

Questionable hospital chart documentation practices by physicians.

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Sharma R, Kostis WJ, Wilson AC, et al. Questionable hospital chart documentation practices by physicians. J Gen Intern Med. 2008;23(11):1865-70. doi:10.1007/s11606-008-0750-6.

<https://psnet.ahrq.gov/issue/questionable-hospital-chart-documentation-practices-physicians>

This study found that more than half of physicians surveyed engaged in questionable [documentation](#) practices, such as recording information that they did not personally obtain or writing notes on patients not seen or examined. The findings raise concern about [professionalism](#) broadly but also about the current educational environment for trainees, role modeling of documentation behaviors, and the greater impact of billing and medical-legal influences on documentation practices. These changing factors may in part explain why the findings also suggest that questionable practices were more common among younger providers, who may be a product of the changed environment outlined in recent years.