

## **Hospitalized patients' attitudes about and participation in error prevention.**

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Waterman AD, Gallagher TH, Garbutt J, et al. Brief report: Hospitalized patients' attitudes about and participation in error prevention. *J Gen Intern Med.* 2006;21(4):367-70.

<https://psnet.ahrq.gov/issue/hospitalized-patients-attitudes-about-and-participation-error-prevention>

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This AHRQ–funded study used more than 2000 telephone interviews with recently discharged patients to demonstrate that patients who are most comfortable with error prevention were more likely to take specific action compared to those who are less comfortable. The authors report that although the majority of patients expressed comfort in asking questions about medications and general medical questions, far fewer actively engaged in marking their incision site or asking about handwashing. A [past study](#) discussed how to improve patients' perceptions of safety in hospitals, including educational interventions that might empower patients to take greater preventive action, as outlined in this study.