

1. Reviews of Infection Cases

- This service provides expert reviews, reports, analyses and opinions of infection-control errors and other related types of medical lapses.
- These reviews are confidential and may be a written analysis of the circumstances and documentation associated with the medical error.
- Lawrence F Muscarella, PhD – an internationally renowned expert in the causes and prevention of healthcare-associated infections (“HAIs”) and other types of medical errors – performs these reviews.

2. Facts about Hospital Infections

- ✓ HAIs are responsible for almost **270 deaths** each day in the U.S. costing > **\$20 billion** annually.¹
- ✓ HAIs - the **4th leading** cause of death in the U.S. - are responsible for more deaths than AIDS, breast cancer and auto accidents *combined*.²
- ✓ Approximately **1.7 million** HAIs are reported each year in healthcare facilities in the U.S.
- ✓ Every year at least **one of every 20 people** (>5%) hospitalized in the U.S. contracts a HAI, and at least **23,000** patients die annually in the U.S. from an antibiotic-resistant infection.
- ✓ A study by the *Institute of Medicine* estimated that preventable medical errors cause more than **75,000** patient deaths each year in the U.S.³
- ✓ The *Institute for Healthcare Improvement* estimates that there are **15 million** patient harming events each year in the U.S.⁴

1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Preventing HAIs. Reference: 119814.
2. Committee to Reduce Infection Deaths. Unnecessary Deaths: The Human and Financial Costs of Hospital Infections. 2nd Edition.
3. To Err Is Human: Building a Safer Health System, Institute of Medicine, 1999.
4. Institute for Healthcare Improvement: Campaign – FAQs, Institute for Healthcare Improvement.

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A Program that Strengthens Cases Through Expert Reviews, Opinions and Analyses of the Causes of Healthcare-Associated Infections, or “HAIs”

3. The Service’s Objectives

This service’s objectives are to:

- **ADVISE AND PROVIDE** legal counsel with an expert’s opinion and perspective about a hospital-associated infection’s (HAI) likely cause;
- **ASSESS AND STRENGTHEN** the scientific merit of a medical claim or defense involving an HAI or other type of adverse event or medical error;
- **REVIEW** the findings of a hospital’s outbreak investigation for accuracy and completeness;
- **REVIEW** medical files, records, infection data and associated documentation for consistency;
- **ASSESS** the risk of an HAI associated with a specific infection-control breach or medical error; and
- **PERFORM** a root cause analysis (RCA) of an HAI or other type of medical error.



4. This Service’s Focus

This service by Lawrence F Muscarella, PhD – the president of *LFM Healthcare Solutions, LLC* -- focuses on quality, excellence and detail to determine the causes of medical errors. Dr. Muscarella’s expertise is internationally recognized.

5. This Service’s Goal

The goal of *LFM Healthcare Solutions, LLC*, is to improve public health by optimizing the safety and quality of health care using Dr. Muscarella’s expertise, knowledge and experience.



“*Might an inadequately cleaned flexible endoscope have been responsible for a confirmed infection?*”

6. How to Receive this Service

This service has two simple steps:

- 1) Visit the following webpage:
<http://EndoscopeReprocessing.com/legal-research/>
- 2) Contact Dr. Muscarella directly or by email.

Note: Dr. Muscarella is not an attorney. He does not provide legal advice.

7. Infection Prevention Writings

In 2012 Dr. Muscarella founded the interactive blog “*Discussions in Infection Control*,” which is the most replete, interactive infection control and instrument reprocessing blog in the world. Search its archived articles to learn more about HAIs and medical errors. Visit: <http://www.LFM-HCS.com>



Got a confidential question? Contact:

Lawrence F Muscarella, PhD
Founder/Owner

LFM Healthcare Solutions, LLC
P.O. Box 684, Montgomeryville, PA 18936

⇒ Email: Larry@LFM-HCS.com for a timely reply.

8. Lawrence F Muscarella, PhD

Dr. Muscarella’s current research focuses on:

- ‘superbug’ infections linked to contaminated Olympus GI endoscopes;
- deadly mycobacterial infections linked to colonized Sorin heater-cooler devices; and
- infections linked to other devices and technologies.

9. Confidentiality, *Curriculum Vitae*

Dr. Muscarella’s commitment to confidentiality and excellence is unrivaled. Contact him directly for a copy of his current *curriculum vitae* (or C.V.)

10. Research & Other Experience

Dr. Muscarella’s research has also focused on hospital infections linked to central venous catheters. He performs “gap” and root cause analyses, with a particular interest in the disinfection and sterilization of reusable medical equipment, and risk management.

11. Publications in Journals

Dr. Muscarella has published more than 200 articles, including dozens in the medical journals: *The Journal of Hospital Infection*, *American Journal of Infection Control*, *Infection Control and Hospital Epidemiology*, *Gastrointestinal Endoscopy*, *Chest*, *The World Journal of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy*, among other journals.

12. Newspaper Quotes

Dr. Muscarella’s work has been discussed on the front pages of *The Wall Street Journal*, *Investor’s Business Daily* and the *San Juan Weekly*. His expertise has also been noted in: *USA Today*, *The Boston Globe*, *Kitsap Sun*, *Newsday*, *Sacramento Bee*, *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, *The Seattle Times*, among other newspapers.

13. Education & History

Dr. Muscarella received his Ph.D. in engineering from the University of Pennsylvania in 1990. From 1991 until 1994, he worked as a project engineer at the ERCI Institute. From 1995 until early 2013, Dr. Muscarella was the chief of infection control (and the director of product development) for a manufacturer of washer-disinfectors for flexible endoscopes. Also in 2013, he founded *LFM Healthcare Solutions, LLC*.

14. Root Cause Analyses & CAPAs

Dr. Muscarella performs root cause analyses (RCAs) to identify the causes of (and/or the contributing factors to) an infection control breach or other harming medical error. Dr. Muscarella also provides advice about the corrective and preventive actions, or “CAPAs,” necessary to prevent a harming event’s recurrence in the medical setting.

15. Risk Analyses & Assessments

Dr. Muscarella analyzes and assesses the risk of disease transmission associated with an infection control breach or other related sentinel event.

16. Bacterial Outbreak Reviews

Dr. Muscarella investigates and provides expert opinions of the causes of medical errors, infection control lapses, or bacterial outbreaks identified in the clinical setting --- such as an outbreak of *Klebsiella* spp. following “ERCP,” or mycobacterial (“NTM”) infections linked to colonized heater-cooler devices.

Program by:

