

Robotic Telestenting; BP Cuff Smartwatch; Medicare Bundled Care

Lipoprotein(a) isn't often tested for or well understood by most clinicians, but can have a big risk for premature heart disease in people who otherwise seem healthy. (*New York Times*)

One lot of clopidogrel (Plavix) tablets from International Laboratories is being recalled after some bottles containing simvastatin were mislabeled as clopidogrel, which could be a life-threatening switch-up, the FDA warned.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) is rolling out a new voluntary bundled payment model based around quality performance during a 90-day episode of care, which includes percutaneous coronary intervention, acute myocardial infarction, and a number of other cardiovascular care episodes. See the full story on *MedPage Today*.

Could robotic "telestenting" be the answer to quality percutaneous coronary intervention at rural centers? The Mayo Clinic is working with Corindus Vascular Robotics on a safety and feasibility study. (*Cardiovascular Business*)

At the CES trade show in Las Vegas, Omron introduced a smartwatch with a blood pressure cuff built into the band as well as a more traditional blood pressure cuff with ECG leads built into the device. (*MedGadget*)

Remote monitoring with activity trackers and other wearables still doesn't have much quality evidence for impact on clinical outcomes, according to a meta-analysis in *Digital Medicine*.

The ZOLL X Series, R Series, AED Pro, and AED Plus external

defibrillators all got FDA pre-market approval. (*MedGadget*)

For kids with Brugada syndrome, implantable cardioverter-defibrillators delivered life-saving treatment to more than a quarter of patients but also led to inappropriate shocks in nearly as many, and to other complications in more than one in 10, in a consecutive patient case-study. (*Journal of the American College of Cardiology*)

Stroke survivors are twice as likely to attempt suicide in the decade after the infarct than other adults in Taiwan, a population-based study showed. (*Journal of the American Heart Association*, via *Cardiovascular Business*)

The delay on bringing the Lotus transcatheter aortic valve replacement device back to the European market, and trying for the U.S. market too, will last at least until 2019. But if the problem isn't fixed by then, the device will be abandoned, Boston Scientific officials said, as reported by *Trends-in-Medicine* (subscription required).

A salty diet hurt endothelial function, cerebral blood flow, and cognitive performance even without a change in blood pressure, according to a mouse model study in *Nature Neuroscience*.

2018-01-15T12:30:00-0500