

JAMA[®] **RADIO REPORT**

The Journal of the American Medical Association

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Producers can download mp3 versions of the packages, and are free to edit the pieces and/or use the actualities as best suits their stations' needs.

**This week's package, embargoed until:
11a.m. (ET) Tuesday, February 3, 2015 is:**

“WOUND INFECTION TOP REASON FOR READMISSION AFTER SURGERY”

Radio script (TRT:55)

EMBARGO: 11 a.m. (ET) Tuesday, February 3, 2015

VO: AFTER UNDERGOING SURGERY AND BEING DISCHARGED FROM THE HOSPITAL, THE LAST THING A PATIENT WANTS IS TO BE READMITTED FOR COMPLICATIONS. HOSPITALS ALSO FACE FINANCIAL PENALTIES IF READMISSION RATES, INCLUDING THOSE FOR SURGICAL COMPLICATIONS, ARE TOO HIGH. A NEW STUDY LOOKED AT THE MOST COMMON REASONS PATIENTS RETURN TO THE HOSPITAL AFTER UNDERGOING SURGERY.

“In the time frame that we studied, roughly 30 days after the surgery, we found that about 5.7 percent of patients were readmitted to the hospital.”

VO: DR. KARL BILIMORIA FROM THE FEINBERG SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AT NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY AND CO-AUTHORS EXAMINED ONE YEAR'S WORTH OF DATA FROM THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS, NATIONAL SURGICAL QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM. RESEARCHERS FOCUSED ON SIX REPRESENTATIVE OPERATIONS INCLUDING BARIATRIC PROCEDURES, TOTAL HIP OR KNEE REPLACEMENTS AND HYSTERECTOMY. THE STUDY APPEARS IN JAMA, JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

“The main drivers of what brought patients back to the hospital after surgery as a whole and after all the individual procedures that we looked at were really wound infections.

CATHERINE DOLF, THE JAMA REPORT.

