

A controlled trial of a rapid response system in an academic medical center.

January 6, 2017

Rothschild JM, Woolf S, Finn KM, et al. A controlled trial of a rapid response system in an academic medical center. *Jt Comm J Qual Patient Saf.* 2008;34(7):417-25, 365.

<https://psnet.ahrq.gov/issue/controlled-trial-rapid-response-system-academic-medical-center>

Widespread implementation of rapid response teams (RRTs) has been spurred by endorsements from prominent organizations and a Joint Commission [National Patient Safety Goal](#). However, the evidence on effectiveness of such teams is [mixed](#), although recent [single-institution studies](#) have shown impressive improvements in clinical outcomes. This study found that implementation of an RRT at an academic medical center did not improve clinical outcomes over a 6-month follow-up period. This study is one of the few to evaluate the effectiveness of teams led by resident physicians and nurses, in contrast with other [studies](#) evaluating RRTs led by critical care physicians.