

Posthospital medication discrepancies: prevalence and contributing factors.

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Coleman EA, Smith JD, Raha D, et al. Posthospital medication discrepancies: prevalence and contributing factors. Arch Intern Med. 2005;165(16):1842-1847.

<https://psnet.ahrq.gov/issue/posthospital-medication-discrepancies-prevalence-and-contributing-factors>

This study suggests that nearly 15% of patients discharged after hospitalization experience a medication discrepancy. Using data from 375 adults, investigators also discovered that the contributing factors to these discrepancies were split among patient- and system-related issues. The five most common medication classes implicated were anticoagulants, diuretics, angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors, lipid-lowering agents, and proton pump inhibitors. The authors conclude that use of a [medication discrepancy tool](#) can identify problems leading to medical errors, poor quality of care for chronic conditions, and unsafe transitions across care settings.