



Hospital infections down

About Luis Fábregas



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Hospitals are outsmarting those pesky germs.

The rates of four common hospital-acquired infections dropped from 2006 to 2007 at Pennsylvania hospitals, according to the first report to compare annual infection rates.

The report, released today by the Pennsylvania Health Care Cost Review Council, said rates of urinary tract infections, pneumonia, bloodstream infections and surgical site infections decreased over a one-year period. Overall, the agency reported that 27,949 patients in 2007 picked up infections, compared to 30,237 in 2006, a 7.5 percent decrease.