

Physicians' views of interventions to reduce medical errors: does evidence of effectiveness matter?

August 3, 2009

Rosen AB, Blendon RJ, DesRoches CM, et al. Physicians' views of interventions to reduce medical errors: does evidence of effectiveness matter? Acad Med. 2005;80(2):189-92.

<https://psnet.ahrq.gov/issue/physicians-views-interventions-reduce-medical-errors-does-evidence-effectiveness-matter>

As patient safety initiatives continue to grow nationally, this study aimed to assess whether an association existed between the evidence behind a given intervention and the perception of its effectiveness among physicians. Using a questionnaire and a random sampling of U.S. physicians, the investigators collected data from more than 800 participants. Results demonstrate only weak associations between the effective interventions and their ratings of effectiveness, and the authors also noted a greater likelihood of association among academically affiliated participants. The authors conclude with a number of suggestions for better translation of evidence into adopted practice, including further research, curricular enhancements, and cultural change.