

Adoption of health information technology for medication safety in US hospitals, 2006.

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Furukawa MF, Raghu TS, Spaulding TJ, et al. Adoption of health information technology for medication safety in U.S. Hospitals, 2006. Health Aff (Millwood). 2008;27(3):865-75. doi:10.1377/hlthaff.27.3.865.

<https://psnet.ahrq.gov/issue/adoption-health-information-technology-medication-safety-us-hospitals-2006>

Continued adoption of health information technology (HIT) systems is driven by efforts to improve [safety](#) and [quality](#), but [unintended consequences](#) of these systems have been reported. This study used a national survey database to analyze the extent of HIT adoption specifically for medication safety. Investigators discovered wide variations across technologies, hospital characteristics, and geographic locations, with an average hospital adopting 2.24 out of 8 HIT applications. The authors were most struck by the association seen between HIT adoption and states' patient safety initiatives, suggesting the impact of state regulation and [patient safety centers](#) in facilitating adoption. They also advocate for thoughtful policy and governmental incentives to further foster HIT adoption moving forward.