, and reimbursement (available on ECRI's [TARGET database](#) website).

- Gene expression assay for predicting recurrence of breast cancer
- Capsule endoscopy of the esophagus
- CT colonography for colorectal cancer detection

New Health Technology Trends articles

Health Technology Trends is a fast-reading web resource that keeps you up to date on the hottest topics in healthcare technology. Authoritative, concise, and original articles examine the

impact of healthcare technology developments on critical issues you face every day: cost-control measures, coverage, reimbursement, and much more (available on ECRI's [Health Technology Trends](#) website).

- New stent may help prevent stroke by opening narrowed arteries deep within the brain
- New test may find previously hidden metastatic prostate cancer
- Thrombolytic drugs double survival from sudden cardiac arrest in small pilot study

New and Updated Hotline topics

Hotline responses include technology overviews and summarize literature searches of published peer-reviewed literature, gray literature, and standards and guidelines pertaining to healthcare topics (available on ECRI's [Hotline](#) website).

- Non-invasive Blood Pressure Measurement Using Radial Artery Waveforms
- Semi-rigid Spinal Stabilization Systems for Use in Non-cervical Spinal Fusion Surgery
- Magnetic Source Imaging (MSI): Magnetoencephalography (MEG) and Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) for Presurgical Evaluation and Localization of Epileptic Foci
- Prevention of Contrast-media Induced Nephrotoxicity for Renal Failure Patients Undergoing Coronary Angiography
- Zostavax for Shingles (Herpes Zoster) Vaccination
- Radiofrequency Volumetric Tissue Reduction (Somnoplasty) for Obstructive Sleep Apnea or Snoring

Direct Access to HTAIS Web site

Did you know? Access to your HTAIS membership is just one click away. Bookmark the web link below to go directly to ECRI's HTAIS home page, sign in and you are there. This gives you one-click direct access to all your membership services, including new and updated reports, ECRI's powerful search engine, other ECRI membership areas, and ECRI's home page.

www.ta.ecri.org/htais

Topic List

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