

## **IS REPORTING OF QUALITY DATA A USEFUL TOOL TO PROMOTE GUIDELINE IMPLEMENTATION?**

**S. Macher-Heidrich, H-G. Huber and K. Rasche**

Ärzttekammer Nordrhein, Duesseldorf, Germany

In 2005 the Paul Ehrlich Society for Chemotherapy, the German Respiratory Society, the German Society for Infectiology and the Competence Network CAPNETZ Germany published a new national Guideline for the Epidemiology, Diagnosis, Antimicrobial Therapy and Management of Community acquired Pneumonia and Lower Respiratory Tract Infections in Adults. This guideline was updated in 2009.

Also since 2005 German hospitals have been committed to provide data for external quality assurance in adult patients with community acquired pneumonia. Most quality indicators introduced reflect the recommendations of the then newly established guideline. Hospitals are asked to analyse their results with regards to improvement potential, when they do not meet certain reference values concerning these indicators.

More than 300 hospitals in the State of North-Rhine Westphalia provide data concerning about 50.000 CAP treatments annually.

During the period 2005-2010

Reported early assessment of oxygenation increased from 67% to 96,4% reported start of antimicrobial therapy within 8 hours after admittance increased from 88,3 to 94,8% and reported complete check of clinical stability criteria before discharge increased from 49% to 91,8%. I

It can be concluded that mandatory reporting of quality data with a structured feedback to hospitals about their results is helpful in the process of guideline implementation.